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CPA SCP

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CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PSYCHOLOGIE

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INTRODUCTION

The CPA's 2026 Annual General Meeting and National Convention took place from June 4-6, 2026, at the Westin Montréal in Montréal, Quebec. The CPA's Pre-Convention Professional Development Workshops took place on June 3rd.

Presentation Types

SPOKEN INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS

Snapshots (5-minutes)

A Snapshot is a 5-minute individual presentation for sharing information in a spoken/visual format in a succinct manner, creating interest in a project/program, and promoting networking amongst delegates. This format is encouraged for attendees interested in presenting their research as a talk rather than a poster

Each Snapshot is permitted a maximum of 3 slides and will be grouped together into sessions. Effective Snapshots focus on what is critical and are delivered in a stimulating and thought-provoking manner.

12-Minute Talk (12-minutes)

The 12-Minute Talk format is intended for delivering a detailed presentation about a series (more than 2) of empirical studies or a complex program or intervention.

Each 12-minute Talk is allocated 10-minutes for presentation and 3-minutes for questions. This format is reserved for sharing information about a complex issue, series of studies or an involved program or intervention.

Review Session (25-minutes)

Review Sessions are intended for the review of one or more theoretical perspective(s)/methods/analyses or for the synthesis of different theoretical perspectives/methods/analyses. This type of submission is not for presenting new empirical research. The presenter is normally a senior expert in the area; submissions by a novice just entering the area will not be accepted. Three presentations may be grouped together in a single session, with a moderator for keeping the session on schedule.

Conversation Sessions (25-minutes)

A Conversation Session is intended for sharing, exploring and stimulating thoughts and ideas about an issue/topic/case, a program or intervention, or for brainstorming alternative approaches to research, practice, education, and/or policies in a "conversation" format without AV as opposed to a formal presentation format with AV.

SPOKEN GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Panel Discussion (55-minutes)

A Panel Discussion is the discussion of a specific topic amongst a selected group of panelists who share differing perspectives. It includes a brief introduction and then discussion amongst the panelists and the audience.

The panel is typically facilitated by a "moderator" who guides the panel and the audience through the discussion. It typically involves 3-4 experts in the field, who share facts, offer opinions and respond to audience questions either through questions curated by the moderator or taken from the audience directly.

Symposium (55-minutes)

A Symposium is a format for delivering a series of Spoken Presentations that focus on the same topic. Each symposium is expected to include a moderator/convenor (10 minutes); overall title and abstract; and 3 papers (10 minutes each) each with an accompanying title and abstract. Symposium convenors have the option of including a Discussant.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Printed Poster (55-minutes)

Posters are individual, free-standing research presentations that allow for one-on-one interaction and discussion of one's research with convention attendees. Posters — in print format — are the most appropriate and efficient method for presenting empirical research.

Posters should make use of pictures and diagrams, and they should use words/text sparingly.

A poster title should reflect the results of a study/studies or the effectiveness or impact of a policy/program/intervention.

Virtual Poster

A Virtual Poster is a 5-minute pre-recorded voice-over narration. This is for presenters who only want to pre-record and upload to the virtual platform.

A poster title should reflect the results of a study/studies or the effectiveness or impact of a policy/program/intervention.

A submission for a virtual poster presentation should include the following information: rationale, overview of methodology, summary of conducted analyses or evaluations, conclusions that follow from results/evaluation, and an overview of actions, recommendations, or impacts.

WORKSHOPS

Standard Workshop (85 minutes)

Workshops, 85-minutes in duration, are presented by an individual or a group with widely acknowledged expertise and experience in the topic area.

Workshops are intended to have a clearly defined practical, experiential, and/or demonstrational component; they are also intended to be participatory events where delegates engage and interact with

each other. Each workshop should focus on ensuring that participants leave the workshop with at least 3 tangible new skills, tools, and/or techniques (i.e., learning outcomes). Thus, good Workshops are innovative, interactive, inclusive, integrative, developmental, provocative, logistically sound, and provide both novice and experienced psychologists with an opportunity to continue their professional development.

CE Credits may be available if applicable. Conversion to CPD may also be possible.

THEME: GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

Presidential Panel Address

Presidential Address - Including Students in Success: How Inclusive Climates Could Lead to a More Diverse Profession

Main Presenting Author: Smith , Steven
Co-Presenting Authors: Brophy, Tom; Carter-Rogers, Katelyn; Forbes, Hailey

Abstract: *There is a general agreement that the profession of psychology should work toward becoming more diverse to be more reflective of the constituents we serve. But how can that be achieved? We propose that an important first step to make sure that students facing barriers at the undergraduate level receive the support they need to continue in their education at the graduate level, and ultimately into the profession. In this session we will outline how creating inclusive climates at the undergraduate level can increase students' sense of belonging and success, and how this can be extrapolated to graduate training, and the profession of psychology at large. We will briefly cover the research we have done to support first year undergraduate students, and how this helps stem the loss of students as they progress through their education. We will also provide recommendations for how graduate programs, and the profession, can support retention, persistence, and success.*

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 122535 - Presidential Panel Address

CPA Keynote

Essentially a Science of Practice: Psychology's Roles and Opportunities in Sociotechnical Transition to Sustainability

Main Presenting Author: Asah, Stanley

Abstract: *As global sustainability efforts accelerate, sociotechnical transition is often framed as a challenge of innovation and engineering. In this keynote, I argue that our greatest challenge-and opportunity-lies in understanding and influencing human behavior, including the cognitive, emotional, and social processes that shape it. Overreliance on technological solutions, without coordinated efforts to shift behavior, has slowed and may undermine sustainability. When how people think, feel, and act is overlooked, unintended consequences follow, including resistance to policy and inequitable outcomes.This keynote positions psychological science and practice as central-not peripheral-to successful sustainability transitions. I examine psychology's role in ensuring these transitions succeed socially as well as technically. Psychology offers evidence-based tools to foster mindset shifts, collective efficacy, and behavioral adaptation across individual, organizational, and cultural levels. I conclude by envisioning psychology as a bridge discipline essential to accelerating and sustaining a more equitable, resilient future.*

Section: *CPA Meetings*
Session ID: 128436 - CPA Keynote Address

Mind the Science: Saving Your Mental Health from the Wellness Industry

Main Presenting Author: Stea, Jonathan N.

Abstract: *The wellness industry is currently valued at over $5.6 trillion dollars globally. A sizeable portion of the industry consists of alternative medicine products and services. But is the wellness industry really healing what ails us? Why do people turn to alternative medicine? What is the nature of mental-health related pseudoscience and misinformation? In this presentation, Dr. Jonathan N. Stea will shine a light on how mental health-related pseudoscience and misinformation have infiltrated popular culture, social media, and our healthcare systems themselves. For anyone who has had patients, clients or family members who have been touched by mental illness in any way, please join him for "Mind the Science: Saving your Mental Health from the Wellness Industry." Dr. Stea will discuss the history and harm of the anti-psychiatry movement, and he'll pull back the curtain on the history of the wellness industry and the devastating consequences of allowing pseudoscience promoters to target the vulnerable in our society. Finally, he'll talk about making better informed decisions with a view toward improved science and mental health literacy.*

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 126706 - CPA Keynote Address

Practicing Psychology Inclusively in the Digital Age

Main Presenting Author: Pillai Riddell, Rebecca

Abstract: *Most people practicing and researching mental health in regulated professions have been trained in 'Western', Eurocentric approaches to understanding well-being and healing. At the same time, technology is evolving at a pace that few psychology professionals can keep up with despite the increasing role it plays in the lives of ourselves, our participants, our patients, and our trainees. Understanding our responsibilities to practice inclusively in the digital age can be an overwhelming proposition, whether you are training in psychology right now or have decades of experience practicing. What do we actually need to know about evolving technology? Is generative AI our biggest competition for therapy clients? What does it mean to practice psychology inclusively?Dr. Pillai Riddell will present insights from her journey through research, clinical practice, and training to support others embrace inclusivity and harness technology to build a better way forward in psychology.*

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 128676 - CPA Keynote Address

Jean Pettifor Distinguished Lecture on Ethics

Jean Pettifor Distinguished Lecture on Ethics

The Cognitive Machine: What Psychologists Need to Know About AI - and Why AI Needs Psychologists

Main Presenting Author: Vellino, André

Abstract: *Clinicians are already seeing the harms caused by Artificial Intelligence (AI): patients are becoming dependent on AI companions, caught in AI-driven obsessive loops and subject to their*

emotional manipulations. This lecture addresses what psychologists need to understand about how contemporary AI systems actually work, why they can "hallucinate," "deceive," and "blackmail," where your data goes, and what practitioners must know about them to uphold Respect for the Dignity of Persons, Responsible Caring, and Integrity in Relationships.The lecture will also examine what clinicians and researchers can anticipate as AI systems grow more powerful. Today's AI systems are cognitive machines that have already developed internal representations resembling human conceptual structures, including computational features for "inner conflict," "guilt," and "difficult choices." What happens as these systems become more autonomous, more capable and even more integrated into human lives? As part of their Responsibility to Society, psychologists will be called upon to understand and explain their increasingly complex behavior, shape their development, ensure they are aligned with human values, and inform decision-makers about how they should be regulated.

Section: *CPA Meetings*
Session ID: 128441 - Presentation

Panel Discussion

Leadership Roles and Skills Amongst Psychologists

Main Presenting Author: Votta-Bleeker, Lisa

Abstract: *As a result of the broad-based skills included in doctoral level, professional training, psychologists and psychology graduates are well-positioned to take on leadership roles in several sectors, including - public sector (health, school, and correctional systems), private / for-profit sector, not-for-profit, research agencies, and government. These skills include knowledge of evidence-based practice; extensive training in applied research and clinical practice; skills in research design, analyses, and evaluation; emphasis on critical thinking in scientific methods and hypothesis testing; teaching; supervision; team consultation; collaboration; and continuous learning. However, opportunities to apply these skills in leadership and organizational management roles are limited during graduate training, which can lead many to think they aren't equipped to be or don't have the necessary skills to be a leader. The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) and the Council for Professional Associations of Psychologists (CPAP) have been working together to not only foster interest in leadership roles among psychologists, but also to provide the opportunity to further develop those leadership skills. This panel presentation will feature several different psychologists speaking to their experience as leaders in the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors, and the transferrable skills that helped them in this pursuit.*

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 123379 - Panel Discussion

Symposium

2026 CPA President's New Research Award Presentation

Moderator(s): Smith, Steven

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 129906 - Symposium

Applying a cultural perspective to understand and improve care for children and young people with serious illness

Main Presenting Author: Hou, Sharon

Abstract: *Children and young people from racialized and underserved communities often face inequities in health and mental healthcare, particularly those living with serious illnesses that require specialized care. Cultural values, beliefs, identities, language, migration experiences, and family norms shape how children, young people, and their families understand illness and engage with healthcare systems. This work will highlight the application of a cultural perspective to understand and improve care experiences for children and young people with serious illness, grounded in partnerships with people with lived experience. The presentation will conclude with reflections on relationship building in collaborative and interdisciplinary research, and what are more culturally responsive ways to support care and experiences for diverse children, young people, and their families living in Canada.*

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 130532 - Paper within a symposium

Rethinking Children's Mental and Relational Health in a Changing World

Main Presenting Author: Deneault, Audrey-Ann

Abstract: *Ongoing social, technological, and ecological transformations are profoundly reshaping the contexts in which children grow and parents enact their caregiving roles. Yet many theoretical models in psychology remain grounded in relatively stable, even static, conceptions of the environments in which children and families develop. This presentation revisits these models by recentring macrosystemic factors (e.g., climate change, technology, shifting social norms), not merely as covariates, but as structuring forces that shape children's mental and relational health. This perspective invites a rethinking of how we study and support families, with the aim of better addressing contemporary challenges and promoting the well-being of the next generation.*

Session ID: 130531 - Paper within a symposium

What We Don't Measure, We Don't Treat: Advancing Smoking Cessation Through Measurement-Based Care

Main Presenting Author: Syan, Sabrina

Abstract: *Despite substantial advances in tobacco cessation initiatives, smoking prevalence remains disproportionately high among individuals with concurrent mental health and substance use disorders. This presentation highlights my program of research examining behavioural and clinical features that sustain tobacco use in high-risk populations, with a particular focus on the assessment of smoking behaviour, motivation, and co-occurring mental health symptoms. Drawing on recent work that characterizes patterns of smoking and readiness to quit in clinically complex samples, I will discuss how gaps in routine assessment limit the scalability and effectiveness of smoking cessation interventions. Building on this foundation, I will outline next steps focused on integrating measurement-based care into smoking cessation strategies, using regular, patient-reported data to guide intervention selection, monitor progress, and adapt treatment in real time. This approach aims to improve personalization, engagement, and outcomes for individuals traditionally underserved by*

standard cessation models. The presentation will conclude by outlining a pragmatic research agenda to embed measurement-based smoking cessation within mental health and addiction services, with implications for clinical practice, implementation science, and health equity.

Session ID: 130533 - Paper within a symposium

2026 CPA Award Presentations

Moderator(s): Smith, Steven

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 129906 - Symposium

2026 CPA Donald O. Hebb Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology as a Science - More than Words: The Psychological Science of Language

Main Presenting Author: Pexman, Penny

Abstract: *Psycholinguistic research has provided fundamental insights about the ways in which language is processed in mind and brain. This research has also revealed important insights about human psychology more broadly. Using examples from the research I have conducted with students and collaborators I will describe the sometimes surprising ways that language supports and is shaped by other psychological functions, including emotion recognition, personality, sensorimotor skills, imagery, and mental state inferencing. For instance, research on verbal irony has highlighted how difficult it is for children to grasp this figurative form. In understanding why this gap exists, our research has demonstrated that comprehension of verbal irony depends on development of many factors, including cognitive and emotional skills and social experience. In a different example, we have investigated how people learn and retrieve meanings of the full range of human concepts, including abstract concepts that can't be learned or understood through sensorimotor experience. We found that in bringing abstract meanings to mind people draw on linguistic experience but also emotions, mental states, and motivations. I will describe language as a dynamic, interactive system and the study of that system as a strategy for advancing psychological science.*

Section: *CPA Meetings*
Session ID: 130147 - Paper within a symposium

2026 CPA Gold Medal Award for Distinguished Lifetime Contributions to Canadian Psychology: Implications of Moral Disengagement Research for the Maintenance of Moral Standards and Ethics

Main Presenting Author: Gauthier, Janel

Abstract: *The moral standards people adopt serve as guides for conduct and deterrents for detrimental activities. They do things that bring them satisfaction and a sense of self-worth, and refrain from violating their moral standards because such conduct brings guilt and self-condemnation. However, moral standards do not function as an unwavering regulator of moral conduct. There are many psychosocial maneuvers by which people selectively disengage moral self-sanctions from detrimental conduct. Scientific advances have been made in identifying and understanding the mechanisms of moral evasion. The purpose of this presentation is to review those findings and discuss their implications for the maintenance of moral standards. Since psychologists are not immune to moral disengagement (for example, research has shown that mechanisms of moral disengagement may*

influence motivations in resolving ethical dilemmas), the purpose of this presentation is also to reflect on the implications of moral disengagement research for education and training in psychological ethics and the need for psychologists to learn how to recognize and defeat moral disengagement to maintain the highest ethical standards in all their activities as psychologists.

Section: *CPA Meetings*
Session ID: 132094 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: CREATING A HEALTHY(IER) PLANET

Working to change human behavior to restore our environment.

12-Minute Talk

Day-to-day influence of young adults' climate change-related emotions on well-being and pro-environmental behaviours: A 21-day micro-longitudinal study.

Main Presenting Author: McCreary, Breanna

Additional Authors: Geddes, Otis ; Sukhawathanakul, Paweena; Rush, Jonathan

Abstract: *Multinational surveys show that young people experience emotional distress related to climate change at high rates. To date, most research in this burgeoning area has been cross-sectional, predominantly focused on anxiety and hope, and has mainly evaluated associations with pro-environmental intentions. We adopt a micro-longitudinal design to more fully examine how a holistic range of climate emotions (e.g., anger, isolation, guilt) are experienced in the day-to-day lives of young adults, and how these experiences are associated with well-being and reported actual behaviour. Across two samples of young adults aged 18-35 (N1 = 215; N2 = ongoing) for 21 days we surveyed daily climate emotions, daily well-being, and several self-reported daily behaviours: travel mode, meat consumption, residential energy use, and collective action. How differences in climate emotions within- and between-person are associated with well-being will be discussed. Preliminary results suggest that within- and between-person differences in climate distress are associated with collective climate action to a greater extent than individual pro-environmental behaviour. Considerable day-to-day variation in within-person climate emotions highlight the importance of repeated-measures designs. Our findings emphasize the need for increased research focus on real behaviours measured in the context of daily life.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123521 - 12-Minute Talk

Developing Cultures of Sustainability in Canadian Schools - Moving beyond individual behaviour change

Main Presenting Author: Dobai, Jennifer
Co-Presenting Author: Aziz, Maria

Additional Authors: Riemer, Manuel ; Ashmore, Kaitlyn

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: K-12 schools play an important role in Canada's ambitious sustainability goals. As such, schools themselves need to develop strong cultures of sustainability (COS). The purpose of this study is to investigate how COS develop in schools. Methods: Four secondary and two primary schools across two provinces participated in a mixed-method comparative case study. All schools had previously signed up to become a Sustainable Future School (SFS), which implies a commitment to developing strong COS. Collected case study data include a survey, interviews with key leaders, focus groups with teachers and students, observations during a site visit and relevant documents. Data were analyzed using a template thematic analysis. Results: Most schools appear to be in early to mid-level stages of COS development and it is often driven by a few*

champions. There seems to be a link between organizational climate (e.g., a sense of belonging, a relational leadership style, and empowerment of teachers and students), a focus on experiential and action-based learning, and the level of COS observed. Conclusion & Impact: To foster sustainability effectively in K-12 schools, including sustainable behaviours among students and staff, a holistic approach that also targets organizational culture and climate is indicated. There is need to move beyond simple behaviour change programs.

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125711 - 12-Minute Talk

Disentangling the Association Between Climate Emotions and Mental Health Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Deneault, Audrey-Ann

Additional Authors: Lorteau, Steve ; Neville, Ross; Stern, A. Jessica

Abstract: *Background/rationale. Cross-sectional studies report that climate emotions are associated with greater mental health difficulties. However, the nature of these associations varies across different climate emotions and mental health indicators, and the temporal sequencing remains unclear. To address these gaps, we investigated between- and within-person links between climate emotions and mental health difficulties. Methods. Study 1 was a cross-sectional study of 1,136 undergraduate students (66.5% women) who reported on their climate change worry and mental health. Study 2 was a 3 time point longitudinal study of 371 students (63.9% women) who completed measures of climate change worry, eco-anxiety, ecological grief, and mental health. Results. Climate emotions, anxiety, and depressive symptoms were consistently associated in between-person associations. Within-person associations varied based on the climate emotions and mental health indicators. Conclusions. The findings advance demonstrate that within-person fluctuations in eco-anxiety prospectively predict an increase in general anxiety over time, pointing to a possible cascading effect.Action/Impact. The results suggest that supporting individuals in coping with climate emotions may be an essential part of supporting mental health, particularly among youth who are more likely to experience negative climate emotions.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123319 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Increasing Accessibility and Reducing Barriers to Nature Connection

Main Presenting Author: Grouzet, Frederick M.E.
Co-Presenting Author: McKenzie, Henry

Additional Author: Francescangeli, Sabrina

Abstract: *Although much research has established a positive relationship between nature connectedness and well-being (e.g., Capaldi et al., 2015), nature is not equally accessible for everyone. According to recent Canadian parks reports, lower SES and racialized populations were shown to have less access to green spaces overall, participate less in ecological restoration activities,*

and feel less connected to nature than white park users (Park People, 2023, 2024). In addition, nature is not always accessible to people with physical disabilities, despite the development of local initiative to foster nature access for all (e.g., Power-to-BE). Therefore, a discussion is needed around increasing nature accessibility as a path to promoting wellness for those who need it most: equity-deserving groups. This roundtable aims to explore: (1) what data do we need to better understand accessibility barriers for equity-deserving groups?; (2) how can we increase accessibility and reduce barriers to nature connection, especially for equity-deserving community members?; (3) how might accessibility barriers and solutions look different for different equity-deserving groups (e.g., disabled, unhoused, and/or racialized community members)?

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 122839 - Conversation Session

Printed Poster

Accessible Forest Therapy: Online Nature Programs for Physical and Emotional Wellbeing

Main Presenting Author: van Haaften, Jacob

Additional Authors: McEwan, Kirsten ; Krogh, Kari; Cook, Brandy

Abstract: *Although connection with nature can support health, adults with disabilities often face barriers to participating in nature-based activities. Nature exposure and practices like forest bathing can reduce subjective pain levels, a common chronic or acute symptom among disabled people, yet many nature connection activities remain inaccessible. The goal of the current project was to evaluate the effectiveness of a 2.5 hour structured online nature therapy program in reducing pain for adults with disabilities. Using a waitlist-controlled, repeated measures design, 71 disabled participants completed surveys at four time points: Waitlist, pre, post, and one month follow-up. Pain levels significantly decreased by 23.8% ($p < .001$, $d = .55$) among program participants. Effects were sustained at one month follow-up when 85% reported continued engagement in nature connection practices. Participants also reported significantly reduced rumination (27% $p < .001$, $d = .61$) - notable given the link between rumination and increased pain perception. These findings suggest that such programs may offer meaningful benefits for pain management and serve as a low-cost, accessible, complementary therapy for individuals with disabilities. In contexts where in-person nature experiences are not possible, online engagement may provide an alternative.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124677 - Printed Poster

Breaking Point or Turning Point? The role of eco-emotions in collective climate actions

Main Presenting Author: Baldwin, Mary-Jane

Additional Author: Brunson, Liesette

Abstract: *The climate crisis generates diverse emotional responses that shape pro-environmental engagement. Collective environmental action (CEA) refers to activities undertaken with others to*

influence systems or institutions rather than individual lifestyle changes (e.g., signing petitions, protesting, community organizing). While eco-anxiety has dominated recent literature, emerging research highlights a broader spectrum of eco-emotions that may relate differently to collective action. This study examined associations between 8 eco-emotions (anger, anxiety, sadness, guilt, contempt, powerlessness, enthusiasm, and isolation) and CEA. 245 English-speaking Canadian adults completed an online questionnaire assessing eco-emotions (ICE; Marczak et al., 2023) and participation in various CEA. Apart from contempt, correlational analyses showed most eco-emotions were positively associated with CEA. Hierarchical regression analyses indicated that distinct emotions made unique contributions to explaining CEA. These findings align with critical consciousness theory, suggesting that emotions linked to recognizing climate injustice are meaningfully related to collective action. The results point to a complex emotional landscape beyond eco-anxiety and suggest that mobilization efforts may benefit from emphasizing moral emotions while supporting collective efficacy to encourage wider participation.

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 122802 - Printed Poster

Does Eco-Anxiety Lead to Eco-Action? Investigating the Impacts of a State Eco-Anxiety Manipulation on Pro-Environmental Behaviour

Main Presenting Author: Wadlow, Madeline E. A.

Additional Author: Zelenski, John M.

Abstract: *Eco-anxiety research has largely focused on trait experiences and shows mixed associations with pro-environmental behaviour (PEB). To probe this relationship, we conducted a preregistered experiment involving a video-based state eco-anxiety manipulation and an online PEB decision task. Participants (N = 446) were randomly assigned to the eco-anxiety or control condition where they watched one of five videos on an environmental or a non-environmental topic. All participants completed measures on eco-emotions at two time points, PEB engagement and intentions, coping styles, nature relatedness, pro-environmental attitudes, climate change skepticism, and demographics. Contrary to our hypotheses on PEB engagement, there were no significant condition differences and coping styles did not emerge as significant predictors. Further, while PEB engagement did not predict changes in state eco-anxiety, it positively predicted PEB intentions. Exploratory analyses revealed positive correlations between PEB engagement and state eco-emotions at both time points, nature relatedness, pro-environmental attitudes, and a liberal political orientation. PEB engagement was negatively correlated with climate change skepticism. These results highlight the influence of trait eco-emotions and individual differences on PEB engagement. Implications regarding state versus trait influences will be discussed.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 122676 - Printed Poster

Inpatient Sustainability Group: Facilitator Perception of Acceptability, Feasibility and Impact

Main Presenting Author: Colton, Sarah

Additional Authors: Houlding, Carolyn ; Myers, Mitchell; Glenney, Stephen; Lotoski, Natasha; Canning, Christopher

Abstract: *People living with complex and serious mental health difficulties receiving inpatient treatment experience isolation and loss of meaningful roles. Nature-focused interventions, including conservation volunteering, offer a promising approach to enhance well-being (Coventry, et al., 2019). Understanding patient and facilitator perspectives is critical for assessing feasibility and guiding larger-scale implementation. To complement previous research on patient experiences, a qualitative study explored facilitators' perspectives on 'Green Group', an inpatient intervention combining psychoeducation with opportunities to contribute to hospital and community sustainability initiatives. Green Group was delivered weekly in a rural psychiatric inpatient unit with sessions conducted indoors and outdoors.Four group facilitators participated in a focus group. The interview transcript was analyzed using thematic analysis. Feasibility was influenced by hospital policies, facilitator knowledge, and weather. Facilitators perceived patient participation offered restorative experiences, empowered knowledge sharing, raised sustainability awareness, and strengthened staff-patient relationships. Recommendations were identified, including generating activities that readily addressed logistics and accommodated patient interests and mobility or psychiatric challenges.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 125697 - Printed Poster

Subjective Risk Perception and Political Ideology Drive Greater Climate Policy Support

Main Presenting Author: Gauthier, Ariane J.

Additional Authors: Lorteau, Steve ; Stern, Jessica A.; Deneault, Audrey-Ann

Abstract: *Background. Responding to the climate crisis requires understanding the psychological processes driving public support for climate policy. While recent meta-analyses have identified several correlates of climate policy support, few studies have examined how factors interact. Relying on variables from the Value-Belief-Norm theory and the Theory of Planned Behavior, this preregistered study sought to examine how theory-driven variables jointly structure climate policy support. Methods. A sample of 357 participants completed online surveys. We used network analysis to map interconnections among climate-related emotions, cognitions, values, political ideology, and climate policy support. Results. Risk perception was the most central variable and the strongest predictor of general climate policy support. In contrast, conservative ideology consistently predicted lower policy support. Risk perception and ideology alone explained 47% of the variance in policy support. Other variables, such as eco-anxiety and other climate emotions were less central to climate policy support. Conclusions. These findings position risk perception and ideology as consistent and robust drivers of climate policy support. Action/Impact. These results highlight the need for communication strategies that emphasize climate risk salience while attenuating ideological resistance to climate policy.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124803 - Printed Poster

Section Featured Speaker Address

Making Sense of Eco-Anxiety: An Integrative and Multidimensional Perspective

Main Presenting Author: Gousse-Lessard, Anne-Sophie

Abstract: *Eco-anxiety has gained increasing attention as a psychological response to contemporary environmental crises, yet it is often framed primarily as an individual mental health issue. In this talk, I propose a broader and integrative perspective, conceptualizing eco-anxiety as a multidimensional psychosocial phenomenon shaped by environmental threats, social relations, political contexts, and communication processes. Drawing on a series of empirical studies conducted in Québec, I examine how different dimensions of eco-anxiety relate to mental health, wellbeing, and engagement in the face of socio-environmental disruptions. Its existential, social, and relational facets will be explored, along with their links to hope, worldviews, and ways of imagining the future. Beyond empirical findings, the talk aims to reflect on how eco-anxiety is discussed, negotiated, and sometimes contested in interpersonal interactions, media narratives, and public discourse, while highlighting the value of systemic and interdisciplinary perspectives. Overall, the presentation aims to open a discussion on eco-anxiety not only as an individual experience, but also as a meaningful signal of broader social, political, and communicational dynamics at play in a rapidly changing world.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126565 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

Applying the CPA 10 Step Ethical Decision Making Process to the Environmental Costs of AI in Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Odumosu, Olusegun
Co-Presenting Author: Shaughnessy, Krystelle

Abstract: *Clinicians and researchers are using artificial intelligence (AI) to detect onset and change in mental health symptoms, create personalized treatment plans, and even serve as virtual clinicians. However, these promising practices come at a hidden cost: environmental degradation. AI technologies are responsible for massive carbon emissions, energy and water consumption, and electronic waste throughout their life cycle (i.e., hardware production, training, and daily use). Research suggests that these environmental harms occur inequitably across countries and socioeconomic groups, resulting in climate injustice. Canadian psychologists have ethical and professional responsibilities to ensure that AI's hidden environmental costs do not exacerbate existing social inequities. Yet, there is a dearth of commentary on Social Responsibility ethics of AI use in psychology contexts. In this presentation, we use the Canadian Psychological Association's 10-step ethical decision-making process to provide an overview of Social Responsibility risks and benefits associated with AI use. We explore the potential stakeholders, biases that shape judgment, and legal, ethical, and research documents that point to potential risks and benefits. We discuss recommendations, including AI choice, use-case controls, and carbon-aware infrastructure.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126098 - Snapshot

Building a Culture of Sustainability from the Ground Up: The Case of Oakville NE #3 Public School

Main Presenting Author: Palmer, Brittany A

Additional Author: Riemer, Manuel

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Efforts to embed sustainability in K-12 schools are often fragmented and peripheral, which limits their ability to influence long-term practice and support lasting environmental change. This study examined how a culture of sustainability (COS) is beginning to take shape during the first year of Harvest Oak Public School, a newly established elementary school in Ontario that has positioned sustainability as a central priority. Methods: Using a participatory action research approach and action-oriented case study design, data were collected through interviews, focus groups, document review, and fieldnotes, and analyzed using content and template analysis. Results: Preliminary findings reveal a tension between the ambition of building a COS and the operational realities of opening a new school. Early signs of cultural emergence are evident in both the reimagining of traditional school structures and the adoption of shared language to rethink daily practices through a sustainability lens. Conclusions: These findings suggest that early cultural signals can take root even amid competing demands, and that shifts in structures and language may serve as early anchors for deeper cultural development. Actions/Impact: Insights will support the school's ongoing formation and inform broader efforts to embed sustainability from the outset in new school contexts.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125779 - Snapshot

The double-edged effects of nature connectedness: climate anxiety mediates links to climate action and distress

Main Presenting Author: Reid, Shannon

Additional Authors: Walton, David ; Roach, Sean P

Abstract: *Nature connectedness (NC) has been linked to both positive and negative responses to climate change: those with stronger NC engage in more climate action but also experience greater climate anxiety (and, in some cases, greater psychological distress). The present study used data collected by Thomspon and Roach (2023) to assess the degree to which the relationships of NC with climate action and with psychological distress were mediated by climate anxiety (N = 327). Climate anxiety fully mediated the association between nature connectedness and stress (b = 0.70, SE = 0.20, 95% CI [0.34, 1.13]), anxiety (b = 0.69, SE = 0.45, 95% CI [0.34, 1.10]), and depression (b = 0.89, SE = 0.24, 95% CI [0.44, 1.39]). Though NC was positively associated with each type of climate action to a similar degree, climate anxiety only mediated the relationship with collective action (b = 2.89, SE = 0.85, 95% CI [1.36, 4.73]); the mediation effect for individual action was not significant (b = 0.32, SE = 0.38, 95% CI [−0.44, 1.10]). These findings highlight the divergent mechanisms underlying NC's relationship to different types of climate action, while also identifying climate anxiety as an important - and possibly modifying - factor in understanding why those connected to nature experience heightened distress in some circumstances.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125398 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

Meeting climate distress with connection: An experiential introduction to the Work that Reconnects

Main Presenting Author: Hart, Rebekah
Co-Presenting Authors: Ludwig, Sally; Thompson, Alex; Hollis-Walker, Laurie

Abstract: *As climate disruption intensifies, many people-including clinicians-are navigating anxiety, grief, and a sense of overwhelm. Joanna Macy's Work that Reconnects (WTR) offers a compassionate, community-based framework for engaging these emotions and renewing a sense of agency and connection. This introductory workshop will offer participants a brief experiential taste of the WTR and an overview of its core framework. The session will offer clinicians space to acknowledge their own responses to climate change and the polycrisis and to consider, in broad strokes, how elements of WTR may complement therapeutic work.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126292 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

Ecological grief, climate anxiety, and Solastalgia: How can psychologists and mental health clinicians help?

Moderator(s): Hollis-Walker, Laurie

Abstract: *Although not DSM-5 diagnoses, Solastalgia, eco-grief, and climate anxiety are mental health outcomes in light of the current environmental crisis that has lead to great suffering, destruction, displacement, and heartbreak regarding threats to the integrity of our planetary home, cultures, and communities. Psychologists are helping in many ways, including clinical intervention, research, policy change, and education. This symposium will explore some educational, clinical, and research contributions psychologists are making towards understanding, educating, and treating these conditions. Victoria Tess will present coping strategies in relation to denial and intended pro-environmental behaviour. Eunice Gorman and Laura Lewis will present a newly formed undergraduate course, Climate Grief and Eco-anxiety arising in response to student emotional responses to class discussions of the current crisis. Rebekah Hart will present findings from a clinical intervention for activists incorporating drama therapy and the Work that Reconnects, a group process for moving from despair to empowerment. We intend for and hope that this symposium will inspire psychologists and mental health professionals towards setting their own intentions to provide evidence-based assistance and healing for those struggling with these issues at a critical moment in human history.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 122781 - Symposium

Coping Strategies for Climate Change: How Coping Relates to Denial and Pro-Environmental Behaviour Intentions

Main Presenting Author: Tess, Victoria

Abstract: *Climate change is an escalating problem that people must cope with. Problem-focused coping (i.e., trying to problem solve) tends to relate negatively to denial (of climate change) and positively to pro-environmental behaviour (PEB), while avoidance coping (i.e., ignoring unpleasant feelings) relates positively to denial and negatively to PEB. However, few studies have tested if coping predicts denial, or vice versa, and how this relates to PEB intention. Thus, Study 1 (N = 298) tested two competing mediation paths. In the first mediation,problem-focused coping negatively predicted denial, and avoidance coping positively predicted denial. Denial then negatively predicted PEB intention. In the second mediation, denial negatively predicted problem-focused coping and positively predicted avoidance coping. Problem-focused coping then positively predicted PEB intention, while avoidance coping negatively predicted PEB intention. To further test these competing paths, Study 2 will employ an experimental design in which we manipulate coping to test its effects on denial and PEB intention. Study 3 will test the extent to which denial predicts coping choice (problem-focused or avoidance) and PEB intention. By disentangling the role of coping and denial in predicting PEB intention, this work can help inform coping interventions and climate policy.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126269 - Paper within a symposium

From student voices to institutional action: climate grief and ecoanxiety come to class

Main Presenting Author: Gorman, Eunice
Co-Presenting Author: Lewis, Laura

Abstract: *During a regular weekly class check-in in 2023 where instead of the usual academic discussion topics, the students responded when asked how they were doing with "the world is on fire …how do you think we are doing"? This sparked a call to action within the Thanatology department at King's. Climate anxiety and discussions of climate change are not uncommon in school settings. What brought us up short was the grief and despair expressed by our students. This statement 'the world is on fire' it turns out was not just a sad turn of phrase but a reflection of the fact that we were in the middle of what the national newspapers were referring to as the summer that Canada burned. In many previous check ins, this was the first time that climate grief and ecoanxiety were mentioned when students were asked how the semester was going. Clearly, it was becoming harder for students to hold space for grief and hope, or indeed to know what to do with their intense feelings. Ultimately, this compelled us to develop a third-year course, Climate Grief and Ecoanxiety. This talk will focus on our growing understanding of climate grief, solastalgia, and ecoanxiety and outline the course development process and the student response to the content. Furthermore we will present information about course inclusion in the interdisciplinary Certificate in Ecological Justice and Climate Ethics.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126281 - Paper within a symposium

Widening circles of care: Exploring selfcare with activists using ecodramatherapy

Main Presenting Author: Hart, Rebekah

Additional Author: Harnden, Bonnie

Abstract: *Research shows that activists may be at high risk for developing symptoms of trauma, isolation, alienation and burnout due to a host of internal and external factors. This instrumental case study describes a ten-week intervention with a group of female social and environmental activists exploring the theme of self-care. The interventions were based on the integration of two frameworks: drama therapy methods/processes - including Jones's core processes, Salas's Playback Theatre, Emunah's Five Phase Model drama therapy and Silverman's Story Within model - with ecopsychological group process from Joanna Macy and colleagues known as the Work that Reconnects (WTR). Interventions are described and analysed in terms of integration of methods and development of selfcare as a guiding theme. The study offers implications for activist self-care, including the role of honouring painful feelings as integral, and potential for drama therapy to foster practices of self-care. By integrating WTR and drama therapy methods, this research proposes an ecodramatherapy rooted in the anticolonial perception of our fundamental relatedness with, and responsibility to, all peoples and forms of life. We hope findings will inspire psychologists and activists to create circles of safety and support for those engaged in the demanding work of social and climate justice for present and future generations.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126283 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: EXAMINING WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, AND HOW WE LEARN AND PERFORM

Examining how people learn and helping facilitate peak performance in the classroom, on the playing field, and in other situations that require physical and mental execution.

12-Minute Talk

A Cross-Case Investigation of In-Service Teachers' Application of Computational Thinking Skills in Problem Solving

Main Presenting Author: Zhang, Yimei

Additional Authors: Song, Yajie ; Adams, Cathy; Cutumisu, Maria

Abstract: *Teachers play an important role in computational thinking (CT) instruction, as they shape their students' ability to acquire CT skills and attitudes. Although developing teachers' CT skills has been extensively investigated, teachers' application of these skills in solving problems remains underexplored. To address this gap, this study draws on cognitive load theory and employs a cross-case analysis of eight in-service teachers to examine their application of CT skills, problem solving, and CT attitudes before and after a CT hackathon intervention. Results revealed that most teachers used the decomposition CT skill to solve a coin-weighing problem. They also maintained high levels of CT and problem-solving attitudes before and after the CT hackathon. Finally, their increased confidence in CT and decreased self-assessment of CT were not always aligned with their CT skill application. Theoretically, this study contributes to understanding the role of cognitive load theory in CT education. Methodologically, it provides an assessment instrument that measures both CT skills and attitudes, allowing their interplay to be examined. Practically, it offers insights for designing CT interventions that address both CT skill acquisition and the cognitive and affective factors that shape teachers' implementation of CT.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125232 - 12-Minute Talk

Alignment of MTSS, CASEL Areas, and Intervention Activities by Mental Health Professionals for School Students

Main Presenting Authors: Kim, Denis; Isinkaye, Jibola

Additional Authors: Ajumobi, Deborah ; Hachem, Maryam ; Wilcox, Gabrielle

Abstract: *The increasing mental health needs of school-aged youth in Canada have intensified the demand for comprehensive, data-driven approaches to support student well-being. This study examines the alignment btwn Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS), Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) competency areas, & the intervention activities delivered by school-based mental health professionals. Using quantitative survey data collected from 27 schools, we assessed the extent to which practitioners' reported activities correspond to both MTSS tiered supports and CASEL's social-emotional learning domains. A two-step cluster analysis was conducted*

to identify distinct practitioner profiles based on patterns of intervention delivery, perceived alignment with SEL competencies, and tiered support functions. Results revealed distinct clusters representing differentiated implementation patterns across school contexts, highlighting areas of strong alignment as well as gaps in SEL-informed practice within MTSS frameworks. Implications for professional development, systems-level integration, & improved targeting of student supports are discussed. This study contributes empirical insight into how mental health professionals operationalize MTSS and SEL frameworks in daily practice, offering guidance for enhancing coherence and effectiveness in school mental health systems.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126438 - 12-Minute Talk

Amplifying Student Voice: A Photovoice Assessment that Enhances Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Community Connection

Main Presenting Author: Myler, Jillian

Additional Authors: Drash, Bethany ; Zannella, Lesley

Abstract: *Photovoice was developed as a research method to amplify the experiences of marginalized communities. Recently, educators have begun adapting Photovoice as a pedagogical tool that fosters engagement with real-world issues; however, the impact of this pedagogical tool on the learning experience remains underexplored. In a fourth-year course focused on critical thinking, the Photovoice project asked students to examine identity, belonging, and connection on campus. Using a mixed-methods design, quantitative analyses showed pre-post gains across several 21st-century skills. Thematic analysis of the captions revealed four themes central to students' experiences: Belonging & Campus Community, Well-Being & Self-Management, Academic Engagement & Support, and Structural, Financial, and Accessibility Barriers. These themes captured both the supports that foster growth, as well as the barriers that shape student life. Thematic analysis of student reflections revealed deepened critical awareness, expanded social awareness/empathy, and real-world advocacy. Finally, students reflected on the pedagogical experience, noting the empowerment offered by creative, narrative-based assessment.Overall, findings demonstrate that Photovoice is a powerful, equity-focused pedagogical tool. This work contributes to growing calls for student-centered, socially responsive teaching practices in psychology.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 125210 - 12-Minute Talk

Analyzing Image-Based Questions from K-12 Computational Thinking Assessments Using Large Language Models

Main Presenting Author: Li, Linlin

Additional Authors: Yan, Yiwen ; Zhang, Yimei; Song, Yajie; Cutumisu, Maria

Abstract: *Recent advancements in Large Language Models (LLMs), which process text, images, and auditory inputs, have opened new possibilities for analyzing image-based K-12 computational thinking (CT) questions. However, empirical research on their performance remains scarce. This study evaluates three LLMs: two state-of-the-art open-source models (GLM 4.6 and Molmo) and OpenAI's*

ChatGPT 5.1, using a dataset derived from reliable and validated CT instruments encompassing abstract, block-based programming and contextualized, problem-based tasks. Results showed that ChatGPT 5.1 outperformed the others, achieving 92.86% accuracy on block-based items and 88% on problem-based items, whereas GLM 4.6 and Molmo achieved accuracies of 42.86% and 25% on block-based items, respectively, and 24% each on problem-based items. When a multiple-choice item included a meta-option such as "A and C are both correct," LLMs consistently failed to identify the correct answer. The comparative assessments highlighted ChatGPT 5.1's superior capability to comprehend and respond to visual inputs on CT questions, though shared limitations were observed across all LLMs. These findings advance understanding of LLMs in K-12 CT education, highlighting their potential as adaptive tutors and instructional aids through automated grading and tailored task generation.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125336 - 12-Minute Talk

Bringing the Law into the Classroom: Psycho-Legal Content in Introductory Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Salerno-Ferraro, Alisha C

Abstract: *Background: The popularity of psychology and law courses is rising, yet introductory psychology textbooks often underrepresent psycho-legal concepts, potentially limiting student engagement. Integrating psychology and law into core modules may enhance relevance and learning.Methods: Data were collected from N = 498 students in PSYC1010, with 226 in a forensic-enriched section and 272 in standard sections. Students completed self-report measures on misconceptions of psycho-legal concepts, course engagement, and intentions to pursue psychology. Open-ended responses were analyzed for content, teaching style, and experiential learning factors.Results: Students in the forensic-enriched section had significantly fewer misconceptions across five psycho-legal subscales (all* $p < .001$, $\eta p^2 = .024$-$.062$*) and reported higher emotional engagement* ($F(1,495) = 10.611$, $p = .001$, $\eta p^2 = .021$*). Open-ended responses highlighted the impact of forensic content, active learning, and emotionally relevant examples. Intentions to pursue psychology were slightly higher in the forensic-enriched section, though not statistically significant.Conclusions: Integrating psychology and law into introductory courses improves student understanding of psycho-legal concepts and enhances engagement, particularly through emotionally relevant and experiential learning.Action/Impact: This approach demonstrates the feasibility and benefits of embedding forensic content in core psychology curricula, supporting deeper learning, critical thinking, and potential career exploration in psycho-legal fields.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 123237 - 12-Minute Talk

Can a Growth Mindset Intervention in Statistics Courses Improve Student Grades, Anxiety, and Attitudes?

Main Presenting Author: Loock, Johanna V

Additional Authors: Wang, Yiru ; Lo, Ronda; Counsell, Alyssa

Abstract: *Having a growth mindset, that is, believing that abilities can be developed through effort and appropriate learning strategies, has been associated with improved academic outcomes. This study examines whether a growth mindset intervention in an undergraduate psychology statistics course can improve academic outcomes beyond previously established interventions (e.g., mindfulness). Data are being collected from three sections of a fall semester course covering ANOVA and regression, using a quasi-experimental pretest-posttest design. After accounting for predicted drop out, we expect to have a final sample of ~150 students. Two course sections are receiving a mindfulness-based program (introductory video, breathing exercises, and reflective journaling about university life), while the third section is completing the same program with the addition of a video on the principles of a growth mindset at the start of the term and reflective journaling focused on their growth in the course. We aim to determine the extent to which the intervention can reduce math anxiety, and improve statistics self-efficacy, statistics attitudes, and academic performance. Although data collection is ongoing throughout the fall term, results are expected to clarify whether brief growth mindset interventions offer added value beyond mindfulness and to guide instructors in integrating these approaches.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 122475 - 12-Minute Talk

Differential Impacts of StoryMaker Workshops: A Longitudinal Evaluation of Student Writing and Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Longtin, Emilie E

Additional Authors: Jain, Barbie ; Le-Ba, Kimberly; Douglas-Grant, Sydney; Costigan, Catherine L

Abstract: *We partnered with the non-profit Story Studio to conduct a community-engaged evaluation of their StoryMaker workshops for elementary students. The workshops offer two half-days of in-class writing instruction on the components of story creation, which are later published into individual books.Students in Grades 1-5 (N = 496) completed surveys at three time points (pre-workshop, post-workshop, follow-up upon receiving their books). Measures assessed Writing Self-Efficacy (e.g., I know how to write a good story), Academic Self-Worth (e.g., I am an important member of my class), Academic Worry (e.g., I worry when I'm at school), and Writing Pride (e.g., I feel proud of my story). Piecewise multilevel modelling examined non-linear change and moderation by grade, gender, English language learner (ELL) status, and learning support needs.Writing Self-Efficacy increased ($\beta = .17$, $p < .001$) and Academic Worry decreased ($\beta = -.08$, $p = .028$) significantly from pre- to post-workshop and remained stable at follow-up. ELL students showed greater Writing Self-Efficacy gains during the workshop, which were maintained at follow-up. Writing Pride was high across all students and significantly stronger among younger ($p = .028$) and female students ($p = .029$).Findings inform program refinement and inclusive practice, highlighting subgroups where additional supports may be most beneficial.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126328 - 12-Minute Talk

Elixir of Survival: metaphors of resilience in first-year psychology students' university experience and their implications for resilience theorization in higher education

Main Presenting Author: Neiley, Alice

Abstract: *The recent focus on student resilience in higher education is part of the effort to increase student wellbeing, success, and ultimately retention (Ayala & Manzano, 2018; Brewer et al., 2019). Most empirical studies emphasize psychological aspects, viewing resilience as the ability to bounce back to optimal functioning (Ang et al., 2021; Holdsworth et al., 2018). This discourse research addresses a notable gap: examining how students perceive resilience in their university context. By analyzing participants' use of metaphor, the intricate, often conflicted nature of their experience emerges. Data was collected in two rounds of semi-structured interviews with 12 psychology undergraduates, implementing Braun and Clarke's (2006) reflexive thematic analysis and Schmitt's (2005) systematic metaphor analysis. Findings indicate that while students articulate resilience in various intentional ways, their latent metaphorical language emphasizes a perception of resilience as a survival ability akin to superhuman strength and endurance. This research illuminates resilience itself as a metaphor, embodying contradictory aspects of growth in the first-year student experience-forward and backward motion, transformation and consistency, fight and breath and patience-encouraging a re-evaluation of what resilience means and its effective integration into students' daily lives and performance.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124943 - 12-Minute Talk

Exploring Canada's School Attendance Crisis: A critical examination of theory, research, and data

Main Presenting Author: Whitley, Jess
Co-Presenting Author: Hare, Carolynn

Additional Authors: McBrearty, Natasha ; Rogers, Maria; Smith, David

Abstract: *The issue of school absenteeism has received increased attention in recent years due to the widespread absences caused by the COVID-19 pandemic (Carman & Wesley, 2024). Long-term outcomes of absenteeism include low educational attainment and challenges related to mental health, employment, and involvement in the justice system (Ansari et al., 2020). However, Canadian research remains limited, and a comprehensive, data-based understanding of the problem does not exist (Birioukov, 2021). We conducted a study consisting of (a) a conceptual review of school absenteeism in Canada and (b) a descriptive analysis of Ontario province-wide attendance data for elementary schools. Our review highlights a patchwork of measures, definitions, and data collection approaches across jurisdictions. Available national surveys focus narrowly on 'truancy,' contrasting with contemporary, complex understandings of attendance (e.g., Heyne et al., 2019). Analysis of Ontario data reveals that chronic absenteeism rates range from 14% to 88%, averaging 45%. From a population health perspective, school attendance can be viewed as a protective factor that influences lifelong health and social outcomes, making it a key target for upstream, intersectoral action. Strengthening data sharing, research partnerships, and nuanced, cross-sectoral analyses will be essential to inform upstream policy and practice.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123691 - 12-Minute Talk

Exploring school absenteeism in Canada: Associations with mental health and student-teacher relationship quality across ADHD status

Main Presenting Author: Nagi, Snimer

Additional Authors: Girard, Charlotte ; Hare, Carolynn; Rogers, Maria; Smith, David; Whitley , Jessica; McBrearty, Natasha

Abstract: *School absenteeism is a growing issue linked to adverse short- and long-term academic, behavioural, health, and social outcomes. In Canada, there is a lack of research examining correlates of school absenteeism, particularly among students with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). To address this gap, using a cross-sectional research design, we sought to examine the association between mental health symptoms, student-teacher relationship quality (STRQ), and rate of school absence, and whether these associations differ by ADHD status. Parents of children in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 enrolled in a Canadian school reported on their child's ADHD status, mental health symptoms, STRQ, and rate of absence in the last two weeks. Preliminary data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and bivariate correlations. Among the ADHD sample (n = 129), absence in the last two weeks (n = 1.11 days) was associated with internalizing symptoms (r = .38, p < .001). Among the non-ADHD sample (n = 90), absence in the last two weeks (n = 1.10 days) was associated with STRQ (r = -.43, p < .001) and internalizing symptoms (r = .55, p < .001). Within the Canadian education context, our study aims to provide insights into some of the correlates of school absenteeism as well as support educators and clinicians in implementing tailored interventions to decrease school absenteeism.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126142 - 12-Minute Talk

How Learning Communities Support Student Motivation: A Self-Determination Theory Perspective

Main Presenting Author: Ryan, William S.
Co-Presenting Author: Güven, Bilge S.

Abstract: *Universities continue to invest in programs to support student success, yet many initiatives lack a clear psychological framework explaining why they work. Guided by Self-Determination Theory (SDT), this project examines whether the Second-Year Learning Communities (SLC) program promotes student motivation and well-being by supporting autonomy, competence, and relatedness. Our earlier cross-sectional findings showed that SLC participants reported higher basic psychological need satisfaction, more autonomous forms of motivation, and stronger well-being than non-participants, with need satisfaction fully mediating these associations. We have now expanded the project into a year-long longitudinal study tracking students across the academic cycle. Students completed surveys assessing psychological needs, motivation, social well-being, academic well-being, and markers of academic functioning this fall semester and will complete a time 2 follow up survey at the end of the Winter semester. Planned longitudinal structural equation models will test whether SLC participation predicts changes in need satisfaction over time, and whether those changes forecast downstream gains in motivation, well-being, and academic adjustment. We anticipate that trajectories*

of autonomy, competence, and relatedness will account for the program's impact across the year. This talk will highlight conclusions from both study phases and offer evidence-informed recommendations for designing programs and classroom environments that intentionally support students' basic psychological needs. Findings have direct implications for psychology educators and student-services teams across Canada, demonstrating how need-supportive practices can strengthen student well-being, and academic engagement.

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 125370 - 12-Minute Talk

Predictors of Academic Outcomes among First-Generation Students: A Motivation and Belonging Perspective

Main Presenting Author: Roberts, Jeremy M

Additional Authors: Wood-Warren, Ali ; Goegan, Lauren

Abstract: *Drawing from Expectancy-Value Theory (Eccles & Wigfield, 2002) and belonging frameworks (Bollen & Hoyle, 1990), this presentation explores how psychosocial factors predict academic success among first-year undergraduate students. Using data from 271 undergraduates at a large Canadian university, regression analyses examined how expectancy, value, cost, and belonging predicted GPA, skill acquisition, and satisfaction. Moreover, we separated undergraduate students into those who identified as first-generations students and those who did not. In terms of GPA, the regression was non-significant for first-generation students, while expectancy positively predicted GPA for non-first-generation students. When predicting skill acquisition, expectancy, value and belonging were significantly positive predictors for both groups. Lastly, belonging was significant for first-generation students in terms of predicting overall satisfaction, while expectancy, value cost where also significant predictors for non-first-generation students. Together, these findings highlight the importance of fostering motivation and belonging. This presentation will discuss implications for institutional support, emphasizing practices that enhance students' perceived value, reduce psychological and practical costs, and create conditions that allow first-generation students to thrive academically and emotionally.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122524 - 12-Minute Talk

Role of Prediction During Reading: A Cross-Language and Developmental Comparison

Main Presenting Author: Levasseur, Gabrielle A

Additional Authors: Guedea Morales, Erika ; Whitford, Veronica; Joanisse, F Marc

Abstract: *Background. Word predictability (how expected a word is based on prior context) is a key determinant of word recognition and reading fluency. However, extant studies have mainly focused on skilled monolingual adult readers, leaving bilingual and developing readers understudied, who may engage in differential predictive processing.Methods. We used eye movement measures of first language (L1) and second language (L2) text reading to examine word predictability (cloze probability) in children (n = 67) and young adults (n = 60) from English monolingual and English-*

French bilingual backgrounds. We analyzed fixation durations as a function of participant group and text language via linear mixed-effects models.Results. For L1 reading, word predictability effects were similar across language and age groups. For L1 vs. L2 reading, bilingual adults (with reduced current L2 exposure levels) exhibited larger L2 vs. L1 word predictability effects (with greater difficulty for less predictable L2 words), whereas bilingual children (with more balanced current L1/L2 exposure levels) exhibited language-invariant effects. Thus, bilinguals rely on context in both languages, though L2 prediction weakens with reduced L2 use.Impact. Our findings suggest that sustained reading and active language engagement are crucial for maintaining high-level reading skills and supporting predictive processing.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125386 - 12-Minute Talk

Spatial Navigation Tendencies and Executive Function in Musicians

Main Presenting Author: McCarty, Will

Abstract: *Previous research shows links between guitar proficiency and motor skill acquisition, musical training and executive functioning, and spatial ability and skill proficiencies such as chess. What is uncertain, is whether musical proficiency is also related to spatial ability and if this can provide an avenue for maintaining cognitive health. This study investigated this relationship as well as the possible mediating influence of executive function. This was done by assessing various cognitive and spatial abilities of guitar and piano players across high and low levels of proficiency. These assessments included spatial discrete judgement tasks designed to measure spatial ability in both general and music-centered contexts. As well, other well regarded assessments of executive functioning were administered. These assessments were evaluated for indicators of spatial ability whilst considering a baseline level of musical proficiency and to determine if a mediating relationship with executive functions exists. The results show that musical proficiency and spatial ability share a positive correlation; especially when controlling for executive function. This study highlights the spatial and cognitive abilities unique to guitar and piano players. Ultimately, our results may provide evidence for the role of musical expertise in the development and maintenance of cognitive health.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126210 - 12-Minute Talk

Study buddy learning is associated with academic success in undergraduate science courses

Main Presenting Author: Jones, Achol

Additional Authors: Reznik, Gabrielle ; Dudarev, Veronica; Hui, Bowen; Belleville, Patrice; Williams, Warren; Fussner-Dupas, Eden; Enns, James

Abstract: *Learning-by-teaching has been shown to improve student learning, retention of material, and socio-emotional engagement with peers. However, many undergraduate students work in isolation, often due to perceived competition or a lack of structured opportunities for collaboration. To address these challenges, we implemented a cohort-based study buddy program for undergraduate science students at the University of British Columbia, in which high-scoring students (mentors) and lower-scoring peers (protégés) were invited to form study groups based on their first assessment scores in a given course. We then compared the performance of participants versus non-participants*

on subsequent assessments, while examining separately the effects for mentors and protégés. Results showed that across all courses, participants experienced an average grade improvement of more than 2.0%, compared to non-participants, with team students consistently outperforming solo students. Additionally, analysis by quartile revealed similar participation benefits for students in both mentor and protégé roles. These findings emphasize the value of reducing barriers to collaborative learning in higher education and highlight the study buddy program as a cost-effective and scalable approach to enhance students' educational experiences.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122985 - 12-Minute Talk

Success Stories We're Not Counting - Yet: Validating a Multidimensional Model of Success in Rural Adult Basic Education

Main Presenting Author: Barker, Conor
Co-Presenting Author: Reeve, Catherine

Additional Authors: Mahon, Brad ; Carter, Ellen; Mitchell, Shannon; Bergen, Lara; Ostrander, Keleah

Abstract: *Background. Adult Basic Education (ABE) is often evaluated through narrow metrics such as credential attainment, yet previous SABEP work shows that students, staff, and community members value broader social, personal, and community-based outcomes. Building on province-wide data collection across Saskatchewan, a four-phase developmental model of ABE success was created and is now being validated.Methods. A custom survey, informed by participatory workshops, was developed to capture definitions of success in ABE. The survey included closed- and open-ended items and was distributed online to staff, students, and community members across Saskatchewan's regional colleges that serve rural communities.Results. Preliminary descriptive and qualitative findings will be presented, including group-based differences in what respondents consider most important for ABE success.Conclusions. Findings advance a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of success in ABE, reflecting academic, social, personal, and community dimensions.Action/Impact. Results can guide programming and individualized learning plans, emphasize the role of localized education opportunities for adults in rural spaces, and highlight social determinants of health and community connectedness as critical outcomes of rural adult education.*

Section: *Rural and Northern Psychology*
Session ID: 125171 - 12-Minute Talk

The impact of teacher-reported feedback practices on students' mathematics achievement in PISA 2022

Main Presenting Author: Song, Yajie

Additional Authors: Zhang, Yimei ; Li, Linlin; Yan, Yiwen; Park, Sang Won; Cutumisu, Maria

Abstract: *Background. Feedback is central to teaching and learning, yet its effective characteristics remain unclear due to conflicting findings from small samples. Aim. Thus, using the large-scale Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2022 data, this study aims to identify effective teacher-reported feedback practices related to students' mathematics achievement. Methods.*

Complementary models for inference and prediction (multilevel regression, random forests, and neural networks with entity embeddings) were employed. Results and Conclusions. Teacher-reported feedback practices significantly predicted mathematics achievement, with four practices (advising on learning goals, suggesting areas of improvement, delivering immediate feedback, and providing feedback on strengths) consistently emerging across models. Impact. Theoretically, these feedback practices align with feedback intervention theory, suggesting that educators should direct students' attention to the task. Methodologically, this is the first study to apply a neural network with entity embeddings to nested PISA data, showing potential for similar analyses. Practically, suggesting areas of improvement and advising on learning goals were negatively associated with achievement, indicating a need to further refine and deliver these practices to better support learning.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125219 - 12-Minute Talk

Undetected Risk is Risky Business: Validating a Literacy Screening Battery for Children in Early French Immersion

Main Presenting Author: Coon, Laura C. H.

Additional Author: Chen, Becky

Abstract: *Early literacy screening is imperative for timely identification and intervention for at-risk readers in French immersion. While several research-supported tools exist for literacy screening in English classrooms, screening tools developed for and normed on students in Canadian French immersion programs are lacking. In the absence of universal screening, children who require intervention are often unidentified until well past the period in which targeted intervention is most effective. Evidence-based screening tools that have undergone the appropriate validation process play a crucial role in universal screening. In response to the need for effective screening tools for this population, we created the Test des Habiletés Fondamentales en Littératie (THaFeL): a screening battery consisting of letter naming, word reading, pseudoword reading, and oral reading fluency measures. Findings provide strong support for this battery as a reliable and valid test of early literacy performance, and shows great promise for accurate identification of at-risk readers in French immersion. The findings of this research have implications for French immersion educators, classroom teachers, administrators, and education systems in Canada more broadly.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124835 - 12-Minute Talk

Visualization Strategies in Sport Psychology: The Use of Diverse Imagery ModalitiesFor Peak Performance

Main Presenting Author: Taktek, Khaled

Additional Authors: Germain, Jesse ; Fielitz, Lynn; Zinsser, Nathaniel

Abstract: *In the field of sport and exercise psychology, mental imagery is used as an efficient strategy to enhance motor skills and performance as well as different forms of cognitive functioning. Although visualization behavioral studies brought a clear distinction between Internal Visual Imagery (IVI) and*

External Visual Imagery (EVI), in terms of tasks' requirements and cognitive explanations, they did not examine the effects of each perspective on motor performance in comparison to Kinesthetic Imagery (KI). Thus, the main purpose of this study was to determine the mental imagery modality (IVI, EVI, or KI) which was the most efficient for the acquisition, retention and transfer of motor skills. Participants (n = 60) were selected from the USMA, West Point, NY. The experimental task required the participants to execute series of game-like basketball skills (e.g., dribbling, passing, and shooting). The results revealed that performance obtained, during the acquisition or retention phase, by IVI or KI group was equivalent to that produced by EVI group, but significantly superior during the transfer phase. These results provide sport psychologists, coaches, athletes, etc. relevant strategies for peak performance not only in terms of tasks' characteristics but also transfer effects resulting from diverse mental imagery modality applications (Guillot et al., 2022; Taktek et al., 2019).

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 123522 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Contradictions in technology integration in classrooms: An activity theory perspective

Main Presenting Author: Babu, Rasel

Additional Author: Dubé, Adam

Abstract: *Technology integration (TI) in classrooms is a complex task. Several TI models have been proposed to identify the teacher and school factors impacting the likelihood of successful TI. Using activity theory, the 5 mostly used models in TI research were reviewed to identify common 'contradictions' (i.e., barriers) that arise from both within teachers and from schools that affect TI. This session critically discusses them to highlight how successful TI is more than just increased professional development and technology access. Specifically, it will show how an activity theory contradiction analysis treats TI as arising from a system (e.g., school and its community) to generate a holistic understanding of barriers to TI. This will help attendees obtain practical understanding of key barriers to TI and build the awareness required to successful TI. The session will benefit a range of participants (e.g., educators, researchers, psychologists, EdTech app developers) by orienting them to a new approach to TI based on the idea of contradictions. Participants will be engaged in the conversation by using handout with key ideas, provocative prompts, brainstorming, critical reflection on their own experience with technology use, and identify key takeaways. TI is affected by more than just knowledge and access and a fuller study is needed for effective TI across Canadian and global context.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124843 - Conversation Session

Emotion in learning is a 'hot topic' in schools: Why psychologists need to get involved.

Main Presenting Author: Ritchie, Krista C

Additional Authors: Doe, Christine ; George, Anna; Hall, Julia; King, Sara

Abstract: *TOPIC: This round table will provide a landscape of ways teachers are told to provide instruction on emotion awareness and regulation. Though Canadian curricula include some promising learning objectives, others are vague or not aligned to child and adolescent development. Furthermore, there is little teaching of any psychology in teacher training programs. NOVELTY: This work highlights the need for interprofessional-education and -practices of school staff with particular focus on school psychologists, counsellors, teachers and educational program assistants (EPAs). PURPOSE: Discussion aims to: (1) share insights on how and why emotions, self-awareness and -regulation can be taught in public education; and (2) identify ways topics such as emotions in psychology can be effectively integrated into elementary and secondary classroom instruction. PROCESS: A brief presentation with graphic organizer will frame discussion on needed considerations and ideas for next steps. RELEVANCE: The integration of emotion-awareness and -regulation instruction in public education presents an opportunity for accessible psychoeducation and early intervention for or prevention of mental health needs. Alternatively, teaching about emotions based on limited expertise and lack of evidence risks perpetuating misconceptions and frustration when taught emotion-regulation strategies are ineffective.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126361 - Conversation Session

Empowering Pedagogies: Indigenous and Social Justice Based Approaches for Teaching and Learning

Main Presenting Author: Keeshig-Soonias, Beverly
Co-Presenting Authors: Sinacore , Ada L; Danto, David

Abstract: *Paulo Freire, a Brazilian scholar, in his book Pedagogy of the Oppressed (1968), critiques the "banking model" of education in which knowledge is deposited by educators and passively memorized by students without critical engagement. bell hooks, an African American scholar, in her book Teaching to Transgress (1994), expands this critique by advancing transformative and engaged pedagogies. Feminist and social-justice pedagogies have further integrated these ways of knowing and teaching (Sinacore & Enns, 2015). In addition, Indigenous approaches to teaching and learning offer alternative perspectives, ones too often overlooked (Walsh & Danto, 2024). Despite the demonstrated value of these pedagogical frameworks, psychology courses are frequently dominated by PowerPoint-based lectures that are non-interactive and rely heavily on memorization, reproducing the very "banking" model Freire warns against. Additionally, lecture-based models are poorly aligned with Indigenous approaches to learning. In this presentation, Indigenous and non-Indigenous educators will facilitate a roundtable discussion to explore diverse pedagogical approaches for preparing psychology students to engage more meaningfully with both learning processes and content.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 124153 - Conversation Session

Supporting Undergraduate Students' Use of APA: Pedagogical Challenges and Effective Strategies

Main Presenting Author: Roberts, Jeremy M

Additional Author: Goegan, Lauren

Abstract: *Students often view APA as tedious and overly complex (Goegan & Roberts, 2025), which can undermine writing confidence and academic identity. This conversation session invites educators and researchers to share strategies for supporting APA learning in postsecondary settings. Drawing on Situated Expectancy-Value Theory (Eccles & Wigfield, 2020) we will begin by exploring how strengthening expectancy for success can motivate engagement. For example, instructors can model APA use, scaffold practice, provide exemplars, and normalize mistakes to build confidence. Enhancing attainment, intrinsic, and utility value involves connecting APA to disciplinary identity (Hyland, 2004), real-world relevance, and creative applications and games (Clark & Murphy, 2020). To reduce perceived costs, such as anxiety, time, and cognitive load, educators can provide checklists, templates, and digital tools (Zafonte & Parks-Stamm, 2016), encourage peer collaboration (Topping, 2009), and offer formative feedback (Nicol & Macfarlane-Dick, 2006; Hattie & Timperley, 2007). From there, participants in the conversation session will collaboratively identify pedagogical approaches for embedding APA instruction into writing-intensive courses, promoting agency, reflective practice, and equitable academic communication.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122525 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

Nested Supervision: Mentoring Psychology Graduate Students as they Navigate the Merits and Milestones of Teaching Undergraduate Students

Moderator(s): McCabe, Randi

Panelists: Nishimura, Mayu; Rowa, Karen; Alarachi, Arij; Parkinson, Sydney; Metcalfe, Spencer

Abstract: *Psychology graduate students are extensively involved in the teaching of junior students through research supervision, teaching assistantships, and direct instruction. They occupy a unique position in the teaching hierarchy, acting concurrently as mentors and learners. Research suggests that teaching opportunities improve research skills and self-efficacy in graduate trainees and provide undergraduates with unique support around their career aspirations. Despite the massive implications of such opportunities for graduate and undergraduate success, the quality and depth of training in psychology instruction is highly variable across Canadian universities, and guidelines on how to prepare psychology graduate students to engage in research supervision or teaching of a course are limited. To address this gap, this panel discussion will bring forth various perspectives including a research supervisor and teaching professor sharing recommendations for pedagogical mentorship; doctoral students reflecting on lessons learned as junior supervisors and instructors in training; and an undergraduate student sharing thoughts on this nested supervision strategy. Pertinent topics such as integration of EDI principles into teaching, adapting to new challenges in learning (e.g., use of generative AI), and applying evidence-based pedagogical decision-making will be addressed.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 123486 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

"Figuring It Out": Undergraduate Narratives of Stress, Adaptation, and Academic Engagement

Main Presenting Author: Fontanilla, Patricia L

Additional Authors: McGuinness, Claire ; Nordstokke, David

Abstract: *The transition into university involves ongoing academic and personal challenges, requiring students to adapt their study habits, stress-management practices, and expectations over time (Grund, 2013). Although research has identified common stressors (Stokoe, 2024), less is known about how students themselves make sense of these pressures and define success. This study examines how undergraduate students make meaning of academic challenges, stress, and success within their day-to-day university life. Through open-ended survey questions, students reflect on the unexpected barriers they encounter, how their stress fluctuates over the semester, and the approaches they use to manage high-stress periods. Thematic analysis is used to identify patterns in how students describe their academic experiences and the processes through which they adapt to ongoing demands. Themes focus on students' interpretations of challenge, their shifting stress responses, and the development of strategies that help sustain academic engagement. These themes offer insight into the ways students conceptualize success and recalibrate expectations throughout their studies. Findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the lived academic experiences of undergraduate students and highlights implications for supports that strengthen coping, engagement, and academic well-being across the university journey.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126119 - Printed Poster

A Cognitive Behavioural Therapy group intervention for ADHD among undergraduate students at a small university: Evaluation of a newly developed program

Main Presenting Author: Campbell, Colin A.

Additional Authors: Collins, Paul ; Jewell, Emily; MacQuarrie, Emily; Mitchell, Milann

Abstract: *ADHD is a diagnosis that impacts the success of university students (Biederman et al., 2006). The current program evaluation investigates the success of a modularized, cognitive behavioural therapy group approach to addressing common challenges facing university students at a small institution. The program was developed based on materials from Safren (2017) and Solanto (2013), ran for 8 weeks and included topics on utilizing a calendar and task list, reducing distractibility, and breaking down tasks. Measures at baseline, 4-weeks, 8-weeks, and post follow-up among 13 group participants indicated a decrease in symptoms of anxiety and adhd as measured by the GAD-7 and ASRS respectively, with the Mean ASRS score at baseline being 53.2 and at post-group being 43.75. Qualitative feedback from participants indicated enjoying the group context, the proper balance with homework, group size and content. Areas for improvement included challenges with attendance, screening participants to ensure proper fit, and additional support for clients post group termination.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126291 - Printed Poster

Believing competitive wins are driven by internal and controllable factors mediates their positive effect on mood and self-confidence

Main Presenting Author: Hayes, Erik B.A.

Additional Authors: Banipal, Ekam ; Montenegro, Nadia; Geniole, N. Shawn

Abstract: *Our thoughts in response to a recent success likely impact our subsequent mood and behaviour. Some of the reasons we attribute to such success - whether we perceive the success to be internally (vs externally) caused, stable (vs modifiable), and/or something we can (vs cannot) control - may be critical. Indeed, psychological momentum theory posits that attributing successes to internal factors may partially mediate the effects of success on future positive mood and confidence. Here, we test this possibility using a rigged virtual reality competition in which winning (vs losing) was experimentally manipulated. Participants (n = 186) randomly assigned to the winning condition had greater confidence in their future performance and higher positive mood compared to those assigned to the losing condition. Winners (vs losers) also attributed more of their success to internal (vs external) and controllable (vs uncontrollable) causes, and mediation analyses revealed that this tendency to internalize and perceive causes as controllable partially mediated the effects of winning on subsequent positive mood and confidence. These findings further our understanding of the cognitive and emotional impacts of attributions in competitive environments and underscore the potential of attribution-based interventions to modulate post-competition mood and confidence.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126144 - Printed Poster

Building on Strengths: Effects of a school-based rhythm program on the cognitive flexibility of students on the autism spectrum and with IDD

Main Presenting Author: Jack, Nathalie

Additional Authors: Wong, Samantha T. S.; Jolin, Amy; Servant, Alexa; Lippé, Sarah; Quintin, Eve-Marie

Abstract: *Children on the autism spectrum (AS) and with intellectual developmental disorder (IDD) often show executive functioning challenges, particularly in cognitive flexibility (shifting attention). Rhythm training is linked to improved flexibility in neurotypical youth on the AS and with IDD. This study examined whether a school-based rhythm program improves cognitive flexibility of ND children. 42 students (8-13) on the AS and with IDD were assigned to a rhythm training group (n = 21) or an active comparison music appreciation group (n = 21) for 14 weekly sessions. Groups were matched on age, cognitive functioning, and musical experience. Cognitive flexibility (Dimensional Change Card Sort) and beat perception (Beat Alignment Test) were assessed pre- and post-program. At baseline, groups did not differ in cognitive flexibility or beat perception. Post-program, the rhythm group showed higher off-beat perception, $t(41)=2.192$, $p=.034$ and their cognitive flexibility correlated with beat perception (on-beat: $r=.714$, $p<.001$; off-beat: $r=.554$, $p=.009$. Rhythm training was associated with stronger beat perception, suggesting a link between rhythmic engagement,*

flexible attention, and cognitive control. Findings support rhythm training as an accessible, strength-based approach to promote executive functioning in ND children.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124449 - Printed Poster

Canadian Mentee and Mentor Perspectives on Mentoring Relationship Quality

Main Presenting Author: Pador, Paolo

Additional Authors: Akinola, Temilorun ; Rinaldi, Christina

Abstract: *Canadian adolescents and young adults report social disconnection and mental health concerns at alarming rates. Mentoring is one pathway that youth are supported through cognitive, social, and emotional transitions, with high quality mentoring relationships associated with positive outcomes. A key contributor to these outcomes is Mentoring Relationship Quality (MRQ). This study examines how mentees and mentors conceptualize MRQ to inform mentoring program match procedures. Four youth mentees and fifteen mentors from Canadian mentoring programs participated in one-hour interviews exploring the perceptions of MRQ, experiences of relationship quality, and challenges in navigating mentoring relationships. A thematic content analysis was conducted to identify key dimensions of MRQ across groups. Both mentees and mentors emphasized the importance of trust and closeness as foundational components of MRQ. Mentees also highlighted openness and youth-centeredness as contributors to feeling supported, whereas mentors identified mutuality and logistics as critical in establishing a strong mentoring bond. By integrating mentee and mentor perspectives, the study advances the understanding of MRQ and highlights shared and unique components of the relationship. These insights can inform match procedures and support the development of more attuned, high-quality mentor-mentee relationships.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126081 - Printed Poster

Climat de classe et capital psychologique : déterminants relationnels et personnels de l'épuisement académique

Main Presenting Author: Roy, Marie-Michèle

Additional Authors: Clément, Louise ; Rivest, Marie-Christine; Mamprin, Caterina; Thiam, Mouhamadou; Ouellette, Jean-François; Abou Sleiman, Rachelle

Abstract: *Des données récentes signalent une préoccupation croissante quant à la santé psychologique et aux concepts associés des étudiant.es du postsecondaire, tant au Québec (Conseil supérieur de l'éducation, 2023) qu'au Canada (Canadian Campus Wellbeing Survey, 2025). Dans ce contexte, la présente étude examine les ressources relationnelles (le climat des interactions-CI et le climat de respect-CR [Patrick et al., 2007]) et les ressources personnelles (le capital psychologique-CP; Luthans et al., 2015) ainsi que leurs liens avec l'épuisement académique (Schaufeli et al., 2019) chez les étudiant.es du collégial. Un total de 906 participant.es (72 % femmes) ont complété un questionnaire en ligne. Les résultats des analyses de régression indiquent que les trois variables indépendantes du modèle (c.-à-d. CP, CI, CR) sont associées significativement à l'épuisement académique, mais de manière distincte comme ce dernier est composé de quatre dimensions (c.-à-d. l'épuisement, la distance mentale, l'altération cognitive, l'altération émotionnelle; Schaufeli et al.,*

2019). Ces résultats invitent les équipes pédagogiques à mobiliser conjointement des stratégies axées sur les ressources personnelles et relationnelles afin de réduire l'épuisement académique au sein de la population étudiante.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124042 - Printed Poster

Competency-based education in computer science: A pathway to learner motivation?

Main Presenting Author: Hunter, Jessica

Additional Authors: Dube, Marianne ; Monnet, Romane; Alberini, Giulia; Robinson, Kristy A

Abstract: *To promote retention in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) undergraduate programs, it is essential to support learner motivation - an endeavour which may be possible through the implementation of competency-based education (CBE). CBE is an increasingly popular alternative approach to evaluation which prioritizes learner's mastery of core competencies through structures like multiple redo opportunities and flexibility in assessment. However, no empirical research to date has evaluated the motivational effects of CBE. Accordingly, we examined whether levels of, and pathways between, mid-semester classroom motivational climate perceptions and end-of-term motivational beliefs differed across semesters of an introductory computer science course differentiated by the implementation of CBE (N CBE = 211, N non-CBE = 317). The resultant multigroup structural equation model had acceptable model fit, CFI = .94, TLI = .94, RMSEA = .05, and descriptively appeared to support hypotheses, but differences in means and regression paths were not significant across semesters. These results indicate that the potential unique motivational benefits of CBE may be overstated or perhaps localized to only some students due to students' polarizing views on and experiences of CBE. This work has important implications for STEM pedagogical practice and achievement motivation research.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124608 - Printed Poster

Describing and Comparing the Motivational Beliefs of Students with Disabilities in STEM Undergraduate Courses

Main Presenting Author: Perkins, Sydney P
Co-Presenting Author: Hunter, Jessica

Additional Author: Robinson, Kristy A

Abstract: *The motivation of students with disabilities (SWD) remains understudied, limiting understanding of how to support student needs and make motivational research more inclusive. In this study, we describe and compare the motivational beliefs of SWD (n = 586) in introductory STEM university courses identifying as having affective (n = 301), cognitive (n = 113), or multiple disabilities (n = 172). We conducted a one-way MANOVA to examine SWD's academic-self efficacy, values for learning (utility, attainment, and interest), and perceived costs (emotional, psychological, effort, and opportunity). Descriptively, as a sample, SWD reported moderate levels of self-efficacy and value for learning, and low-to-moderate levels of perceived costs. Comparing subgroups, the*

MANOVA showed a significant multivariate effect, λ = .94, F(16, 1138) = 2.30, p = .003, with univariate tests demonstrating difference only in perceived psychological costs, F(2,576) = 8.55, p < .001, η2 = .025. Post-hoc analyses revealed that students with affective (M = 3.53) and multiple (M = 3.67) disabilities both reported significantly higher psychological costs than students with cognitive disabilities (M = 3.18), suggesting that these students may benefit from emotional support. Findings provide valuable insight into the motivational beliefs of SWD which can inform future research and support interventions.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123677 - Printed Poster

Direct+ Replication of Pennycook et al. (2018): Perceptions of News Headlines

Main Presenting Author: Bouskill, Miller

Abstract: *People face an overwhelming amount of information daily, making misleading media harder to detect as fake news grows more sophisticated. To judge what is true, people often rely on familiarity - an effect known as the illusory truth effect (ITE), where repeated information is perceived as more accurate. To investigate how the ITE interacts with fake news, we conducted two multifactorial studies examining how repetition of fake news headlines influences perceived accuracy. Across two online surveys, participants (N=147) were familiarized with fake and real news headlines, completed a demographics questionnaire that served as a filler task, and later rated the accuracy of both repeated and novel headlines. Study 1 replicated Pennycook et al. (2018); Study 2 updated the stimuli with 2025 items and tested whether cognitive load alters accuracy judgments, operationalized using a digit-string memorization task. A manipulation check will assess whether the conditions to elicit the ITE were met. ANOVAs will examine the main effects of exposure, condition, news type, and cognitive load on perceived accuracy ratings, as well as their interaction effects. The results will guide future research on perceptions of misinformation and may support policy efforts to curb its spread. Future research should explore how accuracy judgments operate in an evolving media landscape, including AI-generated content.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125208 - Printed Poster

Elementary students' self-regulated learning, emotions, and mind-wandering: A process approach

Main Presenting Author: Kisil, Chelsea
Co-Presenting Author: Bowen, Stephanie

Additional Author: Muis, Krista R

Abstract: *The benefits of early math skills are well established. In Quebec, elementary students demonstrate these skills by solving complex mathematics problems. To excel, students must engage in the process of self-regulated learning (SRL). Most SRL research has been frequency-based, which is misaligned with theoretical models of SRL and the interconnected nature of problem-solving. Recent process-based analyses have revealed that some SRL and emotion sequences predict greater achievement; however, the role of mind-wandering (a pervasive and consequential aspect of classroom activities) within these sequences has yet to be considered. We will test whether distinct SRL/emotion/mind-wandering sequences can be identified from coded transcripts (sequential cluster*

analysis) and whether sequences significantly predict achievement on a problem-solving task, controlling for individual differences (ANCOVA). Pre-coded think-aloud transcripts from 39 students solving a complex mathematics problem were re-coded to account for mind-wandering using a co-developed and reliability-tested codebook. Analyses are underway. Findings are expected to demonstrate the significance of the contingent dynamics of mind-wandering and emotions during SRL. Implications include a refined understanding of effective mathematics problem-solving and critical considerations for supporting elementary students' SRL.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124913 - Printed Poster

Exploring Coping Strategies and Technology Used by Ontario Post-Secondary Psychology Students with Adult ADHD: A Qualitative Study

Main Presenting Author: Gupta, Aarti

Abstract: *Background: ADHD requires lifelong management. Lazarus & Folkman's Transactional Model of Stress and Coping states, stress responses depend on cognitive appraisals that shape problem- or emotion-focused coping. Less is known about adults diagnosed later in life, especially post-secondary students. Psychology students report benefitting from research engagement, yet little is known about how they use technology in academics. This study explores coping strategies and technology use among Ontario post-secondary psychology students with adult ADHD. Methods: 11 psychology students diagnosed with ADHD in adulthood were recruited through purposive sampling. Semi-structured interviews were analyzed using Reflexive Thematic Analysis. Results: 10 themes emerged: understanding ADHD symptoms; Situational impacts; Symptom consequences; Behavioural responses; Coping strategies; Technology use; Formal supports; Importance of supports; Barriers; Recommendations. Discussion: Coping was transactional and context-dependent. Students with appropriate supports managed symptoms effectively, while internal and systemic barriers increased stress. Technology aided focus and organization but sometimes created dependence or distraction. Implications: Findings emphasize the need for individualized accommodations, psychoeducation and supportive environments that promote self-care and emotional regulation.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125871 - Printed Poster

Feeling Connected, Achieving Higher: How School Belonging Influences Academic Achievement Through Motivation in Middle and High School Students

Main Presenting Author: Ahmed, Muna A

Additional Authors: David, Syndie ; Debrosse, Régine

Abstract: *A strong sense of school belonging is linked to positive academic outcomes, and prior research suggests that motivation may be one factor underlying this association. In this study, using student surveys combined with verified school achievement records, we looked at whether motivation helped account for these associations, and whether the patterns differed by gender. Data was collected from middle and high school students (grades 6-9; N=363; ~51% boys, ~49% girls; M age = 13.2 years) at two time points (Fall 2023 and Spring 2024) to assess levels of school belonging, motivation, and overall grade point average (GPA). Descriptive analyses, bivariate correlations, and mediation*

analyses using Hayes' PROCESS Model 7 (2022) were conducted. Across several regression models, higher belonging was consistently associated with higher motivation, which was in turn associated with stronger academic performance. Consistent with previous research, this work highlights the value of supporting students' sense of school belonging as part of promoting improved academic outcomes. These findings suggest that motivation may help explain why students who feel a greater sense of belonging tend to do better academically.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125033 - Printed Poster

Football, Magic, Songs, and Pigeons: An Engaging First Class

Main Presenting Author: Dukeshire, Steven R

Abstract: *RationaleSoTL asserts the first day of class should be more than just presenting the syllabus. Through pictures of five activities, this poster describes how one professor created an engaging and informative first class.MethodologyStudents taking the first semester of Intro Psych are introduced to course topics through five activities: 1) watching great football passes followed by the class playing catch (size/shape constancy and neuron functioning), 2) magic trick illuminating a ball (colour constancy), 3) sing-along to a popular song (memory), and 4) short video of a pigeon demonstrating reading of "peck/turn" and then students responding to the words "wave/turn" on screen (behaviouralism). After the syllabus is reviewed, students arrange themselves on a spectrum from whether they believe human actions/decisions are best understood through "animal" or "uniquely human" perspectives followed by a short discussion. The class concludes with a brief evaluation.EvaluationBoth open- and close-ended results revealed students (n=124) believed the class to be a good way to introduce course concepts, sparked their interest, was enjoyable/fun, was overall good, and should be used in future (all means above 6 out of 7).Conclusion and ImpactThis first day of class demonstrated key content and established expectations that the course would be fun, engaging, and invite student involvement.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 124885 - Printed Poster

From Motivation to Engagement: How Subjective Vitality Supports Language Learners

Main Presenting Author: Han, Andy

Abstract: *Promoting student engagement in language learning is crucial in educational settings of increasing cultural and linguistic diversity. Academic engagement is an important educational outcome and predictor of academic achievement, especially in the language learning domain, where dominant paradigms view learners' active participation and involvement as critical for language development. As a result, researchers are keenly interested in determining the antecedents of student engagement. Using data from 106 students enrolled in university language courses, we explore the effect of motivation orientations on academic engagement in a language learning context. More autonomous forms of motivation for learning languages are associated with greater academic engagement, which is partially mediated by subjective vitality in the language learning domain. This mediation effect is strongest for the agentic aspect of student engagement, which assesses the extent to which the student tries to actively enrich the learning experience, highlighting the role of vitality in providing energy for autonomous motivations to translate into greater agency and initiative in*

learning. Our findings have implications for educational contexts and could inform strategies to provide autonomy and vitality-supporting environments to students to improve the learning process and enhance academic achievement.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125112 - Printed Poster

From Story to Skill: How Storybooks Shape Children's Motivation and Learning

Main Presenting Author: Navarra, Marie-Hélène

Additional Author: Martin-Chang, Sandra

Abstract: *Storybooks are widely used in classrooms with the underlying hope that they alter student behaviour. Here we asked whether reading books aloud to students about overcoming struggle would increase children's effort on difficult tasks. We used a 2 (Struggle, Wordplay) × 2 (Pre, Post) mixed factorial design. Students in Grade 2 and 3 (N = 154) heard either struggle-themed or wordplay-themed books incorporating explicit vocabulary instruction. Over a 3 day period, the Struggle group listened to three storybooks emphasizing grit, growth mindset, and persistence and the Wordplay group (Active Control) heard three books featuring author's craft concepts. Children completed vocabulary assessments and challenging tasks (mazes, puzzles) at pre and post-test. Each group learned the vocabulary targeted in its condition. However, only the Struggle group demonstrated significant increases in time-on-task, number of attempts, and accuracy across maze and puzzle tasks. Exposure to struggle-themed storybooks produced measurable gains in perseverance relative to an active control. Commercially available storybooks, when paired with explicit vocabulary instruction, offer educators and parents a simple, scalable tool to promote perseverance, suggesting that structured read-alouds can support non-cognitive development in authentic classroom settings.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125791 - Printed Poster

Healthy Minds, Healthy Schools Implementation among Elementary School Students: Associations Between Emotion Regulation and Academic Performance

Main Presenting Author: Zhang, Yuelin

Additional Authors: Liu, Siyuan ; Gavanski, Isabella; Montreuil , Tina

Abstract: *School-based cognitive-behavioral therapy programs can improve students' emotion regulation (ER). As mathematics is the most robust predictor of later academic achievement, understanding ER-math achievement links is important. However, ER-focused interventions often yield inconsistent academic effects. To address this gap, this study examined associations between ER and math achievement among elementary students participating in the Healthy Minds, Healthy Schools (HMHS) program. Participants included 54 students in Grades 4-6 in the greater Montreal region. Before and after participating in the HMHS program, students completed the Cognitive Emotion Regulation Questionnaire-Child Version (CERQ-k), and mathematics grades were obtained from school report cards with parental consent. Demographic variables included sex and SES. Linear mixed-effects models were used to assess whether changes in adaptive and maladaptive ER strategies were associated with grade changes over time, controlling for demographics. Data was analyzed in IBM SPSS Statistics. Analyses revealed significant effects of time ($p = .031$) and adaptive functioning*

(p = .003) on math grades, while maladaptive functioning, sex, and SES were not significant predictors. The findings indicate that evidence-based school mental health programs, such as HMHS, may confer ancillary academic benefits in emotional well-being.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126176 - Printed Poster

Home Literacy Environment Over Two Decades: What Has Changed in the Frequency of Different Parental Activities and Their Relations with Children's Emergent Literacy Skills and Word Identification?

Main Presenting Author: Pirwany, Alyshah

Additional Authors: Kirby, John R.; Georgiou, George; Inoue, Tomohiro; Parrila, Rauno

Abstract: *While studies on home literacy environment (HLE) have a long history, little information is available on whether the frequency of different HLE activities and their links with children's literacy skills have changed over time. Thus, the purpose of this study was to compare the frequency of traditional and digital HLE activities over the last 20 years and their relations to emergent literacy skills and word identification. We compared two cohorts of English-speaking kindergarteners: 77 children assessed in 2005 (and reported in Authors, 2008) and 89 children assessed in 2025 in the same schools. Children completed measures of letter knowledge, phonological awareness, vocabulary, and word identification, while parents were given an HLE questionnaire. Parents in the 2025 cohort reported more frequent teaching of letters, sounds and words than in the 2005 cohort. Code-related HLE predicted letter knowledge in both cohorts, though effects were stronger in 2005. Digital HLE uniquely predicted word identification beyond age, SES indicators, and traditional HLE. These findings suggest that parents adapt literacy practices to evolving educational and technological contexts. Results support recommending that contemporary models of the home literacy environment incorporate digital literacy practices when accounting for early reading development.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124168 - Printed Poster

How Do Group-Based Interventions Affect the Sociometric Outcomes of Autistic Children: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Sim, Cassiea

Additional Authors: Servant, Alexa ; Jack, Nathalie; Quintin, Eve-Marie

Abstract: *Autistic children are often on the outskirts of their social networks, particularly in school. Sociometric measures, which are heavily reliant on peer report, can provide an ecologically valid snapshot of the outcomes of interventions that aim to increase social connectedness for these children. The present scoping review seeks to (1) summarize the literature using sociometric measures to examine the outcomes of group interventions aiming to increase social connectedness for autistic children (2) explore whether group interventions impact the sociometric outcomes of autistic children and (3) identify gaps in the literature. The review involved a comprehensive search across ERIC & PsycINFO resulting in 2389 articles for initial screening. 13 studies met inclusion criteria: 7 reported increases in social network salience, 2 found increases in friendship nominations received, 2 reported*

gains in outward nominations, 1 reported significant increases in reciprocated friendship nominations and both studies measuring social preference found positive results. Findings demonstrated that group interventions led to favourable sociometric outcomes. This review highlights the importance of group intervention that supports social connection for autistic children because fostering connection with one's social network is an important part of developmental progression and wellbeing.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125192 - Printed Poster

Identifying Conscientiousness Profiles Through Latent Profile Analysis: A Person-Centered Approach

Main Presenting Author: Lee, Jisung

Additional Authors: Daljeet, Kabir N.; Espinoza, Jose A.; Ouellette, Samuel; Morin, Alexandre J.S.

Abstract: *Conscientiousness is a core personality trait encompassing psychological attributes essential for success, well-being, and health. Research indicates that conscientiousness is best understood as a multidimensional construct, and that examining its facets provides greater theoretical and practical insight. This implies that individuals with the same overall conscientiousness level may differ meaningfully depending on their facet configuration, leading to distinct outcome patterns. To capture these variations, a person-centered approach was used to identify profiles based on the 16-item HEXACO Conscientiousness scale, which includes four facets: Organization, Diligence, Perfectionism, and Prudence. Among four measurement models, Bifactor-ESEM model demonstrated best fit and was used to generate factor scores as input for Latent Profile Analysis, which yielded a four-profile solution. Flexible Adaptor (7%) shows average scores on general factor and across facets except for low Organization. Present-Oriented (40%) combines low general factor scores with average facet levels. High Conscientious (35%) shows the opposite pattern, with a strong general factor and moderate facet levels. Methodical Planner (19%) exhibits high Organization and average scores on other facets. These profiles will be further examined in relation to outcome variables (e.g., job performance) in subsequent studies.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122736 - Printed Poster

Identity Conceptualization, Negotiation, and Expression: Exploring the Experiences of Identity Development for Autistic Post-Secondary Students.

Main Presenting Author: Walton, Jannell Anne

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Research on autistic post-secondary students often emphasizes deficits-based themes of inaccessible learning environments and autism stigma, while emerging research highlights strengths-based themes of connection and belonging. Yet, few studies integrate both deficits-based and strengths-based perspectives, nor explore how academic contexts may shape autistic identity. This study explored how autistic students conceptualize, negotiate, and express their identities within academic contexts. METHODS: Three participants completed semi-structured interviews, detailing their identity experiences during post-secondary studies. RESULTS: Thematic Analysis revealed preliminary themes of both challenges and strengths aligned with the three*

components of the research question. Themes included shifts in self-understanding towards self-acceptance over time, selective self-disclosure while navigating ableism, living authentically when possible, connecting with other autistic students, and finding empowerment through educating others about autism and advocating for accessibility. CONCLUSION: Academic environments can shape autistic identity development. ACTION/IMPACT: Institutional practices should extend beyond accommodation-only models to also include neurodiversity-affirming policies that foster authentic expression and belonging for autistic post-secondary students.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125374 - Printed Poster

Impact of Executive Functioning Deficits on Academic Experience in Students With and Without Neurodevelopmental or Mood Disorder Diagnoses

Main Presenting Author: Winfield, Maya C

Additional Author: Babineau, Mireille

Abstract: *Executive functioning (EF) is key to students' success, yet post-secondary institutions often require diagnoses of a relevant disorder for EF-related accommodations. Given some students with EF difficulties may a lack formal diagnosis or experience subclinical symptoms, this study examines whether EF deficits and their academic impact differ across diagnostic status. Undergraduates reported diagnostic status (diagnosed, suspected, none) for neurodevelopmental and mood disorders and completed the BRIEF-2A along with measures of academic experience. Welch ANOVAs revealed students with diagnosed or suspected conditions reported greater EF deficits than those without in both neurodevelopmental ($F(2, 42.19) = 20.43$, $p < .001$) and mood disorders ($F(2, 99.68) = 23.16$, $p < .001$). The diagnosed and suspected groups also reported greater academic difficulties in neurodevelopmental $F(2, 23.87) = 3.57$, $p = .044$) and mood disorders ($F(2, 53.65) = 7.28$, $p = .002$). No differences were found between diagnosed and suspected groups. Simple linear regressions showed higher EF deficits predicted poorer academic experience ($R^2 = .32$, $p < .001$). Findings suggest EF deficits significantly impair academic functioning regardless of diagnosis, with diagnosed and suspected groups showing similar deficits. This indicates EF-focused resources should be accessible to both diagnosed and self-suspecting students.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126205 - Printed Poster

La préparation mentale comme feuille de route vers le succès dans le contexte militaire : utiliser la visualisation pour optimiser les habiletés motrices et performances chez les futurs officiers

Main Presenting Author: Taktek, Khaled

Abstract: *Dans le domaine de la psychologie du sport, la visualisation/imagerie mentale est utilisée comme stratégie cognitive pour recréer ou créer une expérience dans le cerveau afin d'améliorer les habiletés motrices. L'intérêt majeur de l'imagerie mentale réside dans l'équivalence entre les actions motrices réelles et imaginées. Ainsi, cette étude visait à : (a) comparer les effets de l'imagerie mentale et de la pratique physique sur l'apprentissage et le transfert d'une habileté motrice ouverte; (b) identifier la modalité d'imagerie mentale (visuelle, kinesthésique ou temporelle) la plus efficace pour*

le tir sportif à la carabine; et (c) déterminer la relation entre la vivacité de l'image du mouvement et la performance motrice. 70 cadets de l'Académie militaire des États-Unis, à West Point, NY, ont participé à cette étude. Les résultats ont démontré que les performances de rétention de chaque groupe d'imagerie mentale combinée à la pratique physique étaient équivalentes à celles du groupe de la pratique physique. De surcroît, lors du transfert, chaque groupe d'imagerie mentale visuelle ou kinesthésique combinée à la pratique physique avait présenté des performances significativement supérieures à celles du groupe de la pratique physique. Ces résultats offrent aux entraîneurs militaires et aux athlètes/cadets des stratégies efficaces afin d'atteindre des performances de haut niveau.

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124719 - Printed Poster

Lexical correlates of attentional engagement with poetry.

Main Presenting Author: Holmes, Izzi

Additional Authors: Khayyat, Lina ; Colpitts, Olivia; Hickman, Miranda; Ristic, Jelena

Abstract: *Despite increasing cultural interest in "deep attention," theorized as a mental state elicited by aesthetic experience (James 1890; Hayles 2007; Alford 2020), its correlates remain understudied. To explore this concept, we drew on "literary reading" (Miall 2014) and genre-specific text processing (Blohm 2021), which postulate that different genres of text require different kinds of attentional engagement. Participants were presented with ten non-metrical poems (N=82) or matched prose texts (N=82). They responded to two open-ended questions per text: Q1: "What was this text about?" and Q2: "What did you notice?" Responses were coded using a mixed qualitative-quantitative analysis for the presence of words indicatingengagement (Q1: "think"/"know"; "describe,"; "about"; "it," Q2: "notice"; "I," "my," "me"; "author," "writer," name; "confused"; "like"). Averaged responses were analyzed using independent group t-tests. Responses to poems indicated significantly more expressions of difficulty, use of personal pronouns, and use of the words "think"/"know." Responses to prose indicated significantly more mentions of the title. Overall, these results suggest that reading poetry may be more associated with introspection, while reading prose may cue responses more focused on textual features. Thus, the data support the idea that literary reading and deep attention may involve introspective engagement.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125681 - Printed Poster

Misophonia in Schools: Insights From an AI-Assisted Thematic Analysis of Social Media Posts

Main Presenting Author: Jafarian, Mandana

Additional Authors: Woodruff, Earl ; Lee, Kang

Abstract: *Misophonia involves intense aversive reactions to everyday sounds such as eating, breathing, clicking, or typing. These reactions can disrupt functioning, strain relationships, and interfere with learning. Despite affecting an estimated 5% of the population, misophonia remains under-recognized in diagnostic systems, limiting awareness and support in academic settings.We analyzed its academic manifestation using large-scale social media data. From a 77,000-member*

misophonia subreddit, we identified 3,000 education-related posts across 11 years and used GPT-4o, large language models, and inductive thematic coding to detect patterns without predefined labels.Six themes emerged: common triggers; intense emotional responses; physiological and behavioral reactions; coping strategies (e.g., noise-blocking devices); disruptions to concentration, performance, and relationships; and challenges arising from a lack of formal recognition, including limited accommodations and reduced empathy from others. Thematic reliability exceeded 90% (Cohen's κ).Findings offer a validated framework to guide support needs and accommodation planning. This study highlights misophonia as an emerging psychological condition with significant academic consequences, underscores the need for recognition in educational contexts, and demonstrates a validated AI-assisted qualitative method for understudied emerging mental health concerns.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123548 - Printed Poster

Motivation, Belonging, and the Postsecondary Experiences of First-Generation Students

Main Presenting Author: Roberts, Jeremy M

Additional Authors: Wood-Warren, Ali ; Goegan, Lauren

Abstract: *The number of first-generation students, that is students who are enrolled in postsecondary education but does not have an immediate family member who earned a postsecondary degree, are growing on postsecondary campuses (Nam & Bryant, 2025). These, first-generation students navigate postsecondary education with distinct motivational and psychosocial experiences (Lipson et al., 2023; Moedano, 2024; Próspero & Vohra-Gupta, 2007). Grounded in Expectancy-Value Theory (Eccles & Wigfield, 2002; Wigfield & Eccles, 2020) and belonging research (Bollen & Hoyle, 1990), this study examines group differences between first-generation (n = 67) and continuing-generation students (n = 204) on measures of expectancy, value, cost, belonging, , and satisfaction. Independent samples t-tests revealed that first-generation students reported significantly higher task value and greater satisfaction with their university experience. Differences in expectancy, cost, and belonging were not statistically significant, though first-generation students showed slightly higher expectancy (p = .047)). These findings suggest that first-generation students display comparable confidence while deriving greater personal and motivational value from their studies. The poster will discuss implications for inclusive support strategies, and consider how value and satisfaction may buffer against systemic inequities in postsecondary persistence.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122523 - Printed Poster

Not All Authors Are Equal: Moral Judgments of Plagiarism from AI and Human Sources

Main Presenting Author: Brake, Calahndra

Additional Authors: Lee, Kang ; Friedman, Ori

Abstract: *Generative AI is increasingly being used in creative and academic work, raising questions about how people morally evaluate plagiarism involving AI-generated content compared to work written by humans. Across five experiments (N = 1705), participants read scenarios in which a poet submitted someone else's poem to a contest without credit. We compared three source types: a friend, ChatGPT, and an online poetry blog. In Experiments 1-3, plagiarism from the blog was judged more immoral than from a friend or ChatGPT, which were evaluated similarly. Moral condemnation increased with the proportion copied and remained stable relative to other moral transgressions. In Experiments 4-5, judgments became harsher when human sources denied permission, but not when ChatGPT did. When all sources granted permission, differences disappeared. Findings suggest that people condemn plagiarism both because of harm to the creator and undeserved benefit to the plagiarizer, but AI is not seen to have authorship, be harmed, or give meaningful consent. Clear institutional guidelines should therefore clarify when and how AI-generated content must be attributed, emphasizing fairness and avoidance of undeserved benefit rather than harm to an author. Establishing consistent standards can help reduce confusion about AI-related misconduct and can support better enforcement of academic and creative integrity.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125993 - Printed Poster

Patterns of Childhood Device Restrictions and Perceived Parental Strictness

Main Presenting Author: Zhao, Joanne

Additional Authors: Lee , Joanne ; Wood , Eileen

Abstract: *Parents have raised concerns regarding the effects of increasing screen time impacting their children's well-being (Auxier et al., 2020; Harverson et al., 2025). Yet little is known about how they are managing young children's technology use at home. We examined restrictions parents imposed to manage screen time. Undergraduate students (N=107; Mage = 19, SD = 2.95; 77.6% females) completed an online questionnaire assessing parental restrictions for two devices (cellphone and iPad) during their middle childhood.Analyses indicate that most participants had restrictions imposed on them during elementary grades for both cellphones (75.4%, n=49) and iPads (66.7%, n=52). Time limits on usage and locations where devices could be used were the two most common restrictions related to cellphones, while curfews and location restrictions were most frequently reported for iPads.Parents who were perceived to be stricter than those of their peers were associated with more discussions about the importance of technology use (r=0.213, p=0.028) and the negative side effects of using it (r=0.381, p=<0.001) but not positive comments about technology use (r=-0.078, p=0.426). These preliminary findings provide some understanding regarding how parents approach technology use within the home, which serves as an important indicator of parental actions toward well-being for their children.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126193 - Printed Poster

Perceived Sources of Autonomy among STEM Students: Comparing Insights from Topic Modelling and Inductive Human Coding

Main Presenting Author: Johnson, Cole D
Co-Presenting Author: Hunter, Jessica

Additional Authors: Wang, Siyuan ; Robinson, Kristy A

Abstract: *Feeling autonomous is an important source of motivation, but more insight is needed about key classroom sources of autonomy. Topic modelling (TM) - an algorithmic approach to identifying latent themes in text data - is an underexplored method that can help reach this aim, especially when paired with inductive coding. Accordingly, we compared latent themes from 190 STEM students' responses about factors shaping their autonomy detected using TM and standard inductive coding. TM suggested two factors: Irrelevance of Student Perspectives, characterized by expressions of indifference or that student input cannot change courses, and Question Opportunities, characterized by perceived benefits of opportunities to ask instructors and peers questions. These factors aligned with common inductive codes: Perceived Irrelevance of Student Input and Ambivalence were coded for 59 responses (31.1%), and Instructor Question Solicitation and Responsiveness were coded for 73 responses (38.4%). Interestingly, compared to human coders, TM results captured the interrelated nature of individual, instructor, and peer factors. However, TM did not detect less common but still meaningful themes identified by humans. Overall, our study demonstrates how rich insights into subjective autonomy experiences can be achieved by leveraging advantages of these complementary techniques for handling qualitative data.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123408 - Printed Poster

Predicting Academic Functioning in Youth using a Social Determinants of Health Framework

Main Presenting Author: Sumpf, Charlotte Luisa

Additional Authors: Hai, Tasmia ; Burack, Jacob; Jolin, Amy

Abstract: *Background: Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) factors such as socioeconomic disparities and discrimination shape children's social-emotional wellbeing and academic performance. Although research links academic outcomes to SDoH, most studies fail to capture the intersecting nature of children's social environments, which this study seeks to address. Objective: This study investigates the relationship between SDoH indices and academic performance. Method: A total of 33 participants (8-16 years old) completed standardized academic assessments and caregivers provided socio-demographic information (e.g., income, education, discrimination, stress, resilience) used to calculate additive SDoH indices. Correlational and regression analyses will assess predictions for reading, math computation, and spelling. Results: We expect higher levels of accumulated resources to be associated with stronger academic performance, while greater structural barriers will relate to lower outcomes. Conclusion: These findings will highlight the importance of considering the intersecting nature of SDoH when supporting the academic functioning of youth. Impact: The results may offer better understanding of the impact of SDoH in academic functioning.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123470 - Printed Poster

Predicting Burnout in Adolescent Athletes: The Roleof Basic Psychological Needs

Main Presenting Author: Speedy, Kylee

Additional Authors: McAulay, Taylor ; Olthuis , Janine ; Hamilton, Ryan

Abstract: *Athletic burnout is a psychological syndrome characterized by exhaustion, sport devaluation, and reduced accomplishment. It is linked to negative mental health outcomes, lower motivation, and higher dropout in youth athletes, making it a prevalent issue in sport. Guided by Self-Determination Theory (SDT), this study examined how psychological needs (autonomy, competence, and relatedness) predict burnout in adolescent athletes and whether gender moderates these effects. Participants (N = 118) aged 11-18 completed a self-report questionnaire assessing psychological need satisfaction and burnout. Regression analyses showed that all three needs negatively predicted burnout, with autonomy emerging as the strongest predictor (β = -.524, p < .001). Gender did not significantly moderate these relationships. Canonical correlation results reinforced autonomy as the main driver linking psychological needs to all burnout dimensions. A second canonical function indicated that when paired with low autonomy, high levels of competence were associated with the exhaustion dimension of burnout. These findings suggest that fulfilling athletes' basic psychological needs can reduce burnout. To prevent burnout, it may be important for coaches and parents to build autonomy in young athletes. A sense of competence alone may not protect athletes who feel they lack control in their sport from burnout.*

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 123407 - Printed Poster

Predictors of Fear of Statistics and Perceived Value of Statistical Software Among Undergraduate Students Learning R

Main Presenting Author: Burnham, Cortney

Additional Authors: Barlow, Meaghan A; Hashemi, Ali

Abstract: *Lower self-efficacy has been found to be correlated with higher statistical anxiety. The primary aim of the present study was to expand on this correlation and explore what factors might contribute to statistical anxiety and perceived value of R software. This longitudinal study (September 2025- April 2026) involves undergraduate students (N = 118) completing measures of self-efficacy, emotional judgments, resilience, statistical fear and perceived value of R at various timepoints during the academic year. Data has been collected so far from two timepoints: start of the Fall 2025 term and mid Fall 2025. Preliminary results show that valuing statistical software (R) was significantly predicted by resilience at the start of the semester, F(1,48) = 4.32, p = 0.043, but not by self-efficacy, p = 0.68, or emotional judgments, p =.13. Fear of statistics (controlling for baseline) was significantly predicted by resilience, F(2,47) = -2.85, p = 0.007, and emotional judgements, F(2,47) = -2.08, p = 0.04, but not by self-efficacy, p = 0.70, failing to replicate past research. Overall, these preliminary results highlight the important role resilience may have on student's levels of statistics anxiety and the amount of value they perceive R has. In sum, they provide insight on the role student perceptions may play on their views towards learning statistics.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 125848 - Printed Poster

Pre-Service Teachers' Knowledge of Literacy Concepts in Alberta: Implications for Teacher Preparation Programs

Main Presenting Author: Peyton, Abigail R

Additional Author: Georgiou, George K.

Abstract: *Phonological awareness, phonics, and morphology are foundational for learning to read in English. However, research suggests that many pre-service teachers have limited knowledge in these areas. This project examined Alberta pre-service teachers' knowledge of these concepts. Three related studies were conducted using an in-person survey measuring participants' knowledge of phonological awareness, phonics, and morphology. Participants included pre-service teachers from three post-secondary institutions in Alberta and a sample of in-service teachers. Across studies, results showed that pre-service teachers had a limited understanding of these foundational skills, with the weakest performance in morphology. These findings align with those of previous studies in Canada and other English-speaking countries and suggest that post-secondary programs should incorporate more targeted instruction in these concepts, along with increased opportunities for pre-service teachers to apply this knowledge in school settings.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125760 - Printed Poster

Prosocial Behaviour and Academic Success in Emerging Adulthood: Examining Associations with GPA and Overlapping Dispositional Assets in a Canadian Undergraduate Sample

Main Presenting Author: Di Biase, Jacqueline

Additional Author: Jambon, Marc

Abstract: *Prosocial behaviour is a multifaceted construct encompassing voluntary actions intended to benefit others. Prosocial tendencies such as helping, sharing, and cooperating are linked to successful academic outcomes in childhood and adolescence, yet little is known about whether these associations extend into emerging adulthood, a period marked by major social and educational transitions. The present study examines whether prosocial behaviour is associated with academic success (grade point average [GPA]) among Canadian undergraduates and whether these associations hold after accounting for overlapping assets such as self-control, sociability, and dutifulness within a Positive Youth Development framework. A sample of 640 undergraduates completed validated self-report measures of these constructs (prosocial behaviour: Caprara et al., 2005; self-control: Tangney et al., 2004; dutifulness: IPIP-AB5C/NEO PI-R; sociability: IPIP-AB5C/HEXACO), and GPA was obtained through self-report. Planned analyses, currently underway, involve descriptive statistics and regression models examining associations between the predictors and GPA. This approach clarifies whether prosociality retains unique explanatory value or reflects broader motivational or interpersonal traits, with implications for identifying student characteristics that can inform developmentally attuned academic support initiatives.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124816 - Printed Poster

Reading poems is rated as higher in mental demand than reading non-poetic text.

Main Presenting Author: Khayyat, Lina

Additional Authors: Holmes, Izzi ; Colpitts, Olivia; Chiu, K Larissa; Mayrand, Florence; Hickman, Miranda; Ristic, Jelena

Abstract: *Deep attention has been suggested by psychologists and literary theorists to align with close engagement with poetic language and transformative thought (James 1890; Hayles 2007; Alford 2020). We used empirical methods to test how this concept of "deep attention" may relate to reading poetry as compared to reading non-poetic text. Participants read ten post-1900 non-metrical poems of 20 lines or fewer (N=82) or ten non-poetic texts matched for length and readability (N=82) and reported their general liking of and frequency of engagement with non-fiction, fiction, poetry, magazines, and news. We adapted the NASA Task Load Index questionnaire (Hart 1988) to assess subjective perception of mental and physical demand, effort, and task success after reading each text. While the groups did not significantly differ on general reading habits, reading poetry was rated as higher in perceived mental demand and reading non-poetic text was rated as involving higher levels of perceived task success. Thus we conclude that reading poems is subjectively associated with higher perceived mental demand and difficulty relative to non-poetic text. These findings are consistent with the assumption that engagement with poetic language is perceived as different from engagement with non-poetic language.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125690 - Printed Poster

Representations for solving a nonlinear task in a recurrent associative memory

Main Presenting Author: Medikonda, Nava

Additional Author: Chartier, Sylvain

Abstract: *How the brain represents information during cognitive tasks can critically influence the resources required to solve them. In computational neural systems, the representation to resource phenomena is similar. We investigate how encoding different representational formats affects solving the classic Siegler scale balance task, which requires integrating the interaction between two variables (distance and height) on both sides of the scale to predict tipping outcomes. We employed a recurrent associative memory network, well-suited to learning diverse and complex associations with simple Hebbian-type learning, and evaluated four different encoding representations: classical numerical values, distributed digit images, product intersections, and product areas. Resource demand was monitored by adjusting units and layers to achieve 100% accuracy. The results showed the classic numerical representation took more resources (11 times), followed by both types of product representations (2.2 times), when compared to arbitrary digits, showing the best performance. The findings shed light on the relationship between representation to resource trade-offs. We see that distributed systems do not require complex, structured encoding; an arbitrary, consistent representation suffices. The key to mastering network encoding seems to be representational consistency rather than semantic transparency.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124884 - Printed Poster

Responsive and affirming social-emotional learning: Voices of queer youth regarding the Strong Teens curriculum

Main Presenting Author: Moase, Justin

Additional Author: Schanding, Thomas

Abstract: *The reality that queer youth experience higher rates of mental and behavioural health concerns compared to their cisgender, heterosexual peers suggests that Canadian schools are not meeting the needs of our most vulnerable students. While social and emotional learning (SEL) interventions have the potential to provide identity-affirming support for queer students, no studies in the SEL literature have specifically included this population. In response, an intervention study will be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of an SEL program, Strong Teens, with a group of queer youth and understand how they might reimagine it to reflect their lived experience of well-being and challenges. Fifteen teens aged 16 to 19 years participated in the full program with changes in SEL skills assessed pre- and post-intervention using the Social Skills Improvement System, Social and Emotional Learning Rating Form - Student (SSIS-SEL-RF-S). At the end of each session, all youth completed exit ticket reflections asking what we should stop doing, start doing, and keep doing to support the experience of queer joy. Data analysis is currently underway. By drawing upon queer voices in British Columbia, we can develop interventions that promote queer joy and resilience to support our youth in not only coping with adversity but learning to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126405 - Printed Poster

Réussir dans le sport et à l'école : le rôle du soutien des entraîneurs et de l'épanouissement sportif

Main Presenting Author: Potvin, Florence

Additional Authors: Duteau, Hugo ; Grenier, Simon

Abstract: *Le sport scolaire contribue au développement à l'adolescence, favorisant la progression sportive et académique parallèlement (Bradley et al., 2016). L'épanouissement sportif des étudiants-athlètes est influencé par le soutien aux besoins psychologiques par les entraîneurs (Kinoshita et al., 2020) et cette étude transversale s'intéresse à leur prédiction de l'enrichissement sport-école, l'équilibre entre les deux domaines (Lefebvre du Grosriez et al., 2024). Elle vise à comprendre le rôle des entraîneurs dans le développement sportif et académique. 135 étudiants-athlètes d'écoles secondaires québécoises ont répondu à un questionnaire auto-rapporté. Des régressions hiérarchiques ont permis d'observer la prédiction de l'enrichissement sportif et académique par 1) le soutien aux besoins et 2) l'épanouissement. Seul l'épanouissement prédit la variation de l'enrichissement académique (11%), $\Delta R2 = ,11$, $F(1, 132) = 15,82$, $p < ,001$. Pour l'enrichissement sportif, l'ajout de l'épanouissement prédit 5% de plus (17%) de sa variation, $\Delta R2 = ,05$, $F(1, 132) = 7,22$, $p < ,01$. L'équilibre scolaire n'étant pas prédit par le soutien aux besoins psychologiques, les résultats suggèrent que les entraîneurs doivent valoriser l'équilibre sport-école. Un devis longitudinal permettrait de cerner l'évolution de l'enrichissement pendant la saison et l'année scolaire (Lefebvre du Grosriez et al., 2024).*

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 124841 - Printed Poster

School-Based Music Interventions to Support Motor Development among Autistic and Non-Autistic Children: Evidence from Program Implementation

Main Presenting Author: Bhattacharya, Mira

Additional Authors: Wong, Samantha T.; Jack, Nathalie; Servant, Alexa; Lippe, Sarah; Quintin, Eve-Marie

Abstract: *Background: School-based music programs may offer an accessible, strength-based way to support coordination and participation for autistic and other neurodivergent students, yet evidence for motor benefits is limited. Methods: Fifteen 8-12-year-old students (10 autistic, 5 non-autistic neurodivergent) in a specialized Montreal school completed a 14-week embedded music program, assigned either to a rhythm-based group (timing and sensorimotor activities) or a music appreciation group. Beat perception and motor coordination (bilateral coordination, upper-limb dexterity) were assessed pre- and post-program. Results: Across groups, students showed significant gains in beat perception and bilateral coordination ($p < .01$); upper-limb dexterity showed a nonsignificant positive trend. Improvement in beat perception was strongly associated with improvement in bilateral coordination, particularly for autistic students. Conclusions/Impact: Findings suggest that rhythm-focused school music programs can enhance bilateral coordination and may leverage rhythm-motor coupling as a mechanism for supporting functional motor skills in autistic youth. Results support investment in inclusive, curriculum-integrated music programming as a low-cost avenue to promote motor development and school participation.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126156 - Printed Poster

Social and Emotional Learning, Anxiety, and Depression in Autistic Youth

Main Presenting Author: Peracha, Hira

Additional Author: Schanding, Thomas

Abstract: *Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the way in which we are aware of and can manage our own emotions, which can contribute to one's mental health. While there have been some intervention studies on supporting SEL skills with autistic youth, there is little research regarding the relationship between SEL competencies and levels of depression and anxiety in autistic youth. Understanding the relationship and impact of SEL on mental health within this population will have important implications for the education system and the ways in which clinicians or practitioners work with autistic youth (who are at a high risk of having co-occurring mental health difficulties, such as anxiety or depression).The current study explored whether SEL competencies predicted levels of anxiety and/or depression in autistic children and adolescents. Across North America (i.e., Canada and the United States), 82 parents of autistic children, aged 9-15, were asked to complete an online questionnaire about their child's SEL competencies, autism characteristics, anxiety, and depression. Two linear regression analyses were conducted. Results demonstrated a significant relationship between depression and SEL competencies and a nearing significant relationship between anxiety and SEL competencies. These results have important implications on the education system and clinical work with this population.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126012 - Printed Poster

STEMulating Learning: Does STEM Students' Perception of Competence Support Predict their Academic Self-Efficacy, Perceived Learning, and Actual Cognitive Learning?

Main Presenting Author: Monnet, Romane

Additional Authors: Shankar, Sanheeta ; Muis, Krista; Robinson, A Kristy

Abstract: *Despite the pressing need for competent graduates, STEM higher education faces challenges such as low student motivation. However, according to self-determination theory and empirical research, students' feelings of competence can be supported by course environments that provide verbal persuasion, appropriate challenges, and time to understand. This study examines the relations between student-perceived theorized competence supports and associated outcomes. Data was collected from 3,303 undergraduates in STEM courses at a Canadian university in 2024. Using validated instruments, they self-reported academic self-efficacy, perceived competence support, and perception of learning. After confirmatory factor analysis, structural equation models demonstrated excellent fit to the data (RMSEA=.035, CFI=.978, TLI=.969, SRMR=.022). Student perceptions of verbal persuasion and appropriate tasks - but not time to understand - significantly predicted final grades and self-efficacy, and all three predicted perceptions of learning, controlling for baseline self-efficacy. Thus, while perceived competence supports predict student outcomes, perception of learning differs from cognitive learning (i.e., grades). This helps deepen understanding of how STEM undergraduates respond to motivationally supportive teaching and gather needed evidence to successfully implement this reform.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123204 - Printed Poster

Students-as-Partners and Cross-Cohort Collaboration in Designing a Novel Breadth Course

Main Presenting Author: Mazumder, Ashmita
Co-Presenting Author: Dere, Jessica

Additional Authors: Tse, Solomon ; Harichandrabose, Vicknan ; Durran, Sahra ; Hachmi, Wedad; Wijeyeratne, Rashmi de Silva ; Danielson, Kyle

Abstract: *We explore how cross-cohort collaboration: between students in different years of study, specifically partnerships between first- and second-year students, and a Students-as-Partners model can be used to design and strengthen undergraduate courses, drawing on our work developing a novel breadth course titled 'Psychology in Context'. We will present a collaborative model where students work as co-creators: shaping course content, activities, and assessments. A key focus will be on how our approach allows first-year and second-year students to learn alongside and from each other in a peer review process. We will share insights from working in a team including faculty and students, illustrating how this partnership enriched course design by incorporating diverse perspectives and lived experiences while centering student voices. We will present key challenges, such as balancing student and instructor perspectives, assessing the feasibility of different approaches to evaluation, and*

navigating available educational and technological resources. We present practical, transferable strategies for incorporating student voices into course design, offering recommendations for creating learning environments that are both rigorous and responsive to student needs. We are continuing to refine this model to ensure its long-term sustainability and potential adoption across other courses.

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 125782 - Printed Poster

Teaching Practices That Promote Academic Learning in Children with Autism: A Review of the Evidence

Main Presenting Author: Nadeau, Clara

Additional Authors: Lévesque, Sandrine ; Cusson, Maeva; St-Laurent Gauvin, Anna-Maude; Denault, Audrey-Ann ; Soulieres, Isabelle; Lasalle, Virginie; Nader, Anne-Marie

Abstract: *Background:In the Quebec school system, autistic children in primary and secondary education represent over one-third of students with disabilities. Academic failure remains a significant concern, as reflected in low high school graduation rates and limited enrollment in post-secondary institutions. Current teaching practices, defined as the methods used by educators to deliver curriculum, are largely based on typical developmental trajectories and favor verbal, explicit, and sequential learning. These approaches may not align with the cognitive and sensory profiles of autistic students. From an inclusive education perspective, it is essential to develop pedagogical strategies that accommodate diverse learning needs, ensuring equitable access, participation, and success for all students.Objectives:This scoping review aimed to identify evidence-based teaching practices that support the academic learning of autistic students. Specifically, it sought to: 1) Describe the characteristics of existing studies (e.g., population, classroom types, geographic context); 2) Identify teaching practices related to: a) physical learning environments; b) social learning environment; and c) pedagogical methods.Methods:A systematic literature search was conducted across major databases in the social, human, health, and education sciences (e.g., PubMed, PsycINFO, CINHAL, ERIC), following PRISMA guidelines. A total of 5,586 records published since 2006 were imported in Covidence for screening. After removing duplicates and irrelevant studies, 3,373 articles were screened by title and abstract. Of these, 2,791 were excluded for not meeting inclusion criteria. Full-text review was conducted on 208 studies, resulting in the exclusion of 128 articles. Ultimately, 80 empirical studies met all inclusion criteria (autistic students; aged 5-21; in primary or secondary school; focused on academic learning).Results:Objective 1: Most studies were conducted in Northern countries and focused on autistic students in adapted classrooms, with limited information on co-occurring conditions. The majority relied on small sample sizes using proxy perspectives (e.g., parents, teachers). Few studies captured the voices of autistic children themselves. Objective 2. Thematic analysis identified beneficial teaching practices across three domains: A) Pedagogical methods (71% of studies): Effective strategies included individualized instruction within group settings, leveraging students' interests, meaningful and engaging learning activities, visual supports, and a mix of implicit and explicit teaching approaches. B) Interventions (64.7%): Structured and technology-based programs such as TEACCH, PECS, Makaton, and virtual learning environments (e.g., i-Ready™, iPad tools) were commonly reported as beneficial. B) C) Social environment (23.5%): Warm teacher-student relationships, professional development on autism, collaborative practices, and peer acceptance were highlighted as key contributors to academic engagement; C) Physical learning environment (18%): Inclusive classroom layouts, sensory-friendly tools (e.g., calm spaces, minimalist design), and personalized accommodations were found as*

facilitators.Conclusions:This review underscores the importance of adopting teaching practices that align with the strengths and needs of autistic students. Effective pedagogy goes beyond curriculum delivery; it involves creating inclusive, responsive, and engaging learning environments. Future research should prioritize participatory approaches that include autistic voices in the development and evaluation of teaching practices.Action/Impact: These findings contribute to the broader vision of inclusive education, emphasizing that when schools are designed to support neurodiversity, all students benefit.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 123829 - Printed Poster

The difference that friends can make: A study on the transition to university for students with and without Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

Main Presenting Author: Cho, Carrie

Additional Author: Jiang, Yuanyuan

Abstract: *There is limited research on the importance of friendship quality for students with ADHD and which friendship quality dimensions are most implicated. An online questionnaire was completed by 350 second- and third-year university students (mean age = 19.9 years; 63.4% women) with and without ADHD. The Student Adaptation to College Questionnaire (SACQ; Baker & Siryk, 1984), McGill Friendship Questionnaire-Friendship Function (MFQ-FF; Mendelson & Aboud, 1999), and Barkley Adult ADHD Rating Scale-IV (BAARS-IV; Barkley, 2011) were completed in Fall 2025. Preliminary findings show that overall friendship quality was positively related to adjustment to university for both students with ADHD, r = .27, p = .02, and students without ADHD, r = .25, p = .02. For students with ADHD, the friendship dimensions of help, r = .27, p = .01, self-validation, r = .31, p = .005, and emotional security, r = .09, p = .01, were related to increased university adjustment. For students without ADHD, the friendship dimensions of stimulating companionship, r = .25, p = .002, intimacy, r = .24, p = .02, reliable alliance, r = .28, p = .006, and self-validation, r = .21, p = .04, were associated with better adjustment to university. Study findings can support the advancement of research and inform potential differentiation of student interventions, resources, and services for students with and without ADHD.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125838 - Printed Poster

The effect of self-compassion and cognitive reappraisal on test anxiety

Main Presenting Author: Blackie, Rebecca A

Abstract: *Background: Test anxiety has been associated with various negative outcomes, such as performance interference, and it is therefore important to determine effective interventions. One strategy may be self-compassion. Self-compassion refers to a kind and gentle understanding toward oneself during difficult times. Research shows that greater test anxiety is associated with less self-compassion, and that self-compassion is beneficial for other types of anxiety, including social anxiety. Thus, self-compassion may be a useful intervention for test-anxiety. The primary purpose of this study was to examine the effect of self-compassion on test anxiety and compare it cognitive reappraisal, a commonly employed technique for test anxiety. Method: Participants (N = 84; full sample of 150 collected by time of conference) completed baseline measures and then identified an upcoming test in*

their most challenging course. They rated their anxiety in relation to this test and were randomly assigned to a self-compassion, cognitive reappraisal, or control condition. Results: Controlling for trait test anxiety, there was a significant overall effect of condition (F (2, 80)=2.99, p=.05). Post-hoc tests showed that those in the self-compassion condition (M=50.55, SD=15.14) had significantly less test anxiety than those in both the cognitive reappraisal (M=56.11, SD=14.18; p=.05) and control conditions (M=56.51, SD=11.82; p=.04). Conclusion: These findings suggest that self-compassion is a useful alternative to cognitive reappraisal. Impact: Self-compassion may be a useful intervention in educational settings.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125004 - Printed Poster

The Effects of Rhythmic School-Based Music-Making Programs on Neurodivergent Youth's Ratings of Musical Enjoyment and Verbal Social Overtures

Main Presenting Author: Barry, Nina

Additional Authors: Servant, Alexa ; Wong, Samantha T.S.; Jack, Nathalie; Bhattacharya, Mira; Lippé, Sarah; Quintin, Eve-Marie

Abstract: *As repeated engagement in group music-making activities has shown positive psychosocial outcomes for neurodivergent youth and rhythm perception is associated with language skills, this study compared the effects of rhythmic group music-making programs and music appreciation programs on musical enjoyment and verbal social overtures of neurodivergent youth, hypothesizing that (1) ratings of musical enjoyment would significantly increase pre- to post-programs, (2) increases would be greater in the Rhythm program, and (3) verbal social overtures would increase in the Rhythm program. Forty-four neurodivergent students aged 7-12 were assigned to either a Rhythm program, where they learned to play percussions, or a music appreciation program. Participants completed musical enjoyment and verbal social overture questionnaires pre- and post-program. No effects of time, program, or their interaction were found ($p > .05$). However, analyses revealed a significant effect of answers to the question "Do you like playing music?" ($p = .012$), where students were more likely to answer "yes" than "no" independent of program assignment or time. Frequency counts further demonstrated that most participants responded "yes" to three of four total questions. Findings suggest that neurodivergent youth enjoy music-making activities, supporting the use of music as an enjoyable strength-based tool.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123238 - Printed Poster

The Imposter Phenomenon and Performance Evaluation: A Mediation Analysis of Cognitive and Emotional Factors

Main Presenting Author: McLaughlin, Daniel

Additional Author: DiTommaso, Enrico

Abstract: *This study examined mechanisms linking the Imposter Phenomenon (IP) to negative performance evaluation, given ongoing evidence that IP contributes to self-doubt and impaired self-*

assessment. The aim was to determine whether attributional style, cognitive distortions, memory bias, and depression account for this relationship. A total of 281 participants were recruited from undergraduate psychology courses at an Atlantic Canadian University and from the general population. Participants completed measures of IP, performance evaluation, attributional style, cognitive distortions, memory bias, and depression via Qualtrics, and mediation analyses were used to assess indirect effects.Results showed that depression and cognitive distortions significantly mediated the relationship between IP and performance evaluation, whereas attributional style and memory bias did not. These findings indicate that cognitive and emotional factors play a key role in maintaining negative self-assessment among individuals high in IP.By identifying depression and cognitive distortions as key mechanisms, this work highlights clear intervention targets that may support reductions in self-doubt and foster more balanced self-evaluations. These insights may inform clinical interventions educational supports, and skills-based strategies for individuals vulnerable to IP-related performance concerns.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125309 - Printed Poster

The Links of Excellencism and Perfectionism With Flexible and Rigid Persistence Across the School and Exercise Domains

Main Presenting Author: Boivin, Thomas

Additional Authors: Andrade, Giovanni ; Gaudreau, Patrick

Abstract: *Perfectionism, the pursuit of excessively high and unattainable personal standards, is expected to lead to rigid forms of engagement. Yet, prior work on perfectionistic standards has found it to be associated with both flexible and rigid forms of engagement, raising doubts about whether existing measures clearly separate perfectionistic standards from excellence standards. The Model of Excellencism and Perfectionism (MEP) distinguishes perfectionism from excellencism to clarify these mixed results. We examined how each relates to flexible persistence (an adaptable goal pursuit that allows balancing multiple goals) and rigid persistence (an inflexible pursuit where a single goal is prioritized at the expense of others) in 349 post-secondary students and 300 exercisers. When separated from excellencism, perfectionism predicted rigid persistence and was unrelated or negatively related to flexible persistence across domains. Excellencism positively predicted flexible persistence but was weakly related or unrelated to rigid persistence. This indicates that perfectionism does not foster flexible and adaptable engagement above excellencism. We will conduct moderated regressions to test whether domains (studies or exercise) moderates these associations. We expect to find that perfectionism and excellencism show stable relationships with persistence across domains.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124297 - Printed Poster

The Neural and Psychological Effects of Environmental Vocal Exploration (EVE) on Music Performance Anxiety: A Mixed-Methods Case Study

Main Presenting Author: Bakker, Elena G

Additional Authors: Boland, Angela K; Boileau, Kayla; Oddy, Nicola; Stanson, Nicole; Comeau, Gilles; Smith, Andra M

Abstract: *Background: Music performance anxiety (MPA) is widespread among musicians and is linked to various negative consequences. Environmental vocal exploration (EVE), a music therapy and mindfulness intervention, has shown preliminary efficacy in reducing MPA among student musicians. The present case study examined EVE's effects in a professional musician with MPA. Methods: Measures of MPA were collected pre- and post-intervention, alongside functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) of MPA-related brain activity. Qualitative analysis was conducted on the participant's EVE-session reflections. Results: Post-intervention, the musician showed reduced MPA and decreases in depression/hopelessness and anxious apprehension. Qualitative themes centered on present-moment awareness, acceptance, and gratitude. Before EVE, MPA-related brain activity was significant in regions including the superior frontal gyrus, medial orbitofrontal cortex, right precuneus, posterior cingulate gyrus, left inferior parietal lobule, and caudate nucleus. Post-intervention, no significant activity in these regions was observed during the same MPA-provoking condition. Conclusions: These findings highlight EVE's potential for the attenuation of MPA. Impact: Results underscore the importance of continued research on EVE as an approach for addressing MPA and related consequences across a diverse range of musicians.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 123972 - Printed Poster

Understanding How Students Interpret Motivational Climate Survey Items: A Qualitative Analysis of Open-Ended Responses

Main Presenting Author: Diamant, Rachael E.

Additional Authors: Lessard, Florence ; Robinson, Kristy

Abstract: *Quantitative surveys are widely used to assess classroom qualities, yet little is known about what information students draw on when selecting their responses. This gap limits the validity of inferences about students' perceptions and highlights the need for evidence of item interpretation. This study examined how secondary students explain their numerical ratings on a motivational climate survey by analyzing their open-ended responses. Qualitative, inductive content analyses examined responses to classify whether students referred to general traits or behaviours or to specific classroom situations, and if survey responses were positive or negative. Preliminary results indicate that across all items (n=161), 62% of responses referenced general traits or behaviours, and only 38% described specific classroom instances. Of the specific explanations, 28% referred to the absence of the behaviour. General statements were predominantly positive (n=130, 81%). Patterns differed by construct: competence (n=20), value (n=22) and achievement goal items (n=32) elicited more specific observations, while interest (n=11), relatedness (n=54) and autonomy support items (n=22) prompted more generalized statements. These findings suggest the need to contextualize survey data for interest, relatedness and autonomy support items to identify specific teacher behaviours students perceive as motivating.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124903 - Printed Poster

Unravelling Academic Procrastination: Predictors among University Students

Main Presenting Author: Arora, Alisha

Additional Author: Lymburner, Jocelyn

Abstract: *Academic procrastination is prevalent among university students and is associated with detrimental academic and psychological outcomes. This quasi-experimental study examined the predictive value of academic anxiety, student depression, and workload (measured as number of hours worked per week) on academic procrastination while controlling for conscientiousness. Ninety-seven undergraduate students (N = 97) from a Canadian university completed baseline measures of academic anxiety, depression, conscientiousness, workload, and procrastination. Hierarchical multiple regression revealed conscientiousness as a strong negative predictor, accounting for 45.3% of the variance in procrastination. Student depression also significantly positively predicted procrastination, while academic anxiety and workload were nonsignificant when depression was considered. Exploratory analyses indicated no significant associations between procrastination and GPA, course load, year of study, or study environment. These findings emphasize that emotional factors along with personality take precedence over situational demands in predicting procrastination, offering critical insights for intervention design and student support services.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125107 - Printed Poster

Using Machine Learning to Identify Linguistic and Home Predictors of Singapore Students' Mathematics in TIMSS 2023

Main Presenting Author: Yan, Yiwen

Additional Authors: Li, Linlin ; Zhang, Yimei; Song, Yajie; Cutumisu, Maria

Abstract: *Background. Language use and family background influence student achievement, yet their relative importance for mathematics remains underexplored. Aim. This study investigates how linguistic (e.g., frequency of speaking the test language at home, early literacy experiences) and family capital (e.g., parental education, socioeconomic background) variables relate to mathematics for 6,530 Grade 4 Singapore students in the TIMSS 2023 data. Methods. Tree-based machine learning algorithms, Random Forest and LightGBM, were compared in terms of performance and predictor importance, with a paired t-test assessing statistical differences. Results. Both algorithms (1) showed satisfactory predictive performance, with no significant differences; and (2) yielded family socioeconomic background, early literacy and numeracy experiences, and language use at home as the most important predictors of mathematics. Impact. Theoretically, this study extends Bourdieu's framework of linguistic and cultural capital to a high-achieving multilingual context. Methodologically, it illustrates how machine learning can enrich analyses of large-scale educational data. Practically, it indicates that teachers, parents, and policymakers should prioritize early literacy and family support to sustain leaners' mathematics achievement.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125740 - Printed Poster

Using Observations and Student Reports to Understand Competence Supportive Teaching in STEM Undergraduate Mathematics and Computer Science Courses

Main Presenting Author: Dubé, Marianne

Additional Authors: Shankar, Sanheeta ; Hunter, Jessica; Robinson, A Kristy

Abstract: *Teaching quality in STEM classrooms is a key factor predicting STEM persistence. Self-determination theory states that instructors who use competence-supportive teaching tend to have more motivated students, but the presence and measurement of competence supports are issues in need of further study to strengthen inferences about which practices work best. We used observations, thus far rare in STEM classroom studies, to assess the frequency of competence supports in 7 math and computer science courses (31 lectures). We focused on teacher feedback, expectations, and checks for understanding/readiness (interrater reliability, kappa = .85-.96). Preliminary findings show that checks for understanding/readiness were most common in STEM courses (~80% of segments, driven by prompts for questions), while feedback (36.5%) and expectations (38%) were less common. Correlations of observations with averaged student reports of the same four strategies revealed a significant positive correlation for expectations (Kendall's tau = .481, p = .001), but not for other practices. These results suggest that while many supports can be observed in STEM classrooms, students may not perceive them the same way as researchers. We recommend further studying and providing clear expectations as a strategy to support students' competence given that students, like observers, seem to notice these supports.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124461 - Printed Poster

Weekly Dynamics of Academic Buoyancy and Its Role in Linking Teacher Support and Pressure to Student Engagement

Main Presenting Author: Shi, Xinyi

Additional Authors: Robinson, Kristy A.; Jiang, Yi

Abstract: *A key component of personal well-being is the capacity to manage challenges in daily life. In educational settings, academic buoyancy (AB) refers to students' capacity to handle and recover from minor, frequent setbacks at school. Unlike resilience, which emphasizes major adversities, AB captures daily learning experiences that more accurately represent what students face. However, most existing studies assess AB at only a few time points over long intervals, which highlights trait-like differences and does not capture its theoretically "everyday" nature. Furthermore, previous research has also shown that AB mediates the relation between perceived teacher support and adaptive academic outcomes such as engagement. Yet there is limited evidence in STEM classrooms. To address these gaps, the present study examined the weekly dynamics of AB and investigated whether AB mediates the effects of perceived teacher pressure, academic support, and emotional support on students' engagement in mathematics classes. We collected a baseline survey, ten weekly assessments, and an end-of-semester survey from 4,219 Chinese middle school students. Results from Dynamic Structural Equation Modelling (DSEM) indicated that AB increased consistently throughout the weeks. Additionally, AB significantly mediated the relations between student-perceived teacher variables (pressure, academic support, emotional support) and engagement. By using weekly assessments, the present study captures the everyday and dynamic nature of AB that is often overlooked in longitudinal designs. The findings also clarify the role of AB in classroom processes by showing that students' coping capacity functions as a key mechanism linking perceived teacher behaviors with their engagement in mathematics.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125095 - Printed Poster

What Drives Coaching Behavior? The exploration of goal orientation, social dominance orientation and identity leadership on coaches' interpersonal style and the subsequent impact on athletes' experience.

Main Presenting Author: Duteau, Hugo

Additional Author: Grenier, Simon

Abstract: *Coaches' interpersonal style strongly influences athletes' outcomes, yet the antecedents have only been seldomly explored. Addressing this gap seems necessary with the recent cases of abuse and toxic environments in sports. We aimed to examine the impact of some antecedents (goal orientation, social dominance orientation and identity leadership) on coaches' interpersonal style. A pilot study involving 42 coaches from various Quebec high schools was conducted. Significant correlations were between the antecedents and autonomy-supportive (A-SB) and/or controlling behaviors (CB). Goal avoidance orientation was positively associated with CB ($r = .34$, $p < .05$). Furthermore, equality orientation was positively associated with A-SB ($r = .43$, $p < .01$) and negatively associated with CB ($r = -.40$, $p < .01$), while dominance orientation was positively associated with CB ($r = .45$, $p < .01$). Identity leadership had a positive relationship with A-SB ($r = .34$, $p < .05$) and a negative relationship with CB ($r = -.37$, $p < .05$). This suggests that some orientations could shape coaches' ability to endorse supportively-oriented rather than controllingly-oriented behaviors. A follow-up data collection is intended to enable some more comprehensive analyses of the relationships. The limitations and practical implications for sport psychology and coaching practices will be discussed.*

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 124915 - Printed Poster

When Dominance Shapes How We Compete

Main Presenting Author: Hooge, Isabella M.

Additional Authors: Huberts, Ashley ; Montenegro, Nadia; Geniole, N. Shawn

Abstract: *The winner effect posits that winning boosts future performance, while losing decreases it. Individual differences likely moderate such effects. One key factor may be trait dominance, a tendency to seek superiority through force, intimidation, and control. Prominent models (e.g., Dual-Strategies Theory) suggest dominance shapes the pursuit of status, potentially heightening sensitivity to success/failure, magnifying winner effects. We tested this possibility using a rigged word search task. Specifically, after a self-report dominance measure (dominance-prestige scale), participants (N=835) were randomly assigned to a "win" (vs "loss") condition in which they had to find words in an easy (vs difficult) word search. They then received feedback indicating they performed better (vs worse) than others. Afterwards, all participants completed a final, medium-difficulty word search to assess post-win/loss performance. Winners (vs losers) performed better on this final search with this winner-loser difference exaggerated among those higher in dominance. Follow-ups indicated that dominance exacerbated the negative effects of losing rather than enhancing the benefits of winning. This finding suggests that trait dominance may amplify apparent winner effects by increasing sensitivity to failure, an idea we are currently testing in physical, virtual reality contests.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126143 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

Beyond Busy: Exploring How Workload Drives Cognitive, Behavioral, and Emotional Engagement

Main Presenting Author: Fontanilla, Patricia L

Additional Authors: McGuinness, Claire ; Nordstokke, David

Abstract: *Academic workload is a central contributor to university students' engagement, yet its specific influence across different dimensions of engagement remains underexamined. Academic engagement is commonly understood as a multidimensional construct encompassing cognitive, behavioral, and emotional components (Maroco et al., 2016). This study examines how academic workload predicts these three forms of engagement in undergraduate students. A total of 1,208 undergraduate students (12.5% male) completed an online survey that included measures of academic workload and the three engagement factors conceptualized by Maroco et al. (2016). Multiple linear regression analyses were conducted to assess the extent to which academic workload predicts cognitive, behavioral, and emotional engagement. Results illustrate distinct patterns across engagement dimensions, with academic workload demonstrating differential associations depending on the type of engagement assessed. These findings deepen our understanding of how students respond to academic demands and highlight the importance of considering multidimensional models of engagement when designing academic support initiatives.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126171 - Virtual Poster

Cannabis Use Among Canadian University Students

Main Presenting Author: Mykota, David

Additional Author: Llewelyn-Williams, Jessica

Abstract: *Objective: To examine trends in cannabis use, motives to use, and related psychosocial and academic outcomes of usage among students at the University of Saskatchewan. Methods: The Campus Experiences with Cannabis survey was administered to a representative sample of 6,000 students. Of the 920 students that responded, 478 (ages 18-55; mean age = 25.02, SD = 5.95) identified as past 6-month cannabis users, and thus were included as participants in the current study. Participants completed a battery of measures designed to examine problematic cannabis use and associated constructs (i.e., substance use risk, personal well-being, non-specific psychological distress, academic behaviours, and motivations for use).Results: Among the participants, 31% (n = 148) were found to be hazardous users. Using cannabis for enhancement, coping, expansion, sleep difficulties, and conformity purposes, as well as impulsive personality traits were found to be predictors of cannabis use severity, with the enhancement motive identified as the strongest predictor for the total sample, males, and hazardous users. The coping motive was the strongest predictor for females, and impulsivity was the strongest predictor for non-hazardous users. Conclusion: Findings will help inform the development of campus guidelines for safe cannabis use. Information gleaned from this study will also provide important information for cannabis users, policymakers, and health care providers in considering optimal personal use, prevention and intervention plans.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123389 - Virtual Poster

Chance to Perform's Influence on Felt Trust and Athletic Self-Efficacy in the Coach-Athlete Relationship

Main Presenting Author: Rizakos, Olivia

Additional Authors: Dhatt, Simran ; Gill, Harjinder; Abu-Omar, Halah

Abstract: *Effective coach-athlete relationships are critical for athletic success. Although trust is a known key factor, felt trust, or an athlete's perception of being trusted by their coach, remains underexplored in sport. Drawing on organizational psychology, this study examined whether providing athletes with the chance to perform fosters felt trust and subsequently enhances athletic self-efficacy (ASE). Varsity athletes (n = 105) completed adapted measures of all three constructs, and a mediation model was tested. Chance to perform was positively related to felt trust (r = .46, 95% CI [.29, .59], p < .001) and ASE (r = .48, 95% CI [.32, .62], p < .001). Felt trust was also positively related to ASE (r = .34, 95% CI [.15, .50], p < .001). However, mediation analysis indicated that felt trust did not mediate the relationship between chance to perform and ASE. Instead, chance to perform significantly predicted ASE (β = .28, 95% CI [.12, .42], p < .01), suggesting that performance opportunities are a primary contributor to athletes' confidence in their ability to succeed in their sport. These findings suggest that coaches can most effectively support athletic self-efficacy by providing athletes with meaningful opportunities to demonstrate their abilities. Integrating opportunities to perform during training or competitions may strengthen self-efficacy and overall athlete development.*

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 126178 - Virtual Poster

Exploring the Impact of a Social Skills Intervention on Canadian Teens with ADHD: A Qualitative Study

Main Presenting Author: Climie, Emma A.

Additional Authors: Schippers, Lessa M.; Miller, Courtney L; Neprily, M Kirsten

Abstract: *Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in children is often linked to poorer social skills and friendships than their typically developing peers. Social skills and friendships might prevent negative outcomes in children with ADHD. Social skills programs can help improve social skills and the formation of friendships. No studies have qualitatively examined the effects of a social skills intervention for teens with ADHD. We aimed to fill this gap in the current study.Teens with ADHD and their parents participated in a 14-week group intervention for improving social skills, the Program for the Education and Enrichment of Social Skills (PEERS). At the end of the program, teens and parents answered open questions on how PEERS influenced their well-being and parent-child relationship. The answers will be analysed using thematic analysis. Preliminary findings show teens say that PEERS helped improve social skills, that the rules were helpful and they made new friends. Parents mentioned that the strategies are helpful, their children are more confident, and PEERS gave them a shared language, which helped improve the relationship with their teen. By qualitatively identifying how PEERS improves well-being and parent-teen relationships, we can improve the*

program for teens with ADHD, as well as promote it in clinical settings for teens who might benefit from the intervention.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125879 - Virtual Poster

The Effect of Social Presence in Online Higher Education: A Meta-Analytic Exploration

Main Presenting Author: Mykota, David

Abstract: *This study reports a systematic review and meta-analyses of the construct social presence in online higher education settings. The research objectives are to: 1) determine the overall impact of scale-based measures of social presence on student learning outcomes, and 2) determine the overall impact of scale-based measures of social presence on student satisfaction outcomes. A thorough examination of the research literature from 1995 to 2022 was conducted, employing a three-stage screening process to identify 53 studies suitable for inclusion in the meta-analyses. Utilizing a random effects model for analysis, the study investigated the two outcome measures with subgroup analysis. The results affirm that social presence has a moderate effect on both student satisfaction and learning outcomes, with no evidence of publication bias identified. In conducting a subgroup analysis to help explain some of the heterogeneity, significant effects were found for mode of delivery and for the scale-based instrument used. The paper concludes by advocating for enhanced rigour in research design to facilitate empirically validated investigations into improving social presence in online learning environments.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123395 - Virtual Poster

The Self Under Pressure: How Self-Esteem Shapes Students' Academic Stress Experiences

Main Presenting Author: Fontanilla, Patricia L

Additional Authors: McGuinness, Claire ; Nordstokke, David

Abstract: *Self-esteem plays a central role in how students interpret and respond to academic demands, yet its relationship to specific dimensions of academic stress remains underexplored. Academic stress encompasses pressures to perform, perceptions of workload, time restraints, and academic self-perception (Bedewy & Gabriel, 2015). This study examines how self-esteem predicts these components of academic stress in undergraduate students. A total of 1,208 undergraduate students (12.5% male) completed an online survey including standardized measures of self-esteem and the four dimensions of academic stress. Multiple linear regression analyses were conducted to assess the extent to which self-esteem predicts academic stress across these domains. Findings highlight distinct patterns in how self-esteem relates to students' perceptions of performance pressure, workload demands, self-evaluative academic beliefs, and time-based stress. Results contribute to a deeper understanding of how personal self-worth influences the ways students interpret and manage academic expectations. These insights may inform the development of campus supports that strengthen students' self-esteem and their capacity to navigate common academic stressors.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126189 - Virtual Poster

Review Session

Excellencism: The Science of Optimal Personal Standards

Main Presenting Author: Gaudreau, Patrick

Additional Author: Schellenberg, Benjamin

Abstract: *The Model of Excellencism and Perfectionism (MEP; Gaudreau, 2019) distinguishes people who pursue perfection from those who adopt high yet reasonable personal standards. Research on the MEP has clarified several mixed findings surrounding perfectionistic standards - a lagging issue in the perfectionism literature. Beyond perfectionism, the MEP serves as a motivational and self-regulatory framework for understanding many of the problems faced by individuals whose motivation and effort are characterized as lacking. Excellencism was envisioned as a zone of optimal striving. When standards are too low, people fail to sustain the effort needed to obtain meaningful returns. When standards are too high, people tend to over-invest in ways that may be unnecessary or even harmful. High but attainable standards pursued flexibly represent the tipping point between "not enough" and "too much," allowing researchers to generate hypotheses about adaptive goal pursuit. This session will shift the focus to excellencism by reviewing findings from studies on performance, creativity, well-being, motivation, self-regulation, social behavior, and group functioning. We will highlight practical implications of viewing excellencism as a central feature of an efficient self-regulatory system capable of promoting wellness and supporting a healthier, more sustainable way of envisioning success.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125663 - Review Session

Le portefeuille des compétences pédagogiques des membres du corps enseignants et rôles des organismes responsables de la formation en éducation : vers une approche intégrée et holistique centrée sur l'épanouissement des élèves

Main Presenting Author: Taktek, Khaled

Abstract: *Cette présentation distingue entre l'apprentissage signifiant et l'apprentissage dénudé de sens. Tout d'abord, diverses catégories d'apprentissage sont analysées conduisant à une conception profonde et sophistiquée dudit apprentissage (Taktek, 2008, 2016, 2025). Par son accent privilégié mis sur le changement du comportement, la stabilité d'un tel changement, ainsi que la relation à l'exercice ou l'expérience, l'apprentissage acquiert une structure bien appropriée qui se distingue de plusieurs autres concepts amalgamés, tels que la performance, l'enseignement, l'éducation, l'instruction, etc. (Legendre, 2005). Ensuite, cette communication discute des caractéristiques de l'approche intégrée et holistique centrée sur la personne et la liberté pour apprendre (soit l'approche humaniste), et ce, en comparaison à celle découlant du modèle d'éducation traditionnelle et béhavioriste. En outre, cette approche humaniste est à la source de l'enseignement stratégique en mettant l'accent sur non seulement les connaissances, mais surtout les compétences pédagogiques de l'intervenant. Finalement, cette présentation explique les raisons/difficultés pour lesquelles les ministères de l'éducation, les facultés d'éducation, les conseils scolaires, etc. sur les échelles*

provinciales du Canada ne parviennent toujours pas à optimiser le perfectionnement pédagogique des membres du corps enseignants.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125570 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

GRASP: Using Generative AI to Efficiently Provide Spaced, Elaborative, Interleaving Formative Assessments

Main Presenting Author: Lolliot, Simon

Abstract: *We know a great deal about best practices for memory and learning, including retrieval practice, spaced learning, and interleaving. Despite strong evidence supporting their effectiveness, both student and faculty barriers limit widespread use of these approaches. Moreover, Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) has disrupted the educational landscape. In this talk, I will introduce a new open education resource, Generative Retrieval and Spaced Practice (GRASP) tool. GRASP uses GenAI to create high-quality formative assessments that are aligned with learning objectives and grounded in course materials. The tool embeds research-backed principles from cognitive psychology into each formative assessment while lowering common barriers to instructor adoption and student use. Furthermore, GRASP adapts to student input, oversampling questions from content students previously answered incorrectly or moving up Bloom's taxonomy for questions students answered correctly.In this talk, I will present data from faculty survey about the barriers to using formative assessment and their initial experiences with the GRASP tool. Using a mixed-methods action research design, I will report on student experiences of the GRASP tool in a classroom setting. I will conclude with discussing impacts of using the GRASP tool, ethical considerations, and how it can support your teaching.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 126233 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

An Empirical Investigation into Threats to Reliability and Academic Integrity in Online Assessment Policy implemented during COVID-19 Pandemic

Main Presenting Author: Mahmood, Ayesha

Abstract: *Assessment in higher education underwent rapid change after the pandemic in 2020, shifting from traditional paper-and-pencil tests to online assessments. With little or no training, both public and private universities conducted online classes and assessments, with a major concern about the reliability of the assessment. To explore the reasons behind students' perception of unreliable online assessment, a qualitative study was conducted. Through purposive sampling, 13 students from diverse fields were selected, and qualitative data were collected through in-depth interviews. For data analysis, thematic analysis was used. The findings suggest, eight out of thirteen students perceive online assessment as unreliable. The assignments or open-book tests are not creative, and solutions are available from different sources in the internet. During the oral tests, when a teacher asks a question to a student, peers can message the answer through individual chat. Sometimes students get*

their assignments done by others and get assessed without learning the course. However, time-bound tests can ensure the reliability of the online assessments along with viva voce. To conclude, online assessments' reliability is threatened due to students' unawareness of violating academic integrity, lack of motivation in reflecting their learning, the rat race behind grades and teachers' poor test development. Therefore, institutions should take steps to motivate students towards learning with purpose and ensure integrity-related policies in assessment practice.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125124 - Snapshot

Characteristics fostering motivation in gifted and twice-exceptional students: a developmental and environmental perspective

Main Presenting Author: François-Sévigny, Juliette

Additional Authors: Martel, Florence ; Nadeau, Pascale; Fortin, Sabrina; Pilon, Mathieu

Abstract: *Background: Few studies have examined the developmental and environmental characteristics that foster intrinsic or integrated motivation in gifted and twice-exceptional students.Methods: Seventy-three Canadian elementary students identified as gifted (n = 27) or twice-exceptional (n = 46), and their parents, completed online developmental, environmental, and motivation questionnaires. Mean comparisons and correlations were conducted.Results: For both groups, not having been particularly early talkers, enjoying school, and attending a specific school program were linked to intrinsic or integrated motivation (ps < .05-.001). For gifted students, having undergone a neuropsychological assessment and maintaining a positive self-image supported motivation (ps < .05-.034). For twice-exceptional students, perceiving positive impacts of the neuropsychological evaluation, being calm and adaptable in class, attending a school that meets their needs and interests, having a positive teacher relationship, and showing prosocial behaviours favoured motivation (ps < .03-.001).Conclusions: Students' developmental characteristics, learning needs, and school environment play a key role in supporting their motivation.Action/Impact: Findings underscore the value of tailored programs and supportive relationships in enhancing motivation in gifted and twice-exceptional learners.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124209 - Snapshot

Conveying emotions through music: associations with passion, performance and well-being

Main Presenting Author: Lalande, Daniel

Additional Authors: Tremblay, Cindy ; Rochette, Samuel

Abstract: *Classical musicians often strive to both excel technically and convey rich emotions through performance, yet these goals may be differentially supported by how they are passionate about music. Grounded in the Dualistic Model of Passion and the Broaden-and-Build Theory, this study examined how harmonious passion (HP) and obsessive passion (OP) relate to two modes of cognitive-emotional processing during performance-expansive (focus on conveying emotions) and constrictive (focus on technique)-and how these, in turn, predict performance and well-being. Seventy-six highly trained*

classical musicians (flute, viola, cello) attending a prestigious summer academy completed measures of passion, attention allocation during performance, affect, and well-being. Objective performance scores were obtained from expert jury evaluations. Correlational and regression analyses with bootstrapping showed that HP was positively related to focusing on conveying emotions and well-being but was unrelated to performance, whereas OP was positively related to focusing on technique and negatively to performance and well-being. Expansive processing predicted higher performance and well-being, whereas constrictive processing predicted lower performance and was unrelated to well-being. Mediation analyses revealed that constrictive processing fully mediated the negative association between OP and performance, and expansive processing partially mediated the positive association between HP and well-being. These findings suggest that how musicians process their performance-broad, emotion-focused versus narrow, technique-focused-constitutes a key mechanism linking passion to performance and mental health, underscoring the value of fostering harmonious rather than obsessive engagement in the pursuit of musical excellence.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124836 - Snapshot

Evidence of a multilingual advantage on WIAT-4 CDN-F among Francophones in Canada, with largest differences in achievement fluency and smallest in expressive vocabulary.

Main Presenting Author: Miller, Jessie L

Additional Author: Prezeau, Sarah

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Standardized tests often pool monolingual and multilingual speakers, masking language-related differences and complicating interpretation.Methods: Using the WIAT-4 French-Canadian standardization sample (ages 4-50), a matched, controlled comparison of monolingual vs multilingual French speakers was conducted, controlling SES via parent education, across all subtests and composites.Results: Over half of subtests/composites showed statistically significant differences favoring multilinguals; gaps were smallest in Expressive Vocabulary and largest in achievement fluency (reading, writing, math).Conclusions: Language background is a meaningful source of variance in WIAT-4 performance even with SES controlled.Action/Impact: Multilingualism should be considered a key moderator in achievement testing outcomes. Clinicians should use caution interpreting fluency indices to avoid over-identifying monolinguals and under-identifying multilinguals. Recommendations: To pinpoint language weaknesses, compare timed and untimed measures alongside classroom data and base eligibility decisions on multiple data sources.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125147 - Snapshot

Learning From Their Learning: Insights in Student Note Sheets

Main Presenting Author: Morris, Vanessa

Additional Author: Ritchie, Michaela

Abstract: *Background: We examined students' note sheets to see what they prioritized; which design features related to stronger test performance; whether method of creation influenced outcomes; and whether access to note sheets affected test anxiety. Methods: After each test, students could submit their note sheets for analysis. At the end of the course, they were invited to complete a survey about their note-sheet creation strategies and their test-anxiety experiences. Data was analyzed using qualitative and quantitative approaches. Results: Students prioritized substantive content (e.g., definitions) over aesthetic features such as colour or organization. Diagrams, class examples, and emphasized text (e.g., bolded) were associated with higher test performance. The method of note-sheet creation (hand, digital, mixed) was not significantly related to performance. Access to note sheets significantly reduced test anxiety ($p < .001$), and lower anxiety was associated with higher overall course performance ($p = .014$). Conclusions: Allowing note sheets during assessments was associated with lower test anxiety and higher course performance. Diagrams, examples, and emphasized text were also associated with better test outcomes. Action: We recommend instructors use note sheets and offer guidance on effective note sheet design.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 123760 - Snapshot

Mapping Coping Strategies onto Outcomes Using Variable- and Person-Centred Approaches: What Are Regression Models Missing?

Main Presenting Author: Hepworth, Kaelen

Additional Authors: Henning, Colin ; Keefer, Kateryna V; Parker, D.A. James

Abstract: *Recent research using person-centred approaches revealed at least 3 distinct coping profiles marked by different combinations of task-focused (TF), emotion-focused (EF), and avoidance-focused (AF) coping. However, no studies have evaluated the predictive utility of these person-centred profiles relative to traditional regression-based results. This study aimed to replicate the 3 coping profiles using latent profile analysis (LPA) and to examine their predictive utility for academic procrastination and perceived stress in 991 undergraduates. Multiple regressions identified EF as the strongest unique predictor of higher procrastination and perceived stress, followed by TF as a negative unique predictor of both outcomes. AF was not significantly related to either outcome. The LPA identified 3 profiles as in past studies. The least adaptive profile (highest procrastination and distress) had high EF combined with low TF and low AF. The other two profiles showed the opposite pattern (lower EF, higher TF and AF), and although their coping levels varied, they did not differ on their outcomes. Thus, the LPA demonstrated a non-linear relationship not identified by the regressions, where the absolute levels of EF and TF were less predictive of the outcomes than their relative levels within the profile. These nuanced findings provide novel evidence to inform future coping interventions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125686 - Snapshot

Modules, discussions, or simulations? Comparing the effect of academic integrity interventions on university students' perceptions and cheating behaviour

Main Presenting Author: Urquhart, Nicola

Additional Authors: Vogel, Natasha ; Wood, Eileen; Eaton, Judy; Hamzagic, Zachariah

Abstract: *Background: Academic misconduct is a growing concern facing undergraduate education. Academic integrity interventions, such as in-person or online information modules have been found to have variable effects on misconduct. To date, to our knowledge, no research has compared different types of academic integrity interventions.Methods: Our study compared six different types of interventions (including both in-personal and virtual modules, simulations, and discussions) across 299 Canadian undergraduate students. Outcomes included an anagram cheating measure and self-reported attitudes towards academic integrity.Results: Post intervention, there was greater cheating in online contexts than in-person. Self-reported knowledge and confidence were greater post-intervention across all 6 intervention types, however combinations of interventions had significantly greater self-reported attention paid and positive attitude changes. Conclusions: Multi-faceted interventions were most effective for self-reported measures. Cheating behaviour seemed to be more affected by the context (virtual versus in-person) than the intervention type. Implications of students' responses about the simulation intervention type will be discussed. Impact: This study provides practical suggestions for institutions hoping to promote academic integrity by highlighting key features of effective interventions.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126120 - Snapshot

School Engagement in Gifted and Twice-Exceptional Children: The Role of Child-Perceived Parent-Child Interaction Quality

Main Presenting Author: François-Sévigny, Juliette

Additional Authors: Ouellet, Geneviève ; St-Laurent, Diane ; Baudry, Claire

Abstract: *Background: Twice-exceptional and gifted children face distinct academic and emotional challenges, and the quality of parent-child interactions may influence their school engagement.Objective: This study examined the effects of children's neurodevelopmental condition (gifted-only vs. twice exceptional) and child-perceived quality of parent-child interactions (secure vs. insecure; dependent vs. independent) on their school engagement.Methods: Fifty-two Canadian children (Mage = 9.19; SD = 1.68; 55.80% boys) aged six to 12 participated; 35 were gifted-only and 17 were twice exceptional. Two independent 2 × 2 MANOVAs tested the effects of neurodevelopmental condition crossed with two interaction-quality dimensions from the Kerns questionnaire on behavioral, cognitive, and affective engagement in mathematics and French.Results: No significant interaction effect was observed between twice-exceptionality status and interaction quality. However, a marginal interaction was found for cognitive engagement ($p \approx .06$-$.07$), with twice-exceptional children showing lower cognitive engagement across relational categories.Conclusion: Overall, parent-child relational style appeared to play a limited role in school engagement differences.Action: Findings suggest cautiously that classroom-based supports may better enhance cognitive engagement in twice-exceptional students than relational interventions.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124371 - Snapshot

Supporting instructors who are training psychologists: An exploration of statistical literacy and evidence-based practice perspectives of professors in CPA-accredited clinical psychology programs.

Main Presenting Author: Nobre, Ana

Additional Author: Ritchie, Krista C

Abstract: *This mixed-methods study investigates the statistical literacy of Canadian clinical psychology professors, emphasizing its critical role in evidence-based practice (EBP) and ethical clinical care. Statistical literacy, defined as the ability to understand and critically evaluate statistical analyses, underpins clinicians' capacity to integrate empirical evidence into practice and advocate for patient wellbeing. Despite rigorous training standards set by the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), challenges in statistical competence persist among healthcare professionals, impacting research interpretation and clinical decision-making. This study seeks to understand licensed clinical psychologists and statistics instructors in CPA-accredited programs, employing self-report surveys and a case-based reasoning task to assess perceived competence, attitudes towards EBP, and applied statistical reasoning. Qualitative and descriptive analyses will explore themes related to statistical reasoning and lifelong learning principles. Findings aim to inform continuing professional development (CPD) strategies that support faculty in enhancing statistical literacy, ultimately improving clinical training and patient outcomes. This research addresses a gap in Canadian data and highlights the importance of supporting the continuing learning of educators from a strengths-based perspective.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 126388 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

De la psychométrie à la pratique : Explorer le WIAT-4 CDN-F pour améliorer les résultats éducatifs /From Psychometrics to Practice: Leveraging WIAT-4 CDN-F for improved Educational Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Charron, Michael
Co-Presenting Author: Grose, Liz

Abstract: *Cet atelier propose une exploration interactive et fondée sur des données probantes du WIAT-4 CDN-F pour l'évaluation et l'intervention en matière de compétences académiques. Axé sur les sous-tests, les composites, l'interprétation, la planification des interventions et le suivi des progrès, il permettra aux participants de s'engager dans des activités expérientielles, des analyses de cas et des discussions collaboratives afin de renforcer leurs compétences interprétatives et d'appliquer les résultats à la pratique. L'accent sera mis sur l'intégration des données dans le raisonnement diagnostique, la conception d'interventions ciblées et l'utilisation de stratégies inclusives pour les apprenants issus de milieux culturels et linguistiques diversifiés. La séance est conçue pour être développementale, intégrative et participative, garantissant que les psychologues débutants comme expérimentés acquièrent des compétences pratiques qui relient la théorie psychométrique à la pratique appliquée.This workshop offers an evidence-based, interactive exploration of the WIAT-4 CDN-F for academic skills assessment and intervention. Focused on the subtest, composites, interpretation, intervention focus and progress monitoring, where participants will engage in*

experiential activities, case-based analysis, and collaborative discussion to strengthen interpretive skills and apply findings to practice. Emphasis will be placed on integrating data into diagnostic reasoning, designing targeted interventions, and employing inclusive strategies for culturally and linguistically diverse learners. The session is structured to be developmental, integrative, and participatory, ensuring both novice and experienced psychologists acquire practical competencies that bridge psychometric theory and applied practice.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125130 - Standard Workshop

THEME: EXPLORING INTELLECTUAL ROOTS

Examining our discipline and various psychological constructs from a theoretical, historical and/or philosophical lens

12-Minute Talk

How Does AI Integration In Dating Apps Shape Dating Experiences

Main Presenting Author: Gaikwad, Nikita

Additional Author: O'Doherty, Kieran

Abstract: *Online dating has evolved from early computer-based services and print-personal ads to today's mobile, swipe-driven platforms. More recently, dating apps have integrated AI tools into their platforms, influencing how people present themselves, form connections and experience connections. While AI-driven prompts, message suggestions, and algorithmic recommendations provide efficiency and guidance, these tools (re)shape dating in ways that are not yet well understood. In particular, there has been limited research conducted on how people who engage with dating apps actually experience these dating tools. Therefore, this study examines how adults interpret and navigate AI features in dating apps, and how these tools influence dating experiences, self-presentation and relationship expectations. I will use semi-structured interviews and reflexive thematic analysis to analyse data and present the key findings on how users make sense of AI-mediated interactions across both technological and societal contexts. I will then conclude the presentation with possible implications for policy and platform governance, including the need for transparency standards and guidelines for ethical AI integration in digital relationship-forming environments.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123753 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Rethinking Memory Testing in Psychoeducational Assessment: A Systematic Review of Clinical Utility for School-Age Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Main Presenting Author: Cunningham, Todd

Additional Authors: Goodman-Vincent, Ella ; leidershnaider, liran

Abstract: *This review session explores why memory tests occupy such a prominent place in psychoeducational assessment and whether this practice is empirically justified. Drawing on a systematic review of studies involving school-age students with high-incidence neurodevelopmental disorders (e.g., LD, ADHD, ASD), we will examine when commonly used memory batteries actually change diagnostic formulations or intervention plans beyond what is learned from cognitive and academic testing. The session will focus on how habits, training traditions, and clinical intuitions may have shaped current assessment practices, and will invite participants to critically reflect on their own decision-making about when and why they order memory testing. Our goals are to: (a) summarize key findings from the review, (b) consider the incremental value of memory data for case conceptualization and recommendations, and (c) collaboratively develop pragmatic, hypothesis-driven*

guidelines for selective use of memory tests. This discussion is highly relevant for school and clinical psychologists in Canada and internationally, where pressures for efficiency, access, and equity require that each assessment component be clearly tied to student outcomes.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126386 - Conversation Session

Roundtable for Proposed Dissertation of Social Psychologists on White Epistemology

Main Presenting Author: Phung, Naomi

Additional Author: Brown, Donald

Abstract: *This roundtable aims to engage knowledgeable psychological researchers to discuss the development of a dissertation topic on a white epistemology in psychology's production of research on race and racism (empirical race psychology). Rather than alluding to a researcher's racial identity, a white epistemology refers to the methods of knowledge production which create and maintain systemic forms of racial power that benefit certain groups of people over others (Salter & Adams, 2013; Teo, 2022). An example is the research practice of comparing racialized participants to their whitecounterparts but not the reverse, which reinforces white participants as the default participants (Buchanan et al., 2021). This white epistemology may be more impactful in social psychology, which has a reputation for asking questions about race (Richeson & Sommers, 2016) and may often embody "good science" practices (i.e., open science) without accounting for how this research is being driven by the "whiteness of the scientists" (Durrheim, 2024, p. 247). Moreover, psychology's adoption of the positivist method stresses generalizability, objectivity, and neutrality (Lorette, 2023), which limits the comprehensive understanding of psychological phenomena as contextual explanations are ignored (Ponterotto, 2025; Teo, 2011; 2022). For example, a question overlooked in empirical race psychology is, "why is a researcher interested in studying race?" (Teo & Febbraro, 2024, p. 294). Following a presentation on the issues described above, the roundtable will engage attendees through a series of questions aimed at cultivating critical reflection on the topic.These discussions will help to inform the development of a dissertation project and attendees may also find this roundtable fruitful for furthering their inquiry into psychological epistemology.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123334 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

"What do you mean by critical?": Exploring the use and abuse of the word "critical"

Moderator(s): Wada, Kaori

Panelists: Wada, Kaori; Thrift, Erin ; Lafrance, Michelle

Abstract: *The word critical is ubiquitous in academic contexts: students are asked to "critically examine the literature" using their "critical thinking skills," and researchers often claim to use "a critical lens," simply because their work aims to fill gaps or advance knowledge. Yet these general*

uses differ from what critical means in critical psychology or critical theory -- fields grounded in analyzing power, questioning taken-for-granted knowledge, and pursuing social change.At the same time, critical has become a kind of cultural shorthand whose meaning is increasingly diffuse -- open to confusion and, at times, misuse. For example, so-called gender-critical feminism espouses biological essentialism and trans-exclusion despite adopting the term critical. Such altered usage risks undoing the work of theorists and psychologists who have used critical within specific historical and conceptual foundations.The purpose of this panel is (a) to situate the meaning of critical within historical and theoretical contexts, and (b) to examine its use and misuse, including how the term may have been depoliticized or co-opted. Clarifying what we mean by critical is essential for research rigor, conceptual precision, and supporting more coherent, theoretically informed lines of inquiry in psychology.

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123525 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

Differential Effects of Second-wave Feminism on Academic Psychology at New and Established Institutions

Main Presenting Author: Barkas, Maryanna E
Co-Presenting Author: Olmstead, Mary C

Abstract: *Psychology, like all academic disciplines, is shaped by sociopolitical forces. Second-wave feminism is a particularly pivotal movement in the history of psychology, as it challenged gender hierarchies at institutions while expanding opportunities for women in education, employment, and public life. It also coincides with a period of postsecondary growth in Canada, with existing universities expanding and new ones being established. This provided an opportunity to examine the effect of second-wave feminism on academic psychology in Canada by comparing the development of psychology at established (Queen's, McGill, UofT, UBC) and expansion-era (Brock, Simon Fraser, University of Calgary, Guelph) institutions. Primary sources include archival course calendars, which provide information on course offerings and program requirements. The study adopts an archival design, drawing on course calendars, university records, and oral history interviews. Established universities showed gradual feminist curricular shifts, while expansion-era universities integrated feminist perspectives more directly. We focus on the psychology department at Queen's University, which showed gradual changes that aligned with broader feminist trends in higher education. This project expands historical understanding of Canadian psychology and highlights the impact of sociopolitical forces on academia.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125622 - Printed Poster

From Experimental to Applied: The Impact of World War 2 on Psychology at Queen's University

Main Presenting Author: Gill, Seva
Co-Presenting Author: Olmstead, Mary C

Abstract: *World War 2 had a major impact on social, political, and economic institutions in Canada. Educational institutions shifted their research and teaching to support war efforts and meet returning veterans' needs. Psychology was uniquely placed to address these challenges with expertise in perceptual, social, and emotional processing. This study assesses how the events of WW2 impacted psychology at Queen's University, specifically, the shift from an experimental to applied focus. The study is qualitative, using archival data from 1942 to 1953, from Queen's academic calendars, journals and Principal's report alongside material from the Canadian Psychological Association and the Royal Military College Archives. A thematic analysis is conducted on three areas of psychology at Queen's: holistic wellbeing, family focus and community shifts. Results indicate each area witnessed a shift from experimental to applied practices due to student and faculty interests. Queen's offered new clinical courses, faculty conducted more applied research and students created a Psychology Club that reflected interest in applied content. These findings are valuable in understanding how historical events can shape the trajectory of psychological research and teaching at a Canadian university. They also contribute to a greater understanding of how military events impact academic institutions nationwide.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125387 - Printed Poster

Review Session

Transendental self and its implications for treatment.The Loss of Soul in a World of Utilitarianism and Commodification:Munajat e Shabaniya and its Psychological Call for Transcendentalism

Main Presenting Author: Fatemi, Sayyed Mohsen

Abstract: *Neoliberalism encouraged an excessive engagement in the material world and left no room to explore the inner-personal world beyond materialism. Neoliberalism emptied the life-world (lebenswelt) by imposing the logic of consumerism, materialism, and utilitarianism. This chapter proposes that prayer can be an expression of life (leben) most authentically. Materialism limited the ontology of life to physiological and neurological configuration and nothing more. In a world of machine, market, consumerism and commodification, prayer can be transformational in that it helps the individual recognize a marketized worldview and reminds us of an essential component of being human -- spirituality and religiosity. Munajat e Shabaniya, is a written prayer from an Islamic worldview that challenges the premises and system values of neoliberalism and highlights the psychological significance of a new understanding of humanness beyond materialism.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125652 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

Thinking from Canada: History, theory, and qualitative inquiry

Main Presenting Author: Wendt, Dennis C.

Abstract: *This address builds on a session held earlier at the APA Division 24 midwinter meeting in Toronto, reflecting on the distinct role Canada has played in shaping theoretical and qualitative*

psychology in North America. From the intellectual hubs at Simon Fraser, York, and beyond, Canadian scholars have advanced interpretive, relational, and critical traditions that have profoundly influenced how psychology understands meaning, method, and ethics-often without being acknowledged as distinctly Canadian. This work has been enabled by French-English bilingualism, a resurgence of Indigenous scholarship, and public institutional cultures, fostering pluralism, reflexivity, and dialogue across epistemic borders. Historically, Canada has been closely allied with the United States yet positioned itself as a subtle counter-culture, importing, adapting, and at times quietly resisting American mainstream psychology. At a moment when the U.S.-Canada relationship has been tested by Trumpism, tariffs, and political turbulence, this history of critical engagement takes on renewed relevance. Looking forward, the dynamics between Canadian and American psychology-and the countries themselves-may generate both opportunity and tension. This address asks: what does it mean to think from Canada rather than merely in it, recognizing the country not as periphery or bridge, but as a distinctive and formative site for theory, history, and qualitative inquiry in its own right.

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 122561 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Symposium

Books as Vectors of Resistance: How Popular Parenting Books Promote or Undermine Parental Determinism

Moderator(s): Mailloux, Dominique

Abstract: *Modern Western parenting culture is centred around the ideology of parental determinism, which claims that parental behaviour directly determines children's future development and flourishing (Lee et al., 2014), as demonstrated by scientific experts (Martin, 2020). This ideology has been linked to a diminution of parental self-confidence and an increase in parental anxiety, stress, and burnout (Bregnbæk et al., 2023; Hay et al., 2022; Roskam et al., 2017). Popular parenting books generally propagate this ideology, but there are exceptions (Laprise Falardeau & Mailloux, 2025). In this symposium, we will explore the role that these books can play as vectors of resistance to the ideology of parental determinism. First, Laprise Falardeau will analyze the discourse around parental determinism and the attempts to overcome it in popular parenting books. Then, Bourgeois and Racine will present thematic analyses of reviews of parenting books that are resolutely anti-deterministic, to highlight the differences that exposure to this kind of resistant discourse creates in parents' and children's lives. Bourgeois will focus on Hunt, Gather, Parent, by Michaleen Doucleff (2022), who is a mother and scientific journalist. Racine will study Hold On to Your Kids, written by psychologist Gordon Neufeld and medical doctor Gabor Mate (2004).*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125720 - Symposium

Hold On to Your Kids: A Thematic Analysis of the Reviews of a Parenting Book that Denounces the Problematic Effects of Expert Parenting Advice.

Main Presenting Author: Racine, Daphnée

Additional Authors: Laprise Falardeau, Marianne ; Mailloux, Dominique

Abstract: *Background: Neufeld and Mate's book 'Hold On to Your Kids' (2004) is one of the rare popular parenting books that denounces the problematic effects of the overvaluation of expert parenting advice in Western parenting culture, which goes hand in hand with a devaluation of parents' knowledge. Objective: This study aims to describe the spontaneously evoked experience of its reviewers.Methods: We thematically analyzed the 308 verified buyer reviews of 'Hold On to Your Kids' published on Amazon.ca, from November 27, 2014, to October 21, 2025. Results: 97% of reviews were positive. After reading the book, reviewers report feeling understood by the authors and feeling less pressure about their role as parents. They also report making changes to their parental practices based on the advice of the authors, which have made them more connected to their children. Conclusion: Reading 'Hold On to Your Kids' has helped some readers to make sense of their experience as parents, feel less pressure, and become more connected to their kids.Action/impacts: Books that denounce expert-driven parenting and acknowledge parents' intuitive competencies may empower parents, enhance their well-being, and strengthen their relationships with their child(ren).*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125735 - Paper within a symposium

Hunt, Gather, Parent: A Thematic Analysis of the Reviews of a Parenting Book that Counters the Dominant Norms of Western Parenting Culture

Main Presenting Author: Bourgeois, Audrey

Additional Authors: Mailloux, Dominique ; Laprise Falardeau, Marianne

Abstract: *Background: 'Hunt, Gather, Parent', by Michaleen Doucleff (2022), is one of the rare popular parenting books that explicitly denounces Western parenting culture and provides readers with a comparison point by engaging with parenting in Maya, Inuit, and Hadzabe communities. Objective: This study aims to describe the spontaneously evoked experience of its reviewers.Method: We thematically analyzed the 378 verified buyer reviews of 'Hunt, Gather, Parent' published on Amazon.ca, from December 1, 2021 to October 29, 2025. Results: Almost all reviews were positive and recommended the book to others. In general, reviewers reported feeling understood and less alone in their experience, experiencing less temper tantrums from their child, less parent-child arguments, keeping their cool more easily and feeling more effective as parents. Conclusion: Reading 'Hunt, Gather, Parent' has positively affected the experience of most of the reviewers and their children. Action/Impact: These results highlight the importance and potential positive impacts of books that present alternative perspectives on parenting for Western parents. Further research is needed to fully understand the effects of these texts on parents' lives, beyond the spontaneous comments left by reviewers on Amazon.ca.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125729 - Paper within a symposium

Shifting Visions: Analysis of the Attempts to Overcome Parental Determinism in Popular Parenting Books

Main Presenting Author: Laprise Falardeau, Marianne

Additional Author: Mailloux, Dominique

Abstract: *Background: In Québec, most child-care books promote the ideology of parental determinism, albeit to differing degrees (Laprise Falardeau & Mailloux, 2025). Methods: We analyzed the discourse around parental determinism in 6 of the most borrowed parenting books in public libraries in Trois-Rivières (Québec) to understand how their authors understand parental determinism and attempt to overcome it (or not).Results: Deterministic books systematically ignore the family context and present the parent as the sole architect of the child's development. They tend to use scientific neutrality to deny their determinism and paternalism. Conversely, anti-deterministic books adopt a more relational and contextualized approach to family life, while recognizing parents' knowledge and the value-laden nature of parenting. Conclusion: This research highlights the diverging worldviews that underpin deterministic (abstractionist, positivist) and anti-deterministic (holistic, hermeneutic moral realist) parenting advice books. Action/Impact: Parents and professionals should be made aware of the keen differences that exist between deterministic and anti-deterministic parenting books, to make informed choices as to the kind of parenting literature they consult or recommend.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125724 - Paper within a symposium

Harnessing the Power and Potential of Psychology's Feminist Voices in Research and Teaching

Moderator(s): Lafrance, Michelle N

Abstract: *This symposium explores a range of research, teaching, and learning initiatives that draw on the Psychology's Feminist Voices (PFV) Oral History and Digital Archive project. Developed by Alexandra Rutherford and her team at York University, PFV is a multimedia digital archive of the relationship between feminism and psychology and the history of women in psychology. At the heart of PFV is an ongoing oral history project in which PFV team members and collaborators have conducted oral history interviews with feminist psychologists from all over the world. This symposium brings together a sample of the ways in which scholars have recently engaged with this project, as researchers, teachers, and students.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 122984 - Symposium

A living archive: The evolving life of Psychology's Feminist Voices

Main Presenting Author: Salis, Desiree

Abstract: *This presentation offers reflections on the evolving life of Psychology's Feminist Voices (PFV), a digital archive and collaborative scholarly project founded by Alexandra Rutherford to document, preserve and amplify feminist histories and voices in Psychology. Following its 20-year anniversary in 2024 and in response to ongoing conversations about the impact and future directions of PFV, I conducted interviews with seven contributors who participated in the project across its lifespan. Emerging out of my analysis were three themes: the implications of PFV for feminist Psychology; the personal and collective meanings of participation for PFV members; and the project itself as a living and moving entity that is transformed through feminist engagement. Such narratives offer insight into the practice of feminist Psychology, including how it is sustained and reimagined through collaborative work over and across time. Interwoven throughout are my own reflections as*

both a researcher and participant in PFV. I conclude by considering how projects such as PFV preserve feminist pasts and help shape feminist futures in and beyond Psychology.

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123383 - Paper within a symposium

Integrating feminist pedagogy: Insights from my work with Psychology's Feminist Voices

Main Presenting Author: Fabricius, Alexis

Abstract: *In this talk, I discuss my involvement with Psychology's Feminist Voices (PFV), chronicling my time from student to professor. I begin with a brief overview of my time as an undergraduate student and some of the initiatives I was a part of. I explain how this experience of learning about and contributing to the development of feminist historical and pedagogical tools was integral to my personal and professional identity as a feminist psychologist, and later as an instructor in higher education. I then provide examples of ways that I have incorporated PFV materials into teaching at the undergraduate level and discuss students' reactions to these materials. I end by highlighting the transformative potential of feminist pedagogical tools-not only in shaping students' understanding of psychology, but also in cultivating a sense of agency and social responsibility within the classroom.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123385 - Paper within a symposium

Learning qualitative analysis through listening to Psychology's Feminist Voices: Reflections on the state and future of feminist psychology

Main Presenting Author: Bunin, Serena

Additional Author: Lafrance, Michelle

Abstract: *In this presentation, I discuss my experience of learning how to do Qualitative Analysis through working with the Psychology's Feminist Voices archive. I describe our team's research process in working with the oral history transcripts and elaborate on key learnings along the way. I then outline a few central findings from our Reflexive Thematic Analysis of 20 interviews conducted in the last decade, with a particular focus on responses to questions about the inroads of feminist psychology and what remains to be done. Participants' accounts of the "huge" or "enormous" impacts of feminist psychology were often contrasted with descriptions of an uphill battle, and assertions that psychology still "has a way to go". When asked about the future of feminist psychology, they talked about a need to increase efforts towards inclusivity, diversity, and intersectionality. Participants also spoke about the importance of decolonization, curriculum change, and "our responsibilities as a field" in the face of global issues like the climate catastrophe. To this point, participants described the importance of "break[ing] out of our silos" to approach social issues in an interdisciplinary fashion. These considerations can be used to guide our current attention and applied efforts moving forward.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123384 - Paper within a symposium

Studying the 'Village' of Western Families: A Critical Exploration of Family Support Services in Québec

Moderator(s): Mailloux, Dominique

Abstract: *It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. However, in modern Western countries, this 'village' is often populated by professionals and paraprofessionals who work in various public, community-based, and private service institutions, coordinated by a complex web of policies and knowledge (Lee et al., 2023). This creates a complex ecological system of 'family support services' that has radically transformed family life in modern Western countries, but little is known about the experiences of families with this kind of system as a whole. This symposium will present a series of critical qualitative studies that illuminate the experiences of fathers, mothers, and children who encounter this complex service ecology in Québec, Canada. First, Brunet will provide an overview of childhood-focused interventions in Quebec, using Bronfenbrenner's ecological model (1979), to unpack the different levels of intervention available to children and the types of development they promote. Then, Tremblay will expose how scientific studies, social policies and parenting programs in Québec tend to exclude the lived experiences of teenagers' parents and hinder their access to support. Finally, Mailloux will take us to the frontiers of the service ecology by presenting the social and political context of the development and impacts of outreach work with isolated families in Québec.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124776 - Symposium

How Parenting Support Services Exclude Teenagers' Parents Lived Experiences: An Institutional Ethnography Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Tremblay, Camille

Additional Author: Mailloux, Dominique

Abstract: *Background: In Québec, parents of adolescents have a limited access to support services (Pratte, 2016), are less likely to use these services, are less satisfied with their parenting, and consider parenting more difficult (Lavoie & Auger, 2023). This enquiry aims to examine how the social organization of parenting support services contributes to this problem. Methods: Drawing on institutional ethnography (Smith, 2005), we related the lived experience of teenagers' parents to the institutional discourses that organize research, social policies, and parenting support services in Québec.Results: The institutional discourses in Québec regulate teenagers' parents everyday lives by considering parents as instruments to the well-being of their children and managers of potentially problematic adolescents (e.g. drug users), completely excluding their lived experience of development and change in their relationship with their child.Conclusion : These discourses (re)produce an instrumental, child-centred, individualized, and deterministic view of family life that leads to inadequate support services for parents and adolescents.Action/Impact : This analysis highlights the importance of considering the needs, lived experiences, and common goods of teenagers and their parents in scientific research, social policies, and family services design and delivery.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125809 - Paper within a symposium

The Development and Impact of Outreach Work with Families in Québec

Main Presenting Author: Mailloux, Dominique

Additional Author: Désilets, Ann-Sarah

Abstract: *Background : In Québec, some families are isolated from support services, due to their difficult life conditions and previous bad experiences with the system (Commission Laurent, 2021). In response to this situation, outreach work with isolated families has been developed in Québec's community action movement since the 2010s.Methods: We used participant observation, surveys, focus groups and interviews to document the development, nature, and impact of a pilot project that deployed 50 family outreach workers in Québec, 2022-2025.Results: Outreach workers create significant relationships with families that traditional interventions struggle to reach, reconciling them to a network of support they desperately need. Conclusion: Outreach work is a pertinent and efficient way to reach families, and helps improve and adapt traditional family support services to the realities of parents and children. Action/Impact: Collectivities that struggle to reach their most isolated families should consider implementing outreach workers to strenghten their social fabric as a whole.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125810 - Paper within a symposium

The Ecology of Children's Development: An Overview of Quebec

Main Presenting Author: Brunet, Élizabeth

Abstract: *Background/rationale: The development of children has been an important social issue in Quebec since the early 90s (Brunet & Montiel, 2018). Following the philosophy of early intervention, multiple grand scheme interventions came about to promote the healthy development of children (Bilodeau et al., 2017). However, behind the idea of "healthy development" there are many clashing perspectives of what is considered healthy.Methods: The public reports of Four grand scheme interventions (SIPPE, Community coalitions, Quebec Pre-k system and Early childhood centers) were analyzed to make light of their different perspectives. The analysis was anchored in the ecological model of Bronfenbrenner (1979).Results: This presentation unpacks the different levels of intervention available to children in the province and the types of development they promote.Conclusion: The four grand scheme initiatives follow the same goals, but differ in the way this goal is achieved. Some promote community-driven and unique developments. Others follow a neoliberal ideal of health. These differences sometimes create conflict between the approaches and impact the available interventions for children.Action/Impact: This presentation contributes to the discussion on children's development at both individual and systemic levels.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125808 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: EXPLORING LIFE STAGES

Exploring development across the lifespan from infancy, childhood, adolescence, adults, older adults and through to retirement

12-Minute Talk

Burden Relief and Enhanced Coping: The First Dance/Movement Therapy Program for Dementia Caregivers

Main Presenting Author: Champagne, Eden R

Abstract: *Given the projected rise in dementia across Canada, supporting family caregivers is essential, as they often experience burden. Traditional psychoeducational interventions have been explored, but have limited effect sizes. Presently, there is a need for holistic and strengths-based caregiver programs. Dance/movement therapy (DMT) is an embodied and creative form of therapy that remains underexplored. In this study, we designed and evaluated the impacts of the first DMT program for dementia caregivers. Ten female caregivers participated in a 6-week DMT program, which was evaluated with a convergent mixed-methods design. Caregiver burden and resilience were assessed at baseline and follow-up. Therapeutic factors (e.g., emotional expression) were also evaluated following DMT sessions, and semi-structured debrief interviews were conducted. Quantitatively, caregiver burden significantly decreased from baseline to follow-up, and resilience factors were fostered in DMT (e.g., feeling effective). Qualitatively, DMT enhanced coping by improving self-efficacy beliefs and providing opportunities to reframe ongoing challenges. Together, the quantitative and qualitative data show initial support for DMT to support caregivers' well-being. We recommend that this DMT program is further tested and refined in larger samples.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124895 - 12-Minute Talk

How does identity shape mental health among Canadian adults 55+?

Main Presenting Author: Gopinath, Georgia

Additional Authors: Ross, Alex ; Kudar, Kira; Newall, Nancy; Mackenzie, Corey S; Miller, Stacey; Reynolds, Kristin A

Abstract: *Unique to later life is the common experiences of loss (e.g., passing of a loved one) and significant transitions (e.g., retirement), which can lead to changes in their held identities and contribute to distress. Thus, this study aimed to explore how the identities of older adults shape their mental health and support needs using an intersectional lens.Thirteen women ages 62-90 participated, each of whom expressed interest a community-based mental health intervention and could converse in English. Participants completed a semi-structured focus group or individual interview addressing the study aim. Analysis employed Interpretive Description, creating a narrative describing patterns and variations in participants' experiences. Participants highlighted how their views of themselves changed in later life, and how their intersecting identities could be experienced as marginalizing. In relation to their identities, participants described: their mental health as a journey, encountering barriers to supports, and community involvement as a contributor to resiliency. In summary, older adults' evolving identities impacted their mental health, and their intersecting identities informed their*

access to mental health services. Identity-focused and person-centered care for older adults within the community is an important future avenue for research, practice and policy.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 122779 - 12-Minute Talk

Navigating Retirement as University Professors: Passion, Control Strategies, and Psychological Functioning

Main Presenting Author: Bonneville-Roussy, Arielle

Additional Authors: Perrier, Laurence ; Houlfort, Nathalie; Vallerand, J. Robert

Abstract: *Later-life transitions, such as retirement, present significant developmental milestones that challenge individuals to regulate shifting goals, identities, and resources. This longitudinal study examined the relationship between two forms of passion, harmonious (HP) and obsessive (OP), and psychological functioning during the transition to retirement among 393 tenured university professors in Canada (M_age = 61.6). Guided by the Dualistic Model of Passion and the Motivational Theory of Lifespan Development, the study tested whether adaptive primary and secondary control strategies mediate the relationship between passion and psychological functioning (well-being and ill-being) and whether these processes are moderated by perceived decline in professional expertise. Results from structural moderation and mediation analyses showed that HP facilitated greater use of secondary control strategies, particularly positive reappraisal, which was linked to enhanced well-being and reduced ill-being. These effects were magnified among individuals who perceived a decline in their expertise, suggesting that HP may foster adaptive flexibility in the face of normative losses. OP was negatively related to self-regulation and unrelated to psychological outcomes. By integrating passion with lifespan models of control, this study highlights how motivational orientation influences self-regulatory processes and psychological functioning across key developmental transitions in adulthood.*

Section: *Psychologists and Retirement*
Session ID: 125694 - 12-Minute Talk

Romantic Relationships of Girls in Foster Care

Main Presenting Author: Benvenuto , Katherine A

Additional Author: Connolly , Jennifer

Abstract: *Background: Adolescent romantic relationships (RR) fulfill normative developmental needs (intimacy, affiliation, sexuality, commitment, identity, and autonomy). Stage theories suggest that the expression of these needs in RR rely in part on prior parental relationships. To date, research on adolescent RR has primarily focused on those with normative parental relationships that support romantic development. This study examines how developmental needs are met in the RR of adolescent girls in foster care, all of whom experienced ruptured parental relationships.Method: Twenty-two girls aged 17-20, were interviewed about their perceptions of current and past RR. An inductive content analysis was conducted on their responses.Results: Girls reported that their RR fulfilled both normative needs (intimacy, commitment, affiliation, autonomy) and unique needs not expressed by youth from typical families (security, family affiliation, instrumental support, family intimacy). They also expressed many unmet needs, both normative developmental and unique, underscoring the*

diversity of needs they perceive as most important for RR. Conclusion/Impact: Results accentuate the unique importance and potential vulnerability of RR for girls in foster care. Findings have clinical implications for supporting healthy relationship outcomes among these girls.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123755 - 12-Minute Talk

The Lasting Impact of Authoritarian Parenting on Anxiety in Adulthood: Evidence from Two Cultural Contexts

Main Presenting Author: Wang, Yifan

Abstract: *Background: Authoritarian parenting has long been associated with internalizing problems like anxiety, particularly in Western contexts, but its effects may differ across cultures due to varying values and interpretations. This study explored the relationship between perceived authoritarian parenting during adolescence and anxiety in adulthood in both American and Chinese populations.Methods: Two online survey studies were conducted. Study 1 recruited 156 American adults through Amazon Mechanical Turk. Study 2 involved 212 Chinese adults using a comparable online platform. Participants completed the Parental Authority Questionnaire and the Penn State Worry Questionnaire. Consistent measurement and translation procedures were used across both groups.Results: In Study 1, authoritarian parenting significantly predicted higher anxiety in adulthood. In Study 2, the association was weaker but still statistically significant, suggesting cultural moderation.Conclusions: While authoritarian parenting has a generally negative association with adult anxiety, its impact varies in strength across cultures, suggesting the role of culturally specific interpretations of parenting behaviors.Action/Impact: These findings underscore the need for culturally sensitive parenting interventions and mental health frameworks that account for diverse developmental pathways.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126009 - 12-Minute Talk

Printed Poster

Shared Struggles, Shared Strengths: Exploring Peer-Led Emotion Regulation Interventions in the Transition to Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Cheema, Jasmit

Additional Authors: Dimitrova, Nicole ; Harris-Lane, Laura; Bakken, Kaja; Rawana, Jennine

Abstract: *Emerging adulthood (ages 18-29) is a developmental stage characterized by increased reliance on peer support and heightened vulnerability to psychopathology, requiring strong emotion regulation (ER) skills to navigate the transition into adulthood. Peer-led ER interventions may be valuable during this period, as they leverage shared lived experience, promote belonging, and reduce barriers to seeking support. Our study aimed to synthesize findings from empirical studies on peer-led interventions that strengthen ER skills and mental well-being among emerging adults. A search using PsycINFO, PubMed, and Web of Science databases yielded 10 eligible empirical studies. Study findings suggest that peer-led interventions can improve ER skills, reduce anxiety and depression, and enhance resilience and social reappraisal. Additionally, benefits were observed for peer leaders,*

including increased self-efficacy and identity growth. Limitations such as small, homogeneous samples, inconsistent terminology, and limited long-term follow-up highlight the need for diverse, longitudinal research to strengthen evidence. Overall, evidence suggests peer-led ER interventions as relevant, accessible, and socially embedded approaches that bridge a gap between clinical care and community-based mental health support for emerging adults.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125442 - Printed Poster

A Socio-Ecological Approach to Examining Social Media Engagement and Social Comparison in Emerging Adults

Main Presenting Author: Hartleib, Brenna E.

Additional Author: Law, Danielle

Abstract: *Social media (SM) has reshaped how emerging adults (EAs) construct their identities. Although SM can support self-expression, passive engagement is consistently linked to upward social comparison and elevated distress. Little is known about the individual and relational factors that may buffer these risks. Guided by a socio-ecological framework, this study examines how personality traits, peer relationship quality, social-emotional learning (SEL) competencies, and SM engagement relate to social comparison among EAs. Undergraduates (n = 850; mean age = 17-20 yrs) from a university in Ontario, Canada, completed an online survey for course credit. All constructs were assessed using validated self-report measures (α > .80). Data analyses are underway and will soon be completed. Structural equation modelling will test the contributions of predictors on social comparison. We hypothesize that greater neurotic and introverted tendencies will be positively associated with social comparison, whereas higher-quality peer relationships will be linked to reduced comparison tendencies. These relationships are expected to be amplified by passive SM engagement, whereas stronger SEL competencies should buffer against social-comparison tendencies. Findings will inform how SEL skills can be used to promote healthier SM engagement and enhance resilience and wellbeing in the digital age.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124891 - Printed Poster

Adolescent Romantic Relationships in the non-Western World: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Hou, Grayson

Additional Authors: Benvenuto , Katherine ; Makow, Danah; Connolly, Jennifer

Abstract: *Background: Research on adolescent romantic relationships is centred on Western countries, leaving a gap in our understanding of romantic relationships globally.Methods: We searched three databases for peer-reviewed studies. Eligible studies examined romantic relationships among adolescents aged 10-19 years conducted outside Western regions. Of 1021 unique records, 51 met criteria. Country of population, participant demographics, study designs, and research topics were extracted.Results: Included studies spanned 23 countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East. Most focused on middle-to-late adolescents and predominantly female samples, including six female-only studies. Study designs varied, including both quantitative and qualitative. Topics include validation of instruments, analysis of prevalence, exploration of sociocultural context,*

pathways to pregnancy and marriage, and investigation of mental health impacts.Conclusions/Impact: This review shows wide variation in how adolescent romantic relationships are conceptualized and studied across global contexts. These differences appear shaped by local cultural norms, public health priorities, and economic conditions, highlighting the uneven development of this field outside Western settings. Mapping the existing literature helps clarify these variations and identifies gaps that require further study.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124139 - Printed Poster

Adults' Psychological Adjustment and Relationship Quality: A Meta-Analytic Review of Earned Security

Main Presenting Author: Tayyab, Sarah

Additional Authors: Nivison, Marissa ; Madigan, Sheri; Roisman, Glenn

Abstract: *In adult attachment research, continuous-secures are individuals who, in adulthood, coherently describe their childhood and characterize their early caregivers as supportive, a pattern linked to high-quality parenting and romantic relationships in adulthood, and low levels of internalizing problems. Earned-secures also present coherent descriptions of their childhood but, in contrast, characterize their experiences with primary caregivers in childhood as unsupportive. Interestingly, however, prospective evidence indicates that earned-secures in fact receive above average caregiving in childhood, incongruent with their retrospective self-reports. This discrepancy may be explained by the fact that earned-secures report higher levels of depressive symptoms, which may contribute to more negative appraisals of early childhood. Following PRISMA guidelines, 12 studies met inclusion criteria for the present meta-analysis. The study sample has undergone data extractions and analysis using r package metafor will be completed by January. We expect earned-secure adults to report greater levels of internalizing symptoms than continuous-secures but demonstrate similarly high levels of parenting and romantic relationship quality. By consolidating existing data, the present study will help clarify what is known about earned-security and its psychological and interpersonal correlates.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126186 - Printed Poster

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Cyber Dating Violence Perpetration: The Moderating Effect of Limerence

Main Presenting Author: Baitz, Rachel

Additional Authors: Salasel, Ericson ; Bahmani, Tara; Grimmer, Caden; Ehinger, Madeleine

Abstract: *Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are associated with increased cyber dating violence perpetration (CDVP; Davis et al., 2019). Although both ACEs and CDVP have been associated with problematic relational patterns, the underlying mechanisms remain unclear (Maçkalıet al., 2025). Limerence, characterized by obsessive rumination and fear of romantic rejection, is consistent with patterns associated with childhood trauma and may act as a vulnerability. A paucity of research exists on limerence in context with ACEs and CDVP. This study aimed to examine whether limerence*

moderated the association between adverse childhood experiences and cyber dating violence perpetration in young adults. Participants included 1357 adults (Mage = 28). The results of the moderation analysis revealed a positive significant moderating effect of limerence on the relationship between ACEs and CDVP (R2 = 0.644, F (5, 1341) = 48531, p < 0.05). Results reveal that at higher levels of limerence the impact of ACEs on CDVP is significantly stronger (b = .005, t = 5.46, p < .001). The moderating effect was stronger for younger adults and for cisgender people. Findings indicate that limerence might intensify the traumatic effects of ACEs, thus resulting in more intense perpetration of cyber dating violence.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125580 - Printed Poster

Anxiété évaluative et symptômes dépressifs : le rôle médiateur des événements stressants chez les personnes adolescentes

Main Presenting Author: Gendron, Maude

Additional Authors: Yale-Soulière, Gabrielle ; Goulet, Julie

Abstract: *L'anxiété évaluative, qui touche 15 à 20 % des élèves, correspond à la tendance à percevoir les évaluations scolaires comme menaçantes et s'accompagne de manifestations cognitives et physiologiques. Des études récentes montrent qu'elle entrainerait des symptômes dépressifs subséquents. Or, à notre connaissance, aucune étude n'a examiné les processus expliquant cette relation. Selon le modèle diathèse-stress, la combinaison d'une vulnérabilité - l'anxiété évaluative - et d'événements stressants pourrait contribuer à l'apparition de ces symptômes. Ainsi, cette étude examine le rôle médiateur des événements stressants sur le lien prospectif entre l'anxiété évaluative et les symptômes dépressifs. 1096 adolescents (46% de filles) ont complété un questionnaire à deux reprises. L'anxiété évaluative (T1) a été mesurée avec l'Échelle multidimensionnelle de l'anxiété évaluative, les symptômes dépressifs (T2) avec la sous-échelle Dépression de l'Échelle DASS-21, et les événements stressants (T2) à l'aide d'un questionnaire maison. Les analyses de régression multiple et de médiation, réalisées avec SPSS et PROCESS, révèlent une relation significative entre l'anxiété évaluative et la dépression subséquente, ainsi qu'une médiation partielle des événements stressants. Ces résultats soulignent la nécessité de cibler ces facteurs dans les interventions préventives contre la dépression.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123449 - Printed Poster

Assessing the Psychometric Properties of Long- and Short-Versions of the Geriatric Suicide Ideation Scale (GSIS) in Middle-Aged and Older Men in Career Transition

Main Presenting Author: Heisel, Marnin J.

Additional Author: Flett, Gordon L.

Abstract: *The present study assessed the psychometric properties of long- and short-forms of the Geriatric Suicide Ideation Scale (GSIS; Heisel & Flett, 2006, 2022) among middle-aged and older men facing career transition.Methods: Cognitively intact men were recruited into studies testing 12-*

session Meaning-Centered Men's Groups. Study 1 (in-person) included 97 men 55+ (M=63.6 years, SD=4.5) transitioning to retirement (Heisel et al., 2020); Study 2 (online/virtual; on-going) included 44 military veterans or first-responders (VFR) 50+ (M=56.6 years, SD=3.6) facing career transition. Participants completed the 5-item GSIS-Screen at eligibility assessment and the 31-item GSIS at a pre-intervention assessment. Scale response characteristics, internal consistency, and construct validity were evaluated.Results: Most participants scored low on suicide ideation (SI); yet, 10-20% endorsed mild to moderate depression or SI. Internal consistency (α) was relatively low for the GSIS-Screen (S1 .62, S2 .49), high for the full GSIS (.88, .92), and improved when restricted to participants over 65. The GSIS was associated positively with depression, hopelessness, and history of suicide behaviour, and negatively with psychological well-being and meaning in life.Discussion: Findings support the use of the GSIS scales with middle-aged and older men facing key career transition.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 126262 - Printed Poster

Associations Between Parental Screen Use and Developmental Outcomes in Preschoolers

Main Presenting Author: Dodson, Anthony

Additional Authors: Binet, Marie-Andrée ; Bédard, Samantha; Côté-Lussier, Carolyn; Bégin, Mathieu; Garon-Carrier, Gabrielle; Fitzpatrick, Caroline

Abstract: *Studies link child screen use to adverse developmental outcomes, but parental screen use is also embedded within child media ecology. Understanding how different aspects of parent screen use influence child development is pivotal. This cross-sectional study of Quebec families with preschool-aged children (N=329) aimed to assess associations between parent screen use and global child development in 3-year-olds. Parent screen use included global leisure screen time (h/day), technoference (technology-related interruptions in parent-child interactions), and problematic use (dependence-like overuse). Child development was assessed using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) featuring a global development score as well as communication, fine motor, gross-motor, problem-solving and personal-social domain scores. Higher scores indicate expected developmental progress. All measures were parent-reported. We used multiple linear regression to assess associations between parent screen use and ASQ scores while controlling for child screen time, sex, parent socioeconomic status, parent education, and parental depression score. Parent leisure screen time was negatively associated with global development score (β=-.120, p=.033). Findings suggest that parent leisure screen time impacts preschooler developmental achievement.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124897 - Printed Poster

Associations Between Screen Use Habits and Developmental Outcomes in Preschoolers

Main Presenting Author: Dodson, Anthony

Additional Authors: Binet, Marie-Andrée ; Bédard, Samantha; Berrigan, Félix ; Bouchard, Caroline; Garon-Carrier, Gabrielle; Fitzpatrick, Caroline

Abstract: *Screens are increasingly present in children's lives and excessive exposure may adversely affect development. However, research has focused on duration while the American Academy of Pediatrics also states guidelines on content (prioritize educational over violent) and context (prioritize co-use over solitary use). This study uses cross-sectional data collected among families with preschool-aged children in Québec (N=329) to assess associations between child screen use habits at age 3.5 and child developmental outcomes. Parents completed the 12-item ScreenQ to capture duration, content and context of child screen use. Lower scores indicate better adherence to current pediatric screen use recommendations. The Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) was used to assess global development as well as communication, motor, problem-solving and personal-social domains. Higher scores reflect expected progress. Associations were tested via linear regression controlling for child and family factors. ScreenQ scores were negatively associated with ASQ total scores (β=-.275, p=.000), communication (β=-.287, p=.000), fine-motor (β=-.195, p=.001), problem-solving (β=-.246, p<.001) and personal-social (β=-.204, p=.001) domain scores. Ensuring that child media diets align with pediatric recommendations in terms of duration, content and context could promote achievement of developmental milestones.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124720 - Printed Poster

Attention Resolution and Reading Fluency in Young Children: The Enlightening of Reading Skills through Catching Fireflies

Main Presenting Author: Negash, Adiam

Additional Authors: Desroches, Amy ; Kim, Sunmee; Kruk, Richard

Abstract: *Background: Early reading development relies on cognitive processes that support accurate and efficient visual attention. This study examined whether attention resolution (AR), the minimal spacing needed to individuate visual targets, and AR efficiency, the speed of shifting from coarse to fine visual focus, predicted reading acquisition in young children. Methods: Using a longitudinal design, children in kindergarten through Grade 1 (N = 120) completed a dot-tracking task indexing attention resolution under varying speed and spacing demands, along with standardized reading and phonological processing measures (WRMT-III, TOWRE-2, CTOPP-2). Planned analyses involve multiple regression to determine whether kindergarten attention resolution and efficiency uniquely predicted Grade 1 decoding and reading fluency beyond phonological processing. Results: Preliminary patterns show that children who had lower reading scores had reduced accuracy in fast and close moving conditions requiring rapid attentional shifts, whereas stronger readers performed more consistently across conditions. Conclusion: Findings are expected to clarify whether early attentional capacities uniquely contribute to reading acquisition. Action/Impact: To refine the understanding of developmental trajectories of reading in young children and potential influence on screening for reading difficulty.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124771 - Printed Poster

Changes in Emotional Dysfunction, Cognitive Struggles, and Quality of Life Across the Menopausal Transition

Main Presenting Author: Mandatori, Antonietta

Additional Authors: Chirila, Anthony ; Kambari, Yasaman; Fujita, Y. Elizabeth; Rodrigo, Achala H.

Abstract: *The menopausal transition is often associated with significant emotional and cognitive difficulties that are distressing, as well as diminished quality of life. Therefore, understanding how such difficulties may evolve across the menopausal transition is an important step towards optimizing the wellbeing of women who are navigating this experience. Within that context, the present study examined the relationship between menopausal status (i.e. perimenopausal vs. postmenopausal) and three variables: emotional dysfunction, subjective cognitive difficulties, and quality of life. A sample of 622 participants, who self-identified as being perimenopausal (n = 303) or postmenopausal (n = 319), were recruited to complete a brief online survey. Controlling for age, results demonstrated that the severity of subjective cognitive difficulties and quality of life did not differ between groups. In contrast, the severity of emotional difficulties was significantly higher among perimenopausal participants, as compared to postmenopausal participants. These findings are consistent with previous research indicating that perimenopause might be a period during which women may be particularly vulnerable to emotional health difficulties. These findings also highlight the enduring nature of subjective cognitive difficulties and poorer quality of life in menopause.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125861 - Printed Poster

Children's Socio-emotional Understanding of Digital Technology

Main Presenting Author: Paton, Allyson

Additional Author: Nancekivell, Shaylene

Abstract: *Childhood is becoming an increasingly digital experience. Technology use features factors that simultaneously promote and are a risk factor for healthy development and thereby impact child wellbeing. The aim of the present exploratory study was to capture children's perspectives on how technology influences their social and emotional wellbeing. Children aged 7- to 9-years-old (N = 46) were asked to explain affective states, positive and negative, resulting from technology use. A priori thematic coding was utilized to code children's explanations. Frequency statistics and point-biserial correlations were conducted. Across preliminary codes, the most common causes of emotional states were maintaining access or acquisition, followed by interpersonal concerns, mastery, and safety/privacy. Because worry is central to mental wellbeing, we examined it more closely and found that children attributed worry to safety/privacy concerns 14.6% of the time, with these concerns appearing slightly more often among older children. Notably, age-related differences emerged in interpersonal explanations of worry, with age being moderately positively correlated with interpersonal worries (r(25) = .381, p = .05), indicating that social and online harm worries increase with age. This study provides insight into children's views on how technology affects their safety and social-emotional wellbeing.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126338 - Printed Poster

Co-Regulation and Maternal Stress as Predictors of Externalizing Behaviour in Psychosocially At-Risk Dyads

Main Presenting Author: Mesli, Nesrine

Additional Authors: St-Roch, Cassandra ; Leong, Elizabeth; Serbin, A Lisa; Lazimbat, Olivia; Stack, Dale M

Abstract: *Psychosocial risk, such as poverty, adversity, and parenting stress, impacts parent-child interactions and is tied to the development of externalizing behaviours. This study examined how co-regulation, a dynamic process through which parent and child influence each other's emotions, cognitions, and behaviours, relates to externalizing behaviours. 111 psychosocially at-risk mother-child dyads were observed completing three tasks (puzzle, command, and interference). Five co-regulation types were coded using the Revised Relational Coding System: symmetrical, unilateral, unengaged, asymmetrical, and disruptive. More symmetrical (synchronous) co-regulation during the puzzle task was linked with more externalizing behaviours, whereas greater unilateral (one-sided or asynchronous) co-regulation predicted fewer externalizing problems. Maternal parenting stress also strongly predicted behavioural problems. Results suggest that in at-risk dyads, co-regulation may function differently than in low-risk samples: symmetrical co-regulation may reflect mutual dysregulation or children's externalizing tendencies, while disengagement may be protective in contexts where increased maternal stress contributes to negative parenting. Results underscore the need for understanding co-regulation in contexts of adversity and its implications for promoting adaptive dyadic regulation in at-risk families.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125057 - Printed Poster

Dating in the Dark: Online Dating Behaviours, Self-Efficacy in Romantic Relationships, and the Dark Tetrad in Emerging Adults

Main Presenting Author: Hutchinson, Lynda R

Additional Authors: Ellis, Wendy E; Scott, Olivia

Abstract: *As Internet use among adolescents and youth has risen, online dating has become an increasingly common way for emerging adults to pursue romantic relationships. However, little is known about how dark personality traits relate to online dating engagement or relationship self-efficacy. This study examined these associations in N = 260 adolescents and emerging adults (Mean Age = 20.19) who completed measures of Dark Tetrad traits, self-efficacy in romantic relationships (SERR), and online dating behaviors. Regression analyses showed that narcissism positively predicted using dating apps to meet new people (b = .17), whereas SERR negatively predicted this behavior (b = -.14**). SERR also positively predicted time spent online with a dating partner (b = .33). Mediation analyses indicated that SERR partially mediated the association between psychopathy and using dating apps to meet people (indirect effect B = .03, LLCI = .00, ULCI = .04). Together, findings suggest that dark personality dynamics and relationship self-efficacy shape online romantic pursuits in emerging adulthood. These results may serve to inform future longitudinal research concerning this issue, and they highlight the importance of nurturing adolescents' and emerging adults' engagement in healthy dating and romantic relationship pursuits.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125922 - Printed Poster

Development of a Vignette-Based Measure of Adolescent Mentalizing Bias Across Online and Offline Contexts

Main Presenting Author: Aravinthan, Kowsi

Additional Author: Nilsen, Elizabeth

Abstract: *Rationale: Adolescents' mentalizing relates to social success. Despite a shift in social landscape as youth increasingly interact online, little is known about how they interpret others' mental states online. Using a novel measure of adolescent mentalizing, the present study investigates whether adolescents report differences in mentalizing biases across off/online contexts.Methods: Older adolescents (N = 188; Mage = 18.71) completed a 24-item vignette-based task with ambiguous social scenarios varying by context (online/offline) and perspective (others' thoughts about me vs. my thoughts about others). Participants chose a main thought (positive, neutral, negative) and rated each thought's salience. Vignettes were pilot tested for plausibility, then administered online.Results: Preliminary analyses showed acceptable psychometrics. A 2(perspective) × 2(context) × 3(valence) repeated-measures ANOVA revealed a 3-way interaction, p = .002. When considering others' thoughts about them, adolescents endorsed more negative biases offline and more neutral interpretations online (ps < .001).Conclusions: This tool shows promise for capturing mentalizing across context and perspective.Action/Impact: Future work could explore individual differences that relate to mentalizing bias online to better explain the marked variability in how online interactions relate to adolescent well-being.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125518 - Printed Poster

Developmental disability and sex trafficking risk in child welfare: A comparative analysis

Main Presenting Author: Makow, Danah S

Additional Authors: Benvenuto, Katherine ; Orr, Samantha; Connolly, Jennifer

Abstract: *Background: Sex traffickers target emotionally vulnerable individuals, especially those with a history of maltreatment and unmet basic needs. As a result, certain groups are more at risk for sex trafficking (ST), including child welfare-involved youth (CW) and youth with developmental disabilities (e.g., autism spectrum disorder, learning disabilities) (DD). Although CW-involved youth with DD face intersectional risk, there is a lack of literature on their risk for ST. This study adopts a socio-ecological framework to examine whether risk factors for ST differ between CW-involved youth with and without DD.Methods. CW workers completed an online questionnaire about their youths' (ages 12-24) demographics, CW characteristics, and DD status (Has DD=213, No DD=353). Risk factors were examined across individual, interpersonal, and environmental contexts using bivariate analyses and logistic regressions.Results. Risk factors across each level of the socio-ecological model differed for CW-involved youth with and without DD. Youth with DD were more likely to engage in runaway behaviour, have unsafe peer relationships, and live in group care, foster care, and unstable living arrangements.Conclusions/Implications. Youth with DD in CW are more likely than youth without DD to exhibit several known indicators of ST, highlighting potential areas for targeted prevention.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123498 - Printed Poster

Does what we hear, see and do contribute to eco-anxiety?

Main Presenting Author: Wroblewski, Bernadette

Additional Authors: Levin, Elizabeth ; Whissell, Cynthia ; Nangia, Parveen

Abstract: *Climate change perceptions are highly influenced by media representations and may fuel negative emotions such as anxiety or foster climate-related social engagement and proactive behaviors. Perceived government responses to and educational beliefs about climate change may also contribute to eco-anxiety. There is very limited research exploring these factors in children. This research aims to address the question of how the perception of and resultant beliefs regarding media, political and educational representations of climate change as well as efficacy beliefs may differ and be related to anxiety and other climate-related emotions in 79 elementary, 32 secondary and 140 undergraduate students. A questionnaire based on validated instruments which were adapted and modified for younger age groups provided information regarding the aforementioned variables. This study is in progress and data analyses are underway. Preliminary results revealed that elementary and undergraduate university students pay significantly more attention to information about climate change, feel more anxious about climate change, believe in their ability to help solve climate change and, that the education system should be doing more to teach about climate related issues than secondary students. Implications will also be discussed for educational, media, political, and therapeutic practices and directives.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123824 - Printed Poster

Early Childhood and Family Determinants of Preschool Screen Time Trajectories

Main Presenting Author: Tabares-Velasquez, Carol D

Additional Authors: Sebben, Sofia ; Binet, Marie-Andrée; Surprenant, Rachel; Fitzpatrick, Caroline

Abstract: *Background: Early childhood sedentary behavior including screen time, increases the risk of poor cardiometabolic and persistent sedentariness. Screen use is shaped by child factors, screen activities, and family characteristics. Identifying early predictors of excessive screen time is essential for prevention. Methods: Parents of 315 children reported screen time at 3.5, 4.5, and 5.5 years. Information on child (e.g., sex, temperament, screen activities) and family (e.g., parental mediation practices, parent education, family income) was collected at age 3.5. We identified three screen time trajectories: Low (0.89h/d), Average (2.96h/d), and High (6.42h/d). Multinomial logistic regression using the Low trajectory as the reference group examined the contribution of child and family predictors to screen time trajectories. Results: Weekly exposure to video games and parental social co-viewing increased the odds of belonging to the Average (OR=4.00; OR=2.47) and High (OR=19.22; OR=7.23) trajectory groups. Restrictive mediation reduced the odds of High screen time by 86% (OR=0.14). Conclusions: Restrictive parental mediation may reduce screen time, while limiting early video game exposure and parental social co-viewing may help prevent high screen use. Action: Encourage screen use rules, limit early video game exposure and social co-viewing to prevent excessive screen time.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124414 - Printed Poster

Early Family Cohesiveness as a Predictor of Family Alliance in Middle Childhood

Main Presenting Author: Seal, Harshita

Additional Author: Bureau, Jean-François

Abstract: *Family cohesion has been linked to children's cognitive and socioemotional outcomes. While much of the empirical literature has relied on dyadic observations or parental self-reports, recent advances in family systems research emphasize the importance of parent-child triadic interactions as a more ecologically valid representation of family functioning. This approach also highlights the often-overlooked role of fathers in shaping family dynamics, offering a more comprehensive understanding of how both parents contribute to children's adaptive outcomes. This study examined the stability of family cohesiveness over a five-year period, exploring associations between early family interactions and later patterns of family alliance. Participants were 73 two-parent families with preschoolers (T1; ages 3-6), followed up five years later (T2). Triadic interactions were coded for cooperation and competition at T1, and for alliance at T2 using the FAAS (Favez et al., 2011). Results showed positive correlations between the family score at T1 (i.e., cooperation minus competition) and more cooperative alliance at T2, as well as with subscales such as co-construction, scaffolding, coparenting and child engagement. These findings suggest that family dynamics remain consistent over time, despite children's growing autonomy, expanding peer relationships, and transformations in their social life.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 122685 - Printed Poster

Effet modérateur des symptômes dépressifs sur le lien entre victimisation par les pairs et comportements alimentaires problématiques en fin d'adolescence : une étude longitudinale

Main Presenting Author: Dufour, Anne-Sophie

Additional Authors: Brendgen, Mara Rosemarie; Ouellet-Morin, Isabelle; Vitaro, Frank; Dionne, Ginette; Boivin, Michel

Abstract: *À l'adolescence, la victimisation par les pairs (VP) et la dépression sont associés aux comportements alimentaires problématiques (CAP), mais sont étudiés comme prédicteurs indépendants. Or, dans une perspective de vulnérabilité-stress, la dépression pourrait amplifier l'effet de la VP sur les CAP. Cette étude a ainsi examiné si la dépression au secondaire modère le lien entre des profils de VP (faible, modérée, élevée) et le niveau de CAP à la fin de l'adolescence, en contrôlant le sexe, le statut socioéconomique (SSE) et l'indice de masse corporelle (IMC). L'échantillon comprenait 769 participants (55% filles). La VP et la dépression ont été évalués de secondaire 1-5 avec le Social Experiences Questionnaire et le Child Depression Inventory; les CAP par le SCOFF questionnaire (secondaire 5 et 19 ans) et le SSE avec la scolarité et le revenu parental. Le modèle de modération explique une part significative des CAP (R^2 = ,24) et l'interaction profils de VP × dépression est significative (p = ,007). Lorsque la dépression est élevée, les profils de VP modérée (b = ,20) et élevée (b = ,18) sont associés à plus de CAP que la VP faible, alors qu'il n'y a pas de*

différence en cas de faible dépression. Ces résultats appuient un modèle de vulnérabilité-stress, où en contexte de dépression élevée, une VP modérée suffit à atteindre des niveaux de CAP comparables à une VP chronique.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123206 - Printed Poster

Emerging Adult Relationship Transformation from High School to University

Main Presenting Author: Al-Saadi, Riham
Co-Presenting Authors: Wang, Angela ; Lavergne, Makenzie

Additional Authors: Ngai, Ari ; Skeete, Jaylynn; Hakim-Larson, Julie ; Menna, Rosanne

Abstract: *Emerging adulthood is a period defined by exploration and change (Arnett, 2000), when individuals encounter new people and social environments (Arnett, 2007). During the transition from high school to university, close interpersonal relationships tend to become less close or dissolved (Oswald & Clark, 2003). The current study examines this transition in relationships from high school to university using both content and thematic analysis. Forty-seven undergraduate students (55% racialized and 43% Caucasian) at a university in Southwestern Ontario were interviewed about their past and current friendships. Using content analysis, initial results showed most participants' social networks changed after high school (83%), and they no longer considered their past close relationships to be part of their current social network (89%). While there was a loss in friendships (87%), most participants made new friendships in the university transition (87%). Using thematic analysis, five themes were identified that impact social connections, and wellbeing: 1) distance and living transitions impact; 2) changing priorities; 3) support with stress management; 4) experiencing negative emotions including frustration; 5) Experiencing supportive emotions including emotional safety. Further content and thematic analysis will be conducted to explore relational dynamics, and how emerging adults coped with the transition.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125576 - Printed Poster

Examining Social Support as a Protective Factor in the Association Between Maternal Adverse Childhood Experiences and Child Mental Health

Main Presenting Author: Dadial, Arpan K

Additional Author: McArthur, Brae A

Abstract: *Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) consist of exposure to abuse and household dysfunction before the age of 18. Through direct and indirect biological and environmental pathways, research has shown that the impact of maternal ACEs extends to various child outcomes. This generational transmission has been associated with child mental health problems, including both externalizing (e.g., hyperactivity, attention problems) and internalizing (e.g., anxiety, depression) difficulties. Few studies have examined child level moderators of this association, especially those that serve as relational protective factors. The current study aimed to address this gap by examining the influence of child social relationships (family, peer, school) on the association between maternal ACEs and negative mental health outcomes in children. Participants consisted of mother-child dyads from the All Our Families Study. This study is an ongoing pregnancy cohort in Calgary, Alberta*

currently followed for 13 years postpartum. Social relationships were measured at age 11 and child mental health outcomes at ages 11 and 13 years. Data collection is complete, and analyses are currently underway. Results will shed light on the protective function of child social relationships when children are exposed to maternal ACEs and thus inform interventions that can best support child mental health during development.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125300 - Printed Poster

Expectations about typical life events during older adulthood are related to beliefs and attitudes towards aging

Main Presenting Author: Boogaart, Kayleigh

Additional Author: Busseri, Michael

Abstract: *Research on the 'cultural life script' has identified a series of events expected to occur in the typical life. Few such events are expected during older adulthood (e.g., grandparenthood, retirement). This could reflect fewer expected milestones for older adulthood or a limitation of past research which has focused on the entire lifespan rather than on older adulthood specifically. Our goal was to identify expected life events during older adulthood and examine links with beliefs and attitudes toward aging. Nine-hundred online participants (18 to 84 years of age, 66% female) reported up to 10 life events they expected would be experienced when a typical adult was 60 years of age or older. Participants also reported the expected age and valence (positive-vs-negative) for each event. Additional measures included beliefs and attitudes towards aging (e.g., expected age-related gains and losses). Coding is underway to categorize the life events expected for older adulthood. Preliminary results indicate novel older adulthood events (e.g., downsizing, volunteering). Regression analyses suggest that more positive beliefs and attitudes towards aging are related to reporting more positive life events during older adulthood. Findings will advance our understanding of the life events expected during older adulthood, and how these expectations relate to beliefs and attitudes towards aging.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 123040 - Printed Poster

Fetal Programming of Cortisol Secretion from Early Childhood to Adolescence: A Meta-Analysis of Maternal Prenatal Stress

Main Presenting Author: Grondin, Pierre-Yves

Additional Authors: Gauthier-Légaré, Audrey ; Giguère, Yves; Madigan, Sheri; Savage, Laura-Émilie; Pearson, Jessica ; Tarabulsy, George M.

Abstract: *Research on maternal prenatal stress (MPS) suggests that stress experienced during pregnancy may affect the developing fetal HPA axis through fetal programming mechanisms (Pearson et al., 2015). However, empirical findings regarding children's cortisol levels remain inconsistent across studies (Alen et al., 2020). This meta-analysis examined the association between MPS and cortisol secretion in children aged 0 to 18 years. A total of 11,697 article titles and abstracts were screened. Only studies reporting an association between MPS and child cortisol were considered. Fifty-seven studies met the eligibility criteria. Results revealed a weak but significant association*

between MPS and cortisol secretion in children, as well as heterogeneity in the results (d = .29, p < .001; Q = 324.24, p < .001). Moderation analyses indicated that this association varied according to the type of MPS measure and the child's age. Among MPS measures, maternal anxiety traits yielded larger effect sizes than maternal cortisol, stress state or pregnancy-related stress. Studies of children aged 0 to 6 years reported larger effect sizes than those involving children aged 10 to 18 years. Overall, these findings support the presence of a fetal programming effect of MPS on child cortisol secretion. However, the effect size suggests that other factors also influence cortisol secretion across development.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126088 - Printed Poster

From Crisis to Clarity: Career Development Following Suicidality in Early Emerging Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Grimes, Gabrielle

Additional Author: Mathew, Deepak

Abstract: *Early emerging adulthood is a formative period for career development and occupational identity. However, experiencing suicidality during these years can compound existing personal, relational, and contextual instabilities. As a result, the anticipated trajectory of postsecondary participation and early work experiences may take a different course. Guided by the enhanced critical incident technique, this study is conducting semi-structured interviews with adults ages 27 and older who experienced active suicidality between ages 18-25 and who now self-identify as "doing well" in their careers. For the purposes of this study, active suicidality is defined as suicidal ideation that interrupted daily functioning and/or a previous suicide attempt. Preliminary analyses indicate emerging helping, hindering, and wish-list categories, including the presence or absence of personal and professional supports, financial stability or instability, and flexible or inflexible academic and workplace environments, among others. These findings can help mental health clinicians, educators, and career-development professionals better understand and support individuals navigating the impacts of suicidality on their career development. Theoretical and clinical implications, along with study limitations, will also be discussed.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125432 - Printed Poster

From Family Alliance Quality in Early Childhood to Moral Reasoning in Adolescence: The Moderating Role of Peer Hostility

Main Presenting Author: L. Thériault, Rose

Additional Authors: H. Beauchamp, Miriam ; Bernier, Annie

Abstract: *This study examined the association between the quality of family alliance in childhood and moral reasoning in adolescence, and explored if this association is moderated by peer hostility experienced in early adolescence. The sample consisted of 93 Canadian families. When children were aged 6, family alliance (the family's capacity to work together as a team) was assessed at home with a triadic mother-father-child videotaped interaction subsequently rated using the Family Alliance*

Assessment Scales (Favez et al., 2011; ICC = .81). At age 14, youth self-reported their experiences of hostility by peers (Dishion et al., 2014). Finally, at age 16, their moral reasoning was measured using the Socio-Moral Reasoning Aptitude Level Task (Chiasson et al., 2016; ICC = .89).After accounting for family SES and child sex, a significant interaction between family alliance and peer hostility was detected (β = -.32, p = .020). Post-hoc analyses revealed that a higher-quality family alliance was predictive of more mature moral reasoning in adolescence at low levels of peer hostility (β = .49, p = .007), but not at mean (β = .14, p = .207) or high levels (β = -.21, p = .263). The findings suggest that negative peer experiences may counteract the beneficial effects of a positive family environment on youths' moral development.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123756 - Printed Poster

Getting Older, Coping Better? Exploring the Role of Late Adolescents' Age in the Relationship Between Internalizing Symptoms and Interpersonal Emotion Regulation

Main Presenting Author: Harris-Lane, Laura M.

Additional Authors: Bakken, Kaja ; Lee, Kate; Onorato, Paolina; Rawana, Jennine S.

Abstract: *Late adolescence (ages 18-21) is a vulnerable developmental period marked by the peak onset and worsening of internalizing disorders (anxiety, depression), and difficulties with emotion regulation (ER). The bi-directional link between internalizing disorders and ER becomes more complex with interpersonal ER (IER; regulating emotions with others). Specifically, internalizing symptoms may limit use of IER due to social withdrawal, yet IER can buffer against age-specific social stressors. We examined how associations between internalizing symptoms and IER vary across late adolescence. Participants (N=156, Mage=19) from a Canadian university completed a baseline survey and Ecological Momentary Assessments (EMA; 5x/day,10 days). Anxiety and depression were assessed at baseline. At each EMA, participants reported a recent emotional event, whether they regulated emotions with others, and which IER strategies they used. Generalized linear mixed-effects models revealed that age moderated links between internalizing symptoms and IER use. Relative to 18-year-olds, 19- and 20-year-olds were less likely to regulate their emotions with others as anxiety increased (OR=.51, p<.05). Likewise, as depression increased, 19-year-olds were less likely to use IER than 18-year-olds (OR=.31, p<.01). Potential reasons for these changes across late adolescence and clinical implications will be discussed.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125828 - Printed Poster

Hearing Emotion in Two Languages: A Developmental Comparison of Bilingual and Monolingual Children's Emotional Prosody Identification and the Role of Daily Dual-Language Use

Main Presenting Author: Trujillo, Valerie A

Additional Author: Schwieter, John

Abstract: *Prosody refers to the rhythm, pitch, and tone of speech that conveys emotional meaning beyond lexical content. In first language acquisition, emotional prosody is a core cue that children use to interpret others' emotions. However, little is known about whether bilingualism affects children's ability to identify emotion cues in the auditory language input they are given. Existing work links bilingualism to strengthened attentional control, suggesting a possible advantage in processing subtle auditory information. In the present study, sixty children (30 bilingual, 30 monolingual), aged 7-10, completed an emotional prosody identification task involving neutral sentences that were auditorily presented in angry, happy, sad, or neutral tones. The bilingual children also completed a brief LEAP-Q adaptation indexing daily language use. The data analyses include t-tests, ANOVA, and regression modelling to examine whether dual-language use affects accuracy and reaction times. Although data collection is ongoing, findings from a subset of the participants will be presented to preliminarily report whether bilingual children show greater prosody-identification accuracy and whether increased dual-language use predicts heightened sensitivity within bilinguals. Emotion-specific accuracy patterns will also be examined. This study provides the first controlled developmental comparison of bilingual and monolingual children's emotional prosody perception. We anticipate that the findings will advance theories of bilingual cognitive adaptation and inform educational and clinical practices supporting socio-emotional development in multilingual children.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124941 - Printed Poster

How do mothers define sleeping through the night?

Main Presenting Author: Ly, Michelle

Additional Authors: Vallera, Karissa ; Chicoine, Marjolaine; Dubois-Comtois, Karine; Béliveau, Marie-Julie; Pennestri, Marie-Hélène

Abstract: *Background: Although sleeping through the night (STN) is a common concern among mothers, the term lacks a consistent definition. While the literature often uses a definition of at least six hours of consecutive nocturnal sleep, it is not clear how mothers define STN. Method: Fourty-four mothers of typically developing six-month-old infants participated in this study. STN was evaluated using three methods : 1) First, mothers responded to an open-ended item: "How old was your baby when he/she started 'sleeping through the night'?" Infants were then categorized as STN at 6 months or not. In addition, infant sleep was measured with actigraphy and sleep diary (mean of 12 nights). STN was assessed using a criterion of at least 6 hours of consecutive sleep using 2) a sleep diary completed by the mother and 3) actigraphy data. Result: When mothers were asked directly, 44.2% of them reported that their infants were "sleeping through the night" at 6 months. Using the sleep diary only 39.5% mothers reported a mean of more than 6 hours of consecutive sleep. However, using actigraphy, 90.7% of infants reached the 6 hour-criterion.Conclusion: These results show very different percentages of STN at 6 months, as a function of the methodology. Findings suggest that mothers' appraisal of STN is based on their own perception, rather than the objective infant sleep measured by actigraphy. Action: Although past research suggests that most infants achieve STN by six months, our findings illustrate that STN varied between infants, definition and measurement type.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124898 - Printed Poster

How Parental Autonomy Support and Children's Autonomy Expression Relate to Children's Moral Identity Development

Main Presenting Author: Chahil, Sheena

Additional Author: Peplak, Joanna

Abstract: *Moral identity (MI) is the extent to which being moral is central to the self and is a core motivator underlying prosociality in adolescence. Little is known about how moral identity develops across childhood and which practices best support strong MIs in children. In this study, we focused on parent-child conversations about moral conflicts as a critical arena for MI development. We investigated how autonomy-supportive parenting (ASP; nurturing children's self-expressions and ideas) and children's autonomy expression (AE; exercising moral agency by expressing opinions) in these conversations may be related to individual differences in MI across age. In a preliminary sample of n = 20 parent-child dyads (child ages 6-9; total N = 108 collected), dyads engaged in two four-minute conversations: one was about a moral conflict and the other about a non-moral conflict (control; counterbalanced order). ASP and AE were coded line-by-line within transcripts. Children verbally reported on their MI. Preliminary trends showed that age was positively related to MI (r=.42). Children's AE in the moral conversation (but not in the control, r=.02) was positively related to MI (r=.38). ASP showed a weak negative association with MI across conversations. Once completed, this project will shed light on how adults may best support children as they grow into moral agents.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124175 - Printed Poster

Interparental Conflict and Children's Emotional and Behavioural Problems in Early Childhood: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Main Presenting Author: MacLeay, Hayley

Additional Authors: Por Davoody, Niousha ; Koven, Maya; Prime, Heather

Abstract: *Background: Early exposure to interparental conflict (IPC) has been robustly linked to children's emotional and behavioural problems in early childhood, with these associations enduring across development. Several interventions have been examined for their impact on this family process. The objective of the current study is to obtain a robust and precise estimate of the magnitude of IPC intervention effectiveness and to explore moderators that may explain between-study variability in effect sizes (i.e., child age). Methods: Following PRISMA guidelines for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses, we will 1) systematically search the literature to identify potentially relevant intervention studies; 2) assess full texts for inclusion; 3) conduct a risk of bias assessment; 4) estimate average effect sizes and examine potential moderators; and 5) narratively synthesize the evidence base. Results: A systematic search of PsycINFO and MEDLINE yielded 1,075 results. Double screening of abstracts is underway (Aim 1). Full-text assessment to identify eligible studies will be completed in January 2025 (Aim 2). Data extraction, risk of bias assessment, meta-analytic analyses, and narrative synthesis will be completed by March 2025 (Aims 3 and 4). Findings will inform intervention development, refinement, and implementation.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125510 - Printed Poster

Is Feeding Method Associated with Partner Sleep? A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Hershon, Malka

Additional Authors: Ly, Michelle ; Keys, Elizabeth; Pennestri, Marie-Hélène

Abstract: *Background/rationale: The transition to parenthood often includes disrupted parental sleep related to infants' developing sleep cycles. Sleep-related parental practices, like feeding method, are concerning to parents as they are associated with family sleep and well-being. Though findings are conflicting, most studies find more fragmented sleep in breastfeeding mothers, but studies overlook the mother's partner. This scoping review's objectives were to: (1) examine and appraise the literature on the association between feeding method and partner sleep patterns; (2) identify gaps in the literature and future directions. Methods: Two reviewers searched MEDLINE, PsycINFO, and CINAHL for quantitative and qualitative works. 1,063 titles/abstracts and 16 full texts were screened, for a final sample of 8 studies. Results: Six studies found no associations between feeding method and partner sleep. One study found that fathers of breastfed infants had more fragmented sleep, but another found that they had less disturbed sleep and longer sleep duration. Only one study was rated highly with the NIH quality assessment. Conclusions: The current body of literature is limited with several methodological shortcomings. Action/impact: This review may suggest distinct associations between feeding method and partner sleep, compared to mothers. Yet, more work is needed to understand this association and to better support parental well-being.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123785 - Printed Poster

Le rôle des stratégies SOC dans la générativité : contribuer aux futures générations comme vecteur de bien-être

Main Presenting Author: Thivierge, Maude

Additional Authors: Landry, Alexanne ; Bonneville-Roussy, Arielle

Abstract: *La générativité, une préoccupation pour les futures générations, demeure une tâche développementale centrale à l'âge adulte avancé. Se manifestant entre autres par la transmission des connaissances et la participation dans la communauté, la générativité contribue au vieillissement réussi. On connaît pourtant peu de choses sur les processus autorégulateurs qui soutiennent la générativité lorsque les ressources diminuent avec l'âge. La théorie de sélection, optimisation et compensation (SOC; Baltes, 1997) offre un cadre développemental convaincant pour comprendre comment les individus gèrent les gains et les pertes et comment ils poursuivent leurs objectifs à un âge avancé. La générativité et les stratégies SOC ont été mesurées au sein de deux échantillons, l'un couvrant l'âge adulte et l'autre composé d'adultes plus âgés (N=767; 30-89 ans). Des analyses de régression modérées par le genre ont été réalisées. Les stratégies SOC étaient positivement reliées à la générativité. De plus, les femmes présentaient des préoccupations génératives plus fortes. Chez les femmes aînées, la générativité montrait une association plus forte avec la sélection basée sur les pertes. Finalement, les stratégies d'optimisation et la générativité prédisaient un bien-être plus élevé. Cette recherche met en lumière la manière dont les stratégies SOC peuvent soutenir la générativité tout au long de la vie.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125402 - Printed Poster

Listen Up! Among First-Generation Students, Social Support May Affect Depressive Symptoms by Giving Opportunities to Share Positive Emotions

Main Presenting Author: Baxi, Nikita
Co-Presenting Author: Rawana, Jennine

Additional Authors: Lee, Kate ; Gunter, Rebecca L; Dimitrova, Nicole

Abstract: *Emerging adulthood (age 18-29) is a developmental period that consists of psychosocial transitions, often resulting in significant distress (Arnett, 2000). First-generation students (FGS) are the first in the family to attend higher education and face higher rates of depression and academic attrition than non-FGS (Smith & McLellan, 2023). Perceived social support (PSS) is an established protective factor for mental health and interpersonal emotion regulation (IER; i.e., using others to manage emotions) may explain how PSS supports mental health, specifically through positive IER tendency (i.e., sharing positive emotions), which is linked to enhanced well-being (Jeong et al., 2021; Williams et al., 2018). IER may impact PSS and mental health but has not yet been examined among FGS. We explored whether positive IER tendency mediated the relationship between PSS and depression among FGS. 575 FGS (Mage = 20.3, SD = 2.86) completed an online survey that included measures of PSS, IER, and depression. Positive IER tendency was a partial mediator between PSS and depression (b = 0.07, BootSE = .04, p = 0.015, 95% CI [0.006, 0.15]). Further analyses of IER and mental health variables will be presented. Study findings suggest that sharing positive emotions may influence the relationship between PSS and depression. This could inform IER interventions that promote well-being among FGS.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123976 - Printed Poster

Longitudinal Associations Between COVID-stressors, Depressive Symptoms, Parental Cognitions and Behaviors, and Early Communication Skills in Pandemic-Born Children

Main Presenting Author: Julien, Catherine

Additional Authors: Matte-Gagné, Célia ; Vézina, Flavie; Grenier, Florence; Fitzpatrick, Caroline; Garon-Carrier, Gabrielle

Abstract: *This study examines how COVID-19-related stressors are longitudinally associated with parental depressive symptoms, parenting behaviors and cognitions, and children's early communication skills. Data were drawn from an ongoing representative population-based cohort of infants born in 2020-2021. 2664 French-speaking children (48.2% boys) are included in the analysis. COVID-related stressors (financial insecurity, social isolation, overall stress) and depressive symptoms were measured at 5 months postpartum. Parental behaviors and cognitions (self-efficacy, lack of impact on child development, overprotection, and coercion) were reported at 17 months, and child communication skills were measured at 29 months using the Ages & Stages Questionnaires. COVID-related stressors explained 26.4% (fathers) and 35.1% (mothers) of the variance in depressive symptoms, which significantly predicted all parental behaviors and cognitions. These associations*

were weak to moderate for mothers (β= ranging from -0.26 to 0.22) and fathers (β= ranging from -0.29 to 0.23). Lack of perceived impact on child development significantly predicted communication skills for mothers (p<.001) and fathers (p<.001). Overprotection predicted communication skills for fathers only (β = -0.06, p=.012). Overall, the models explained 10.4% and 11.3% of the variance of the communication score. Findings suggest negligible longitudinal associations between the COVID-19 stressors and early communication skills, despite significant associations with parental depressive symptoms and parenting behaviors and cognitions.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124052 - Printed Poster

Longitudinal perinatal sleep and depressive symptoms in mothers on child socioemotional outcomes at three years old

Main Presenting Author: Michaud, Rachel

Additional Author: Montreuil, Tina

Abstract: *Although perinatal sleep and mood have often been studied separately, limited research has explored their combined effects on child outcomes over time. This study used longitudinal birth-cohort data from the Montreal Antenatal Well-Being Study to examine how maternal sleep problems and depressive symptoms from pregnancy through three years postnatal relate to child socioemotional symptoms. Data were collected at three timepoints (24gw, 12 and 36 months). Random-intercept cross-lagged panel models were used to assess associations between maternal sleep problems (PSQI, PROMIS-Sleep) and depressive symptoms (EPDS), and their influence on child internalizing and externalizing symptoms (CBCL). Mothers who reported more sleep problems also reported higher depressive symptoms (r = .48, p <.001), with higher symptoms reported during pregnancy (r = .30, p < .001). Maternal sleep problems were more consistently associated with child socioemotional outcomes than depressive symptoms. Sleep problems were linked to externalizing symptoms across all timepoints and to internalizing symptoms postnatally. Depressive symptoms were associated with child internalizing symptoms only when measured at 36 months. Maternal sleep quality emerged as a key factor in child socioemotional functioning. Interventions targeting both maternal sleep and mood may reduce risks for maternal and child well-being.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124030 - Printed Poster

Maternal Cognitive Sensitivity as a Sex-Specific Moderator of Attachment and Fine Motor Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Watson, Harmoni

Additional Author: Iwenofu, Linda

Abstract: *Background: Maternal attachment and sensitivity relate to child development, yet little work examines maternal cognitive sensitivity (MCS). This study tests whether cognitive sensitivity moderates links between maternal attachment dimensions and child outcomes. Method: Secondary data from 354 mother-child dyads in the Ontario Birth Study were analyzed. MCS, coded from a task interaction, was tested as a moderator between maternal attachment dimensions and ASQ-3 outcomes*

at 24 months. Analyses were repeated by child sex. Results: MCS did not moderate links between maternal attachment and child outcomes in the full sample. In sex-stratified analyses, girls showed a marginal interaction (β=.89, p=.07), with anxious attachment predicting lower fine motor skills at low MCS (β=−1.02, p=.03). Boys showed a similar marginal interaction (β =.55, p=.10), where avoidant attachment predicted lower fine motor skills at low MCS (β=−.74, p=.04). Conclusions: Findings suggest fine motor development may be sensitive to maternal cognitive sensitivity. Low MCS may interact with maternal attachment, with anxious and avoidant patterns showing different effects for girls and boys, possibly reflecting gendered socialization. Impact: Children of mothers with insecure attachment and low MCS may face fine motor risks. Interventions may benefit from boosting mothers' awareness of child abilities.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126249 - Printed Poster

Maternal Psychosocial Well-Being and Cognitive Beliefs Associated with Infant Social-Emotional Behaviours at Two-Months Postpartum

Main Presenting Author: Stillitano, Victoria

Additional Author: Da Costa, Deborah

Abstract: *Infants' early social emotional behaviours emerge within the context of caregiving environments. Maternal well-being and parental confidence have been associated with infants' social-emotional development, yet less is known on their influences on specific behaviours. This study examined associations between maternal anxiety, happiness, and parental self-efficacy and infant behaviours two months postpartum. Participants included mother-infant dyads (N = 145), with mothers completing the Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale, Happiness Scale, Parenting Self-Efficacy and Baby Pediatric Symptom Checklist (BPSC). Multiple regression analyses predicted three subscales of the BPSC: irritability, difficulty with routines and inflexibility. Together, maternal self-efficacy and well-being explained 31% of the variance in infant irritability (R^2 = .31), with maternal self-efficacy predicting significantly lower irritability (β = -.39, p < .001). In difficulty with routines, maternal self-efficacy and well-being explained 17% of the variance (R^2 = .17), with maternal self-efficacy predicting significantly lower difficulties with routines (β = -.28, p = .001). Though non-significant, anxiety and happiness had trend-level results in irritability (β = .14, p = .08, β = -.16, p = .06). Findings highlight the potential importance of promoting parenting confidence in early family support programs.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126049 - Printed Poster

Meta-analyzing adult attachment representations as a predictor of sensitive caregiving behaviours

Main Presenting Author: Bury, Daniel J.

Additional Authors: Nivison, Marissa D.; Madigan, Sheri

Abstract: *Past research has shown that parents' mental models of relationships with their own parents ("attachment representations") influence their caregiving behaviours (e.g., sensitivity). In turn,*

caregiving behaviours are linked to beneficial developmental outcomes for children. Although this association has been assessed extensively, the most recent meta-analysis to do so is 30 years old (van IJzendoorn, 1995). Therefore, research is needed to advance a modern understanding of the role of various caregivers, relationship structures, and attachment representations in caregiving behaviour. The present meta-analysis synthesized 58 independent effect sizes (k = 39, N = 2990) to examine the association between caregivers' attachment representations (measured by the Adult Attachment Interview) and caregiving behaviours. Preliminary analysis found AAI security was moderately associated with caregiver sensitivity (r = .24, 95% C.I. [.19, .29]). Planned moderator analyses will be completed in January 2026. Building on the limited number of studies examined in van IJzendoorn (1995), this meta-analysis is the first to comprehensively examine intergenerational associations, updating and expanding the existing base. These findings may also highlight opportunities for interventions designed to mitigate detrimental outcomes associated with children's exposure to negative caregiving behaviours.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124131 - Printed Poster

Multilevel Influences of Maternal Emotion Socialization Behaviours Across Childhood: Concurrent and Longitudinal Associations

Main Presenting Author: Di Francesco, Cynthia

Additional Authors: Achrafie, Celine ; Palumbo, Emilie; Phillips, Meghane; Serbin, Lisa A.; Stack, Dale M.

Abstract: *Maternal emotion socialization (ES) behaviours refer to the ways in which mothers respond to their children's emotional displays and play an important role in youth development. Although several factors have been shown to influence ES practices, research has largely focused on related parental constructs (e.g., emotion regulation) and has relied on cross-sectional designs, limiting our understanding of ES across developmental periods. The current study examined whether maternal (childhood histories of risk), contextual (quality of home environment) and dyadic (quality of mother-child relationship) factors were associated with maternal ES behaviours concurrently and longitudinally. Mothers from the Concordia Longitudinal Research Project completed a videotaped puzzle task with their children ages 1-6 (n=163 dyads) and 9-13 years (n=96), during which children's negative (e.g., anger) and positive emotions (e.g., joy) and mothers' ES behaviours were systematically observationally coded. ES behaviours consisted of supportive (e.g., encouragement) and unsupportive responses (e.g., magnify). Findings revealed distinct concurrent and longitudinal associations between maternal, contextual, and dyadic variables and ES behaviours for both positive and negative emotions, suggesting that factors across multiple levels influence how mothers respond to their children's emotions over time.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125682 - Printed Poster

Navigating Infant Sleep: How Maternal Depression and Coparenting Dynamics Shape Infant Rest

Main Presenting Author: Vézina, Flavie

Additional Authors: Kosak, Laurie-Anne ; Touchette, Évelyne; Rocha, Fabricio; Pascuzzo, Katherine; Garon-Carrier, Gabrielle

Abstract: *In the perinatal context, mothers are more vulnerable to mental health problems, such as postpartum depression. This risk is even higher for single mothers. Maternal depression (MD) has consequences for the child and is associated with sleep difficulties in babies aged 0 to 2 years. It has been well demonstrated that support from the co-parent in caring for the child can reduce the symptoms of MD, but could it also reduce the effect of MD on the baby's sleep?This study is based on a cohort of 3,977 babies and examines whether the association between the level of MD (low or high) and the baby's nighttime sleep duration is modulated by the mother's co-parenting status (no co-parenting, low or high). At 5 months postpartum, the level of DM and the mother's perception of co-parenting were assessed. At 17 months, mothers reported the total duration of their baby's nighttime sleep. Covariates (characteristics of the baby and mother) were included in the covariance analyses. When the level of DM is high, babies of mothers without co-parenting sleep an average of 22 minutes less per night than those of mothers with high co-parenting. This project helps to understand the family factors related to babies' sleep difficulties in order to better prevent these difficulties and the associated developmental consequences.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123210 - Printed Poster

Parent Technology Use and Child Outcomes: An Observational Study

Main Presenting Author: Marsh, Abby

Additional Authors: Madigan, Sheri ; Salama, Haneen; McArthur, Brae Anne; Al-Jbouri, Elizabeth; Curtin, Suzanne; Pexman, Penny; Kahlert, Selena

Abstract: *Responsive caregiving describes a caregiver's ability to effectively respond to their child's cues in a timely manner. It contributes to healthy attachment, language, and overall cognition. With an increase in digital device use among parents in recent years, there are concerns that technology use may disrupt responsive parenting, a concept known as "technoference". Prior research demonstrates that parental technology use in the presence of their child is associated with both internalizing and externalizing problems in children, but to our knowledge, no observational study has examined the associations between parental media use and child outcomes in a playroom setting where parents were unaware of being recorded. The current study aims to address this gap while also assessing the role of demographic factors and parental characteristics that may contribute to this association. Participants included 152 caregiver-child dyads from the greater Calgary, Alberta area (94.7% mothers; M Child Age = 27.7 months). Baseline demographic surveys collected information on parental perceptions of their own and their child's screen time. Data collection is complete and observational coding and analyses are ongoing. Results will assist caregivers and clinicians in effectively integrating technology into the family context, since parental technology use is a modifiable factor contributing to child development that may be accessible for future interventions.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124613 - Printed Poster

Prenatal Cannabis Exposure and Infant Motor Development: Potential Implications

Main Presenting Author: Senasekera, Harini C

Abstract: *Prenatal cannabis exposure (PCE) is a growing public health concern in Canada as legalization has increased cannabis use among pregnant individuals. Evidence on its developmental impacts remains limited, particularly regarding early motor outcomes. This study investigates whether PCE is associated with differences in fine motor, gross motor, and overall motor development at 18 months, and whether outcomes vary by method of cannabis consumption (smoked, vaporized, edible, or drink). Data come from the Healthy Baby Brains cohort, which includes maternal self-report of cannabis use patterns and standardized Bayley-4 Motor scores collected at 18 months. This study is a secondary data analysis of the Healthy Baby Brains cohort. Planned analyses include multiple linear regressions examining associations between PCE, consumption method, and motor outcomes, controlling for confounders such as maternal education, co-use of substances, and infant sex. All analyses are currently underway and will be completed prior to presentation. Findings from this study will inform understanding of the developmental impacts of PCE and contribute to evidence-based public health guidance for pregnant individuals and clinicians.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126035 - Printed Poster

Problematic Internet Use Moderates the Relationship Between Internalizing Symptoms and Limerence in Young Adults

Main Presenting Author: Baitz, Rachel

Additional Authors: Arbeau, Kelly ; Habash, Haled

Abstract: *Limerence is characterized by excessive involuntary rumination, as well as emotional swings of anxiety and depression based on cues from a potential romantic partner with whom they may have no real connection (Bradbury et al., 2024). Young adults experiencing it may spend problematic amounts of time online, messaging, viewing social media accounts, or checking in. The aim of the study was to determine whether problematic internet use moderated the association between anxiety and depression, respectively, and limerence. Participants included 1355 adults (Mage = 28). Two moderation models were performed using SPSS via the PROCESS macro v4.2 (Hayes, 2022; Table 1). Model 1, which investigated the moderating effect of problematic internet use on the relationship between anxiety and limerence was significant ($R2 = 0.392$, $F (5, 1346) = 179.801$, $p < 0.05$; Figure 1). Model 2, which investigated the moderating effect of problematic internet use on the relationship between depression and limerence was also significant ($R2 = 0.371$, $F (5, 1346) = 123.915$, $p < 0.05$; Figure 2). Findings indicate that people experiencing high levels of both anxiety and depression, as well as limerence, also report spending problematic amounts of time online.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125644 - Printed Poster

Problematic Social-Media Use Mediates the Link Between Importance of Likes and Anxiety in Emerging Adults

Main Presenting Author: Morrow, Stephanie N

Additional Authors: Ellis, Wendy ; Hutchinson, Lynda

Abstract: *Online feedback-seeking, such as monitoring likes, has been linked to symptoms of anxiety. Digital environments may increase reassurance-seeking, a maintenance factor for anxiety. It is unclear whether anxiety occurs due to approval motives, such as like-seeking, or broader patterns of dysregulated use. In this cross-sectional study, participants (N = 304; M age = 20.05 years; 37% men, 61% women, 3% gender diverse) were recruited from a university participant pool and Prolific and completed online measures of anxiety, likes importance, problematic social media use (PSMU), social media time, and friendship quality. Analyses controlled for gender and social-media time.Higher importance of likes predicted higher anxiety (b = .17, p = .003; R^2 = .12). When PSMU was entered into the model, the effect of likes became nonsignificant (b = .01, p = .859), while PSMU remained associated with anxiety (b = .32, p < .001), increasing R^2 to .19. Mediation analysis confirmed a significant indirect path of Likes → PSMU → Anxiety; b = .18, 95% CI [.11, .25], with no remaining direct effect. Friendship quality did not moderate these associations.Findings suggest that anxiety is more strongly tied to maladaptive usage patterns than to approval motives. Interventions should target reassurance-driven engagement, not simply likes-seeking, to better support mental health in emerging adults online.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124751 - Printed Poster

Profils motivationnels autodéterminés chez les experts en transition vers la retraite

Main Presenting Author: Landry, Alexanne

Additional Authors: Thivierge, Maude ; Perrier, Laurence; Houlfort, Nathalie; Bonneville-Roussy, Arielle

Abstract: *La retraite représente une transition majeure, surtout pour les travailleurs hautement qualifiés dont l'identité professionnelle est centrale. Cette étude identifie différents profils motivationnels lors du processus de retraite en les situant sur le continuum de la théorie de l'autodétermination et en examinant leurs liens avec des facteurs démographiques, ainsi qu'avec les processus de désengagement et le réengagement des buts. L'échantillon regroupe 349 professeurs d'université canadiens (43-84 ans), ayant amorcé leur processus de retraite. Dans ce devis prospectif, ils ont d'abord indiqué leurs raisons de retraite et leurs caractéristiques sociodémographiques, puis, six mois plus tard, ont rempli des échelles évaluant l'ajustement des buts. Une approche centrée sur la personne a fait émerger trois profils motivationnels : contrôlé (20 %), autonome (26 %) et ambivalent (54 %). Le profil autonome présentait une meilleure maîtrise de l'environnement et un réengagement plus élevé, alors que le profil contrôlé révélait des attentes de retraite plus tardives et un réengagement plus faible. Ces résultats clarifient comment les experts régulent leur motivation durant la transition vers la retraite en lien avec les processus d'ajustement des buts, et orientent les recherches futures sur l'impact des profils motivationnels et de ces processus sur le bien-être.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125076 - Printed Poster

Savouring Ability in Relation to Friendship Quality in Older Adults

Main Presenting Author: Hammell, Britney

Additional Author: Turcotte, Josée

Abstract: *Background: As people age they often prioritize deeper, more meaningful relationships, which contribute to well-being, positive perceptions of aging and overall quality of life. Savouring ability, the conscious appreciation and enhancement of positive experiences, may play a role in fostering strong relational bonds. However, it is unknown how valuable this meta-cognitive effort will be in the context of older adults. Objective: This study examines the relationship between savouring ability and friendship quality in older adults, while exploring well-being and the perception of aging. Method: A sample of 300 Canadian participants aged 55 and older completed a series of measures, including socio-demographic information, Savouring Beliefs Inventory, McGill Friendship Questionnaire, PERMA profiler, and Attitudes to Ageing Questionnaire. Data collection occurred online, over the telephone or via Zoom using REDCap software. Results: Preliminary results indicate that savouring was positively correlated with friendship quality ($r = .38$, $p < .001$). In regression analyses, savouring significantly predicted higher friendship quality ($p < .001$). When controlled for well-being and attitudes to ageing, savouring remained a significant predictor of friendship quality ($p = .005$). Conclusion/Impact: Older adults who have greater savouring ability may report better friendship quality. Findings suggest that interventions targeting savouring practices may meaningfully strengthen social connectedness, reduce loneliness and promote well-being in later life.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125337 - Printed Poster

Social Networks and Loneliness Among Youth Aging Out of Foster Care: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Onorato, Paolina R

Additional Authors: Estill, Amy ; Chan, Samantha; Bergin, Michelle; Johnson, Tracy; MacArthur, Erica; Connolly, Jennifer; Rawana, Jennine

Abstract: *In Canada, over 60,000 children and youth are in the care of child welfare agencies due to abuse, maltreatment, and neglect. In addition to instability while in care, these youth also face challenges when they turn the age of majority and must begin the transition out of care. Although transitioning youth report low social support and loneliness, research in these areas is limited and preliminary conclusions are unclear. Also, transition programs to support these youth focus on life skills and neglect fostering social relationships. Thus, to better understand social relationships and their impact on loneliness among youth transitioning out of foster care, we conducted a scoping review focusing on the social networks and experiences of loneliness in transitioning youth. Results from data extracted from 24 relevant articles suggest that youth (ages 16 to 24) in foster care experience high levels of loneliness and small networks of informal and formal relationships that provide limited support. Further, most of the studies were qualitative, and there is a need for mixed-methods studies to further understand the social networks and loneliness of these youth. Study implications include the importance of embedding social relationship needs into youth programs*

focused on the transition out of care to improve transition success, foster a sense of belonging, and reduce loneliness.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125780 - Printed Poster

Stability of Personal Traits in Childhood: An Investigation of Conscientiousness, Agreeableness, Openness, and Self-Efficacy

Main Presenting Author: Moteva, Lily

Additional Authors: Phan, Kyla ; Song, Jessica; Yee, Shawn; Xu, Amy; Xie, Catherine; Batool, Kanza; Cameron, Catherine Ann

Abstract: *While adult personality and self-efficacy (SE) stability is established and is reliably related to real-world functioning, their measured stability in childhood is unclear. Using data from children aged 4-12 across a 2-year cross-lagged longitudinal design (N = 388 post-attrition), we examine the test-retest reliability of three personality traits (Conscientiousness, Agreeableness, Openness) and SE (split into Belief in Your Ability [BYA] and Belief in Ability to Grow with Effort [BAGE] subscales) via the Berkeley Puppet Interview (adapted from Measelle et al., 2005). Analyses show strong intercorrelations between all variables in both Year 1 (.46 < r < .75) and Year 2 (.15 < r < .62). Additionally, regressions indicate BYA, agreeableness, openness, (all ps < .001) conscientiousness (p = .059), and BAGE (p = .064) in Year 1 predicted their respective measures in Year 2, above and beyond predictive power from all other variables measured during Year 1. Unexpectedly, first-year BYA (b = 0.06, p = .020) and BAGE (b = -0.06, p = .048) significantly predicted Year 2 conscientiousness. In sum, children's SE and personality reports showed stability across two years. Mapping this baseline is vital for creating evidence-based interventions that support positive development.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125367 - Printed Poster

Supporting Immigrant Older Adults Through Retirement: Insights From a Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Park, Chan Jeong

Additional Author: Chi, Eugene (Yujin)

Abstract: *Immigrant older adults are entering retirement in growing numbers across Western countries, yet much of the existing research still centers on non-immigrant populations and often misses the cultural, relational, and migration-based contexts that shape this transition. This scoping review explored how immigrant older adults experience retirement and identified implications for culturally responsive counselling practice.Using PRISMA-ScR guidelines, peer-reviewed studies from 2004-2024 were systematically searched and screened, resulting in thirty-one included studies. Data were extracted on study design, participant backgrounds, cultural settings, and key themes, with close attention to how country-of-origin and host-country factors influenced experiences.Across studies, retirement was shaped by cultural norms, intergenerational expectations, caregiving roles, language barriers, and financial inequities tied to migration histories. Many participants described retirement*

as a shift in identity, purpose, and relational roles rather than simply leaving paid work. Clear gaps emerged, including limited counselling-focused interventions and varied cultural definitions of "retirement."This review emphasizes the importance of integrating cultural identity, migration history, and relational dynamics into retirement support for immigrant clients. Practical implications include culturally grounded retirement conversations, stronger community partnerships, and therapeutic approaches that attend to belonging, meaning-making, and family relationships across generations.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124880 - Printed Poster

The Association Between Childhood Maltreatment and Runaway Status Among Adolescents in Residential Care Centers: The Influence of Cognitive Emotional Regulation Strategies

Main Presenting Author: Couture, Sophie

Additional Authors: Pascuzzo, Katherine ; Laurier, Catherine; Monette, Sébastien

Abstract: *Background: Many adolescents in residential care centers have experienced childhood maltreatment, which can impair emotion regulation. Maladaptive regulation strategies may contribute to risky behaviors such as substance use, delinquency, and running away. While some adaptive strategies (e.g., positive refocusing) are negatively associated with runaway status, the role of maltreatment remains unclear. This study examines whether adaptive (putting things into perspective, acceptance, refocus on planning, positive refocusing, positive reappraisal) and maladaptive (self-blame, other-blame, rumination, catastrophizing) cognitive emotion regulation strategies mediate the association between maltreatment (emotional, physical and sexual abuse; emotional and emotional neglect) and runaway status. Methods: 155 runaway (61.1% girls) and 41 non-runaway (42.5% girls) youths, aged 14-17, completed the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire and the Cognitive Emotion Regulation Questionnaire. Results: Only self-blame fully mediated the association between physical and sexual abuse and runaway status. No adaptive strategies explained these associations. Conclusions: Targeting self-blame may be key to reducing runaway behaviors in residential care. Among youths with histories of physical or sexual abuse, self-blame and running away may operate as intertwined strategies to manage overwhelming emotions.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 124969 - Printed Poster

The Impact of Parental Smartphone Addiction on Child Socioemotional Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Inness, Bronwyn

Additional Authors: Montalvo, Anahi ; Mason, Louise; Khoury, Jennifer; Stewart, Sherry H; Meier, Sandra

Abstract: *Parental responsiveness is central to children's socioemotional health. However, smartphone addiction may disrupt parents' responsiveness and impact children's development. This study investigates two mechanisms underlying negative effects of parental smartphone use:*

"technoference," the interruption of parent-child interactions, and "immersion," absorption of parents' attention. As part of a larger study, 150 parents of 12-to18-month-olds will complete a questionnaire about their smartphone behaviour, child's development, and parent-child interactions. Smartphone addiction is hypothesized to predict poor parental responsiveness and child outcomes, with technoference and immersion mediating these effects. Preliminary analyses, which will be updated to include all participants available at time of presentation, indicated that higher parental smartphone addiction was linked with poorer cognitive (r = -.18), behavioural (r = -.26), and emotional (r = -.21) regulation in children, and lower prosocial behaviour (r = -.16) and sociability (r = -.23). Increased smartphone addiction was significantly positively related to children's externalizing (r = .36, p = .031) and internalizing (r = .35, p = .038) problems. This study seeks to inform parents, policymakers, clinicians, and researchers about how parental smartphone use shapes early socioemotional development.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123484 - Printed Poster

The Parent-Child Bond, Social-Emotional Development, and Identity in Children Adopted from China

Main Presenting Author: D'Angelo, Nicole

Additional Author: Im-Bolter, Nancie

Abstract: *A child's relationship with their adoptive parents is important for the child's social-emotional development (McAdams et al., 2017). Transracial adoptions, however, can pose unique challenges for the parents if their adopted children demonstrate discomfort about their visible differences from their family. We examined the parent-child relationship in three groups: 22 Chinese children adopted into Caucasian homes as infants (M = 11.67, SD = 1.09), 20 nonadopted Caucasian children (M = 10.55, SD = .51), and 23 nonadopted Chinese children (M = 10.78, SD = .80). Analyses show no significant differences between the three groups on measures of parent-child relationship quality and child social-emotional functioning. This suggests that early age of adoption may decrease the likelihood of poor parent-child relationships and problematic social-emotional functioning in adopted children. Thematic content analyses of parent interviews show that parents observed their adoptive children as having mixed emotions regarding their adoption with some showing positive feelings (e.g., understanding) and others showing negative feelings (e.g., frustration and sadness) toward their adoption. In addition, analyses revealed that when it came to incorporating Chinese cultural elements into the home families have no clear plan or are reluctant to do so even though parents report noticing their adopted children struggling with their identity. These results suggest transracial adoptive parents may need guidance about incorporating cultural elements into the home as this may help adoptive children who struggle with their identity.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125586 - Printed Poster

Traditional Parenting Roles, Child's Gender Differences, and the Quality of Parent-Child Pretend Play

Main Presenting Author: Cepoi, Simona

Additional Authors: Espinosa Becerra, Ana K.; Bureau, Jean-François

Abstract: *Pretend play, emerging in early childhood, contributes to children's cognitive and socio-emotional development, and often occurs with a parent. However, not all parents view play as part of their role, and little is known about which parental attributes relate to high-quality play (i.e., involvement, enjoyment, and cooperation). This study uses observational and self-report data to assess links between parental role perceptions and observed play quality during a structured pretend play task. A total of 131 parent-child dyads completed a five-minute interaction, and parents completed the Family Roles Questionnaire (Allen & Hawkins, 1999). Analyses show that stronger endorsement of traditional parenting role beliefs (e.g., child care being a woman's responsibility) is significantly and negatively associated with dyadic cooperation and parental involvement, enjoyment, and cooperation, but only when the child is male. These findings suggest that parents with more traditional views may feel less comfortable engaging in symbolic play with their sons; perhaps because they believe boys should play more autonomously, or because the task differs from play they see as typical, such as rough-and-tumble activities. As pretend play supports crucial skills for later school years, interventions can help identify parents whose play quality is lower and promote it for children of all genders.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123825 - Printed Poster

Trajectories of Maternal Psychological Distress from Pregnancy to Four Years Postpartum and Child Internalizing and Externalizing Problems

Main Presenting Author: Pattison, Mackenna

Additional Authors: Atkinson, Leslie ; Gonzalez, Andrea; Khoury, Jennifer

Abstract: *Background: Maternal perinatal psychological distress is linked to child socioemotional problems, yet it is unclear how distress trajectories across the early years shape developmental outcomes (Korja et al. 2024).Method: Participants (n=304) completed questionnaires to assess maternal distress (depression, anxiety, stress) at seven timepoints from pregnancy to 4 years postpartum and child socioemotional outcomes at 4 years. A second order latent growth curve model with a piecewise structure estimated initial distress levels and changes over time. Latent distress variables were regressed on child internalizing and externalizing problems.Results: Distress decreased from pregnancy to 24 months, then increased to 4 years. Higher initial distress predicted greater child internalizing (β=.392, p<.001) and externalizing (β=.398, p<.001) problems. A steeper decline in distress from pregnancy to 24-months predicted fewer internalizing (β=.245, p<.05) but not externalizing (β=.038, p>.05) problems. The distress slope from 24-months to 4 years did not predict internalizing (β=.053, p>.05) or externalizing (β=-.066, p>.05) problems.Conclusion: Distress during pregnancy and the rate of decline in the perinatal period meaningfully predict child socioemotional development.Impact: Findings underscore the importance of parent mental health support during the perinatal period.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125757 - Printed Poster

Understanding Daily Loneliness and Solitude Across Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Smith, Ava Grace

Additional Author: Rush, Jonathan

Abstract: *Background: Growing concerns about social connection make it essential to distinguish solitude from loneliness, as these experiences have various implications for health across adulthood. Loneliness, the gap between desired and actual social connection, is linked to poorer mental and physical health, whereas solitude reflects being alone without distress and supports emotion regulation. Although often associated with older adults, younger adults spend 30-40% of their day alone. Most work has examined these constructs between individuals, limiting understanding of how daily experiences shape well-being. Methods: This study uses the MIDUS dataset, a three-wave mixed longitudinal and cross-sectional design. At each wave, adults (N=2,022; ages 33-84) completed a 10-day daily diary, including over 34,000 assessments of loneliness, solitude, and well-being. Results: Data collection is complete. Analyses are underway; planned multilevel models will assess within-person change, age differences, age moderation of daily associations, and whether low day-to-day variability in loneliness predicts poorer long-term health. Conclusions: This study will identify conditions in which solitude is restorative versus distressing. Impact: Findings will inform emotion and aging research and guide interventions that support healthy psychological functioning in adults who spend substantial time alone.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124699 - Printed Poster

Understanding the Interplay of Prenatal Health and Social Factors in Early Child Socioemotional and Behavioural Development

Main Presenting Author: Humez, Laura

Additional Authors: Elgbeili, Guillaume ; Lecorguillé, Marion; Montreuil, C Tina

Abstract: *Introduction: Socioemotional and behavioral difficulties often emerge in the first years of life and may signal future vulnerability. Although some studies reported associations between different prenatal factors and early development, few examined their distinct contributions when considered together within an integrated framework. Methods: This study examines how key maternal prenatal factors interact to influence child socioemotional development. Data came from the Montreal Antenatal Well-Being Study, a longitudinal cohort (n = 1,130 mother-child pairs). Using structural equation modeling, we derived 14 maternal prenatal predictors of child development into four latent variables: socioeconomic status (SES), mental health (MH), parental relationship quality, and sleep quality. We examined the associations between each latent factor and child outcomes using the Early Childhood Behaviour Questionnaire at 18 months and the Child Behaviour Checklist Preschool at 36 months.Results: At 18 months, children born to mothers with poorer MH had higher negative affectivity ($\beta = 0.17$; $p < .01$) and reduced effortful control ($\beta = -0.21$; $p < .001$). At 36 months, poor MH and low sleep quality were each associated with increased behavioral problems in children ($\beta = 0.19$; $p < .01$; $\beta = 0.12$; $p < .05$, respectively). Maternal MH was an important mediator of the associations between SES, relationship quality, and child outcomes.Conclusion: These findings highlight the need for a deeper understanding of the complex interplay of prenatal factors and their integration into interventions to enhance child developmental outcomes.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123818 - Printed Poster

Understanding the Link Between Perfectionism and Test Anxiety During Adolescence: A Systematic Review of Empirical Studies of the Past Two Decades

Main Presenting Author: McLellan, William

Additional Authors: Gendron, Maude ; Yale-Soulière, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Over the past two decades, numerous studies have examined links between multidimensional perfectionism and test anxiety, yet findings remain heterogeneous. Few investigations have focused specifically on adolescents, a period when perfectionistic tendencies consolidate and vulnerability to evaluative stress increases. This review synthesizes empirical studies published since 2005 that explored associations between perfectionism and test anxiety among adolescents aged 12-18 across 10 samples (N = 6,081). Study selection followed a rigorous screening process involving independent title, abstract, and full-text assessments by two reviewers, with discrepancies resolved by a third. Preliminary results indicated that maladaptive facets of perfectionism, especially socially prescribed perfectionism and evaluative concerns, were positively associated with test anxiety, whereas adaptive or personal standards-oriented facets showed negative or nonsignificant associations. Methodological issues included reliance on cross-sectional study designs and limited attention to moderators such as gender or school climate. Findings underscore the need to identify distinct adolescent perfectionism-test anxiety profiles to inform targeted and developmentally sensitive interventions.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124858 - Printed Poster

Using a Mindful Parenting Approach to Promote Parent-Child Co-regulation

Main Presenting Author: Campos, Julieta Acosta
Co-Presenting Authors: Blondin, Ella; Petrakos, Hariclia

Abstract: *Mindful parenting practices have been used to promote heightened awareness and non-judgmental acceptance of the child's needs, and enhanced satisfaction and joy within the parent-child relationship (Duncan, 2009; Morris et al., 2007). The "Mindful with my Emotions" (MME) program was designed to promote parent-child co-regulation during play in a community multi-ethnic preschool program. The MME play sessions engaged parents with their children in activities aimed at developing children's ability to label and express emotions and practice mindfulness-based emotional regulation techniques during play (e.g., arts, puppets, yoga stretches, breathing exercises). Observational data were collected over the 16-hour play sessions. Participating parents completed the Interpersonal Mindfulness in Parenting (IEM-P) questionnaire (Duncan 2017). Data analysis of parent-child behavioral observations and weekly parent feedback showed that parents effectively scaffolded the expression and labeling of emotions and were aware of their children's emotional co-regulation needs. Children were observed to use mindfulness strategies for emotional co-regulation. Qualitative feedback from parents was positive, offering valuable insights into the successful adoption and integration of these mindful strategies into daily family life.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125655 - Printed Poster

Using Emotional Reactivity and Values to Predict Everyday Moral Judgments in Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Eskritt, Michelle

Additional Authors: Murray, Sinead ; Wong Garcia, Nicole

Abstract: *Background: Reasoning and emotions influence moral judgment (Killen & Mulvey, 2018). Values, which are used in moral reasoning, and emotion regulation both change across adulthood. We examined whether emotional reactivity and the strength of specific values predict moral judgements, and whether age would moderate these relationships. Method: 188 participants, between the ages of 16 and 74, completed an online survey in which they made judgments about moral issues related to harm and authority presented in short videos. They also rated their emotional reaction to short video clips and completed a values questionnaire. Results: Hierarchical regressions examined how emotional reactivity and the strength of benevolence and conservative values predicted wrongness ratings, and whether these relationships were moderated by age. For the harm scenarios, age and emotional reactivity predicted ratings. For authority videos, age interacted with conservative values to predict ratings. Conclusion: The judgment of how harmful a behaviour was increased with age and a person's responsiveness to an emotional situation. For authority judgments, though, the relationship between more conservative values and moral judgments grew stronger with age. Impact: We prioritize different factors in making different types of everyday moral judgments, and the weight of these variables changes with age.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124782 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

Early- Life Socioeconomic Stress and Functional Frontal Brain Connectivity in 24- and 36-Month-Old Children: Investigating the Mediating Role of Caregiver Responsiveness

Main Presenting Author: Sirbu, Bianca F

Additional Author: Pierce , Lara

Abstract: *Socioeconomic status (SES) and early life stress are linked to variation in altered neural development in children, yet few studies examine whether SES and stress predict EEG functional connectivity at preschool age, nor whether caregiver responsiveness might buffer these associations. This study investigates whether SES and early-life stress predict frontal alpha connectivity at 24 and 36 months, and whether caregiver responsiveness moderates these associations. 167 caregiver-infant dyads were observed longitudinally. Baseline EEG was from 24- and 36-month-old children. Caregiver responsiveness was coded during free-play. Linear regression will test whether caregiver responsiveness moderates associations between SES, stress, and alpha functional connectivity.Lower SES and higher stress are hypothesized to predict lower alpha functional connectivity. Higher caregiver responsiveness is expected to predict higher connectivity and moderate the SES- and stress-connectivity pathways.Findings will suggest whether caregiver responsivity buffers against early associations between SES-stress, and development of functional networks in 24- and 36-month-old*

children. Identifying protective factors in the caregiver-child dyad can inform our understanding of mechanisms through which early life stress shapes the brain and suggests early intervention targets.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125866 - Virtual Poster

Home, Identity, and Purpose: End-of-life Narratives from Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness

Main Presenting Author: Nanjiba, Nushaiba

Additional Authors: Echavarría, Jean Paul ; Walsh, Jeff ; Mahmood, Atiya; Canham , Sarah

Abstract: *Older people experiencing homelessness have unique care needs experiencing accelerated ageing, poor health and wellbeing outcomes which is underexplored in the literature. Hence, "end-of-life care in the right place" emphasizes the importance of providing appropriate housing that aligns with individuals' unique needs and lifestyles as they approach the end of their life. This paper aims to understand how the supportive nature of their environment allows participants to navigate identity and purpose in the face of impending death. This study draws on five semi-structured life course and photovoice interviews with older adults experiencing homelessness residing in hospice setting in Vancouver. Using Reflexive Thematic Analysis, three key themes were identified: (1) retaining sense of identity, 2) purpose by giving back, 3) supportive nature of the hospice. The findings highlight the importance of retaining their individuality and sense of self even as their physical conditions declined. Rather than withdrawing or resigning to passivity, many participants gave back to others reflecting Erik Erickson's theory of generativity. By fulfilling Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs, the hospice not only creates a space of care but also of identity preservation, legacy creation, and social contribution. The findings challenge common narratives of dying as a time of disconnection.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124092 - Virtual Poster

Paternal Sexual Satisfaction and Mental Health from Pregnancy to 12-Months Postpartum: Implications for Maternal Health and Child Development

Main Presenting Author: Mawhinney , Caroline E

Additional Authors: Cameron , Emily E; Tomfohr-Madsen, Lianne ; Dawson , J Samantha ; Holmes , Troy ; Bharaj, Harlin

Abstract: *Sexual satisfaction impacts relationship quality and mental health; however, it often declines perinatally. Poor paternal perinatal mental illness (MI) is associated with maternal MI and adverse child outcomes. While maternal MI is linked to lower perinatal sexual satisfaction, less is known about fathers, despite high paternal perinatal MI prevalence.We examined whether paternal MI was related to sexual satisfaction from pregnancy to 12-months postpartum. Expectant fathers completed surveys at 6-9 months prenatal and 12-months postpartum surveys assessing demographics, MI, and sexual satisfaction. Bivariate correlations and hierarchical linear regressions were conducted. Fathers (N=150) were married (90.7%), White (67.3%), university educated (68.7%), first-time parents (65.3%), and 33.95 years old (SD=4.85) with household income >$75,000 (73.3%). Change in sexual*

satisfaction was inversely correlated with depression change (r = -.190, p = .037) but not anxiety (r = -.090, p = .326). Paternal depression change (t = -2.05, p = .043) remained significant above household income (t = 2.18, p = .031), education, age, and maternal prenatal depression (ps > .05) in regression models. Paternal perinatal depression has a meaningful impact on sexual satisfaction. Clinical interventions to address paternal depression may benefit from incorporating content targeting sexual satisfaction.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 122900 - Virtual Poster

Section Featured Speaker Address

Improving Access to Hope, Meaning & Connection Through Systems of Care

Main Presenting Author: Rae-Seebach, Raazhan

Abstract: *As the Canadian population ages, investing in mental health supports is vital to fostering resilience and well-being among older adults. This life stage, while often transformational, can also bring significant stressors that diminish hope, meaning, and connection. Integrative care networks which combine psychological, recreational, and spiritual support, play a crucial role in improving access to these essential elements of well-being. By addressing barriers and coordinating care, interdisciplinary teams help older adults overcome social isolation, rediscover purpose, and strengthen community ties. The speakers will talk about their experiences of working with older adult clients and how improving access to hope, meaning, and connection enhances mental health outcomes and quality of life for Canada's aging population. Attendees will learn how accepting grief and loss as parts of life allows us to live more fully.*

Section: *Psychologists and Retirement*
Session ID: 126213 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Psychology's role in mental health care for long-term care residents in Canada: Perspectives, lessons learned, and recommendations

Main Presenting Author: Heisel, Marnin
Co-Presenting Authors: Champagne, Eden; Haczkewicz, Kelsey

Additional Author: Gallant, Natasha L

Abstract: *As Canada's population continues to age, the demand for long-term care rapidly grows. Long-term care homes were designed to address the medical needs, rather than the psychosocial needs, of long-term care residents. With this demographic shift, we therefore need innovative approaches to ensure that long-term care homes are prepared to meet the unique and varied mental health needs of long-term care residents. In this panel session, we will hear from a clinical psychologist (Dr. Heisel), a dance/movement therapist and interdisciplinary scholar (Dr. Champagne), and a doctoral student in clinical psychology (Haczkewicz) who are working to support resident mental health. Programs of research span diverse topics, including staff suicide risk detection and response (Dr. Heisel), dance/movement therapy programs (Dr. Champagne), and palliative approaches to care (Hackzewicz) for long-term care residents. Speakers will describe their approach to their work in long-term care settings, lessons learned from their long-term care experiences, and recommendations for future research, practice, and policy directions. By the end of this panel session,*

attendees will gain a more comprehensive understanding of the unique and varied mental health needs of long-term care residents and ways in which mental health professionals and trainees are working to improve resident mental health outcomes.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125585 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

"I Don't See Any Benefit of Getting a Formal Diagnosis": An Investigation into the Narrative Accounts of Self-Labelled Autistic Adults

Main Presenting Author: Katz, Joshua W.

Additional Author: Desjardins, Michel

Abstract: *Recent years have seen a rise in the number of people who self-label as autistic without holding a formal diagnosis. While a small number of studies have explored autistic self-labelling as a product of diagnostic barriers and some studies have quantitatively compared self-labelled and formally diagnosed autistic individuals on traits like self-esteem and well-being, little research to date has centred on the experiences of self-labelled autistic adults as articulated by them. As such, through conducting life history and semi-structured interviews with 13 self-labelled Canadian autistic adults, we sought to better understand the meaning that participants attribute to their autistic labels, including what their lives were like prior to adopting an autistic self-label, what was at stake for them when they decided to embrace an autistic label, and how they view their lives across various contexts now that they understand themselves as autistic. Currently, we have concluded data collection and are in the midst of data analysis, which will see participants' narratives analyzed at syntactic, thematic, and conceptual levels. For the purposes of this abstract, we will present those findings which demarcate between participants' experiences as self-labelled autistic persons and the experiences of formally diagnosed autistic persons as they tend to be depicted in the academic literature.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125313 - Snapshot

Adolescent Suicidal Distress and Adult Mental Health: Evidence from the Quebec Longitudinal Study of Child Development, a 25-Year Population Based Cohort

Main Presenting Author: Civita, Alessia

Additional Authors: Colman, Ian ; Chartrand, Élise; Dorais, Marc; Thombs, Brett D.; Geoffroy, Marie-Claude

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Suicidal distress, including suicidal ideation and attempts, is most common in adolescence. Yet, its long-term associations with adult mental health remain poorly understood. Methods: Data from the Quebec Longitudinal Study of Child Development (n=1538) and generalized linear models were used to examine whether adolescent suicidal ideation (and its characteristics-recurrence, seriousness, and onset) and attempts between ages 13-17 are associated with self-reported and clinically diagnosed mental health outcomes in adulthood (ages 18-25). Results: Both adolescent suicidal ideation and attempt were associated with nearly all self-reported*

adult mental health outcomes (standardized mean differences 0.22-0.65), higher odds of clinically diagnosed common mental and substance-related disorders (odds ratios 2.01-3.19), and suicide-related behaviors (odds ratios 3.63-6.49), after adjustment for sex. Recurrent ideation was associated with greater internalizing symptoms and lower life satisfaction, while serious ideation was associated with adult suicide-related behaviors.Conclusions: All forms of adolescent suicidal distress appear to have long-term associations with poor mental health and suicidal distress in early adulthood. Action/Impact: Adolescent suicidal distress should not be minimized and findings underscore the need for early preventive efforts.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 122916 - Snapshot

Expertises du quotidien comme ressource psychologique chez les personnes âgées : conception et validation psychométrique d'une échelle de mesure

Main Presenting Author: Thivierge, Maude

Additional Authors: Rochette Bragg, Sophie ; Perrier, Laurence; Gagnon, Juliette; Fortin, Maude; Bonneville-Roussy, Arielle

Abstract: *En 2050, les 60 ans et plus représenteront 22 % de la population, soulignant l'importance de comprendre les facteurs qui soutiennent leur bien-être (B-E). Or, la recherche s'est surtout concentrée sur les incapacités, négligeant les forces menant à un fonctionnement optimal. Cette étude explore les expertises du quotidien (EQ), soit la perception d'exceller dans une activité courante grâce à une pratique soutenue et de qualité, et en propose une conceptualisation. Elle décrit aussi la conception et la validation de son échelle (EEQ) à travers quatre études de plus de 900 aînés.Un devis mixte avec entrevues qualitatives et questionnaires a permis la collecte de données sur les EQ, le développement et la validation de l'EEQ.Les analyses thématiques ont révélé quatre thèmes des EQ, dont les effets sur le B-E, fournissant un cadre théorique essentiel pour approfondir la recherche sur ce concept. Des analyses factorielles exploratoires et confirmatoires ont validé la structure stable à quatre facteurs de l'EEQ, dont la détection de problème. L'invariance de genre, la validité de convergence, par rapport à la persévérance, et de divergence, en comparaison à la pratique d'un loisir, ont été confirmées.Les EQ constituent un construit pertinent chez les aînés et l'EEQ représente un outil novateur pour étudier les processus adaptatifs et les ressources soutenant un vieillissement réussi.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124805 - Snapshot

Likes, Dislikes, and Cues: Children's Evaluations of Websites

Main Presenting Author: Barbosa-Silva, Samantha

Additional Author: Roberts, Kim

Abstract: *Children increasingly engage with online content for learning, entertainment, and everyday information, yet little is known about how they evaluate website credibility. Understanding what cues children notice and how they respond to credible versus non-credible websites can inform digital literacy education and guidance strategies. In this study, children aged 7-12 viewed a selection of credible and non-credible websites across topics such as food, animals, sports, and places and reported what they liked and disliked about each site. Responses were transcribed and coded for*

credibility cues and evaluative comments. Preliminary analyses based on a subsample of 21 children from a total of 82 revealed that credible websites elicited slightly more credibility cues (M = 11) than non-credible websites (M = 10.47). Evaluative responses were more pronounced: children gave more likes (M = 8.14) and fewer dislikes (M = 2.85) to credible websites, while likes and dislikes were nearly identical for non-credible sites (M = 5.24 each). Paired comparisons confirmed significant differences (likes: mean diff = 2.9; dislikes: mean diff = -2.39). These findings suggest that children recognize and value features of credible websites but show ambivalence toward non-credible sites, indicating that evaluative reasoning is still developing. Insights from this study can inform digital literacy initiatives and strategies for parents and educators to help children critically engage with online information, strengthening early digital evaluation skills.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123503 - Snapshot

Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET) Buffers Emotional Flooding During the Transition to Parenthood

Main Presenting Author: Morgan, Sean

Additional Authors: Breen, Lorna ; Woodin, Erica

Abstract: *Emotional flooding - feeling overwhelmed by a partner's negativity during conflict - contributes to escalating couple distress and often intensifies during the transition to parenthood. Early intervention may prevent entrenched conflict patterns. This randomized controlled trial followed 58 first-time expectant couples from the third trimester to 8 months postpartum. Couples received either a single Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET) session focused on constructive communication or a psychoeducational control. Using three-level multilevel modeling, we examined changes in flooding over time and whether gender or intervention condition influenced trajectories. Flooding did not differ by gender. Those in the control group showed significant increases in flooding (b = 0.67, 95% CI [0.08, 1.27]), whereas the MET participants remained stable (b = -0.19, 95% CI [-0.78, 0.41]). The between-group difference was significant (b = 0.86, p = .047). Findings highlight MET's potential to buffer against rising flooding during the transition to parenthood, offering a brief, constructive approach to support partners' communication during a vulnerable period. Given the role of flooding in conflict escalation, MET may offer a scalable, preventive strategy to promote healthy relationship stability during this vulnerable developmental period.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124847 - Snapshot

Parenting Behaviours and Autistic Children's Emotional Self-Regulation: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Main Presenting Author: Andrews, Krysta

Additional Authors: Drmic, Irene ; Masood, Nawal; Chopra, Nicole; Gross, Julie; Bennett, Teresa

Abstract: *Rationale: Autistic children can experience elevated emotional and behavioural difficulties affecting psychosocial functioning. Positive parenting behaviours can shape development, though effects may vary with autistic children's social, sensory, and intellectual profiles. Methods: This*

systematic review and meta-analysis examines parenting behaviours' effect on internalizing/externalizing outcomes in autistic children aged 6-17. Searches of MEDLINE, PsycINFO, Embase, ERIC, and ProQuest yielded ~7,000 records. Eligible studies include children with Autism/ASD diagnosis and parenting and child behavioural measures. Data extracted include sample, study, and parenting/child behaviour characteristics. Random-effects meta-analyses estimate pooled associations, with meta-regressions examining moderators (e.g., child age/sex, parent psychopathology). Results: Preliminary results indicate positive parenting behaviours (e.g., warmth) are linked with lower internalizing and externalizing behaviours, while reactive behaviours (e.g., hostility) are linked to higher levels. Strategies aligned with autistic children's developmental profile and environment supported varied outcomes. Conclusion: Parenting behaviours shape emotional and behavioural outcomes in autistic children. Impact: Understanding parent-child interactions in autistic children highlights targets for clinical interventions.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 126279 - Snapshot

Parenting Behaviours/Dimensions and Emotion Regulation in Early Childhood: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Abela, Katrina Rita

Additional Authors: Andrews, Krysta ; De Rubeis, Vanessa; Atkinson, Leslie; Gonzalez, Andrea

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Emotion regulation (ER) in early childhood (0-7 years) is a critical transdiagnostic process influencing social, emotional, and mental health outcomes. Parenting behaviours shape ER, yet research has disproportionately focused on emotion-specific practices, leaving gaps in understanding how broad parenting dimensions (e.g., warmth, structure, rejection, chaos) contribute to ER development.Methods: A systematic review and meta-analysis was conducted to synthesize associations between parenting behaviours and child ER. Searches across five databases (PsycINFO, Web of Science, Scopus, ERIC, ProQuest) yielded over 21,000 records. Following duplicate removal and independent screening, eligible studies assessed children ≤7 years, measured at least one parenting behaviour, and reported ER outcomes. Data extraction included sample characteristics, study design, parenting dimensions, ER measures, and moderators.Results: Random-effects meta-analyses will estimate pooled associations between parenting dimensions and ER, followed by meta-regression analyses to examine moderators (e.g., child sex, SES, study design). Preliminary findings indicate positive parenting behaviours (e.g., warmth, responsiveness, structure) are linked to stronger ER, whereas negative behaviours (e.g., rejection, coercion, chaos) predict dysregulation.Conclusions: Broad parenting behaviours represent key influences on children's ER beyond emotion-specific practices.Action/Impact: Findings will identify modifiable parenting dimensions to inform preventative interventions that strengthen early ER and reduce risk for later psychopathology.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 121128 - Snapshot

Revising What We Know: How Young Adults Reconstruct Test-Taking Skills in Online Contexts

Main Presenting Author: Christoforou, Melanie

Additional Authors: Wood, Eileen ; Lee, Joanne

Abstract: *The transition from adolescence into young adulthood is associated with increased independence and heightened responsibility for and refinement of one's own learning. While studying and test-taking skills are typically cultivated in structured classroom-based environments during childhood and adolescence (Schneider, 2010), online instruction and testing have become common in higher education (Prisacari & Danielson, 2017), requiring young adults to adapt strategies to online environments. Several themes emerged from the qualitative analyses of written survey responses (N=98) regarding online versus in-person exams. The shift from reviewing the full exam or answering questions out of order, to forced serial order completion was cited as a design challenge in online contexts. This constraint disrupted ingrained test-taking strategies developed in adolescence. Difficulties with memory unloading (e.g., being unable to write down important information), using one question to cue another, differences in skimming, time management, and motivation were also cited. These illustrate a range of adjustments young adults must make when adapting ingrained test-taking habits in-person to online environments, indicating that young adults may require scaffolding afforded by instructors and student support services to modify their evolving strategy repertoires during this transitional stage.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125512 - Snapshot

Strengths to Grow - A Strength-Based Parenting Program

Main Presenting Author: Thornton, Emily

Additional Author: Lumley, Margaret

Abstract: *Pre-adolescence is a period marked by shifts in parent-child dynamics and declines in parenting self-efficacy. Strengths to Grow - Preteen (StG-P) is an online strengths-based parenting (SBP) program informed by prior SBP work demonstrating benefits for parent wellbeing and family functioning (O'Byrne et al., 2023; Waters et al., 2019). In this randomized controlled trial, parents of preteens (N = 102; 52.9% women; Mage = 42) were assigned to the StG-P intervention condition or a waitlist control group and completed pre- and post-program measures of parenting self-efficacy, mental health, and SBP use. Consistent with hypotheses, parents in the StG-P condition showed greater increases in self-efficacy than controls ($F = 4.46$, $p = .04$, $\eta^2 = .043$), with older parents showing greater gains ($F = 5.56$, $p = .02$, $\eta^2 = .053$). In addition, as hypothesized SBP use increased, as reflected parents' descriptions of how they applied strengths-based strategies pre- and post-intervention. Overall, StG-P increased parent self-efficacy and SBP use, highlighting the promise of accessible, strengths-focused programming for families navigating the transition to adolescence. These findings highlight a scalable and impactful model for strengthening parent capacity during a critical developmental transition.If not selected for a snapshot, I would welcome the opportunity to present this as a poster.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126054 - Snapshot

Understanding the Interplay of Prenatal Health and Social Factors in Early Child Socioemotional and Behavioural Development

Main Presenting Author: Humez, Laura

Additional Authors: Elgbeili, Guillaume ; Lecorguillé, Marion; Montreuil, C Tina

Abstract: *Introduction: Socioemotional and behavioral difficulties often emerge in the first years of life and may signal future vulnerability. Although some studies reported associations between different prenatal factors and early development, few examined their distinct contributions when considered together within an integrated framework. Methods: This study examines how key maternal prenatal factors interact to influence child socioemotional development. Data came from the Montreal Antenatal Well-Being Study, a longitudinal cohort (n = 1,130 mother-child pairs). Using structural equation modeling, we derived 14 maternal prenatal predictors of child development into four latent variables: socioeconomic status (SES), mental health (MH), parental relationship quality, and sleep quality. We examined the associations between each latent factor and child outcomes using the Early Childhood Behaviour Questionnaire at 18 months and the Child Behaviour Checklist Preschool at 36 months.Results: At 18 months, children born to mothers with poorer MH had higher negative affectivity (β = 0.17; p <.01) and reduced effortful control (β = −0.21; p <.001). At 36 months, poor MH and low sleep quality were each associated with increased behavioral problems in children (β = 0.19; p <.01; β = 0.12; p <.05, respectively). Maternal MH was an important mediator of the associations between SES, relationship quality, and child outcomes.Conclusion: These findings highlight the need for a deeper understanding of the complex interplay of prenatal factors and their integration into interventions to enhance child developmental outcomes.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123816 - Snapshot

Symposium

When do social supports foster young peoples' well-being? The roles of family, romantic, and peer relationships.

Moderator(s): Kil, Hali; Burik, Anastasiia

Abstract: *Well-being during childhood and adolescence, including emotional, cognitive, and social domains, has significant consequences for later psychopathology, life satisfaction, and academic and career achievement. But which social agents support young people's well-being and what are the moderators of this pathway? In this symposium, we address family, romantic partner, and peer influences on well-being in childhood and adolescence. Using biweekly diary data, Burik and Kil found that closeness with parents and with romantic partners independently-but not multiplicatively-relate to 15-year-old youths' global well-being. Rae and colleagues used observational tasks and surveys to examine how parents can support children's emotion regulation and found that need-supportive rather than controlling parenting fosters adaptive emotion regulation. However, parents' couple satisfaction was not related to children's emotional outcomes. Finally, Sosa and colleagues report on Salvadoran teenagers, finding that high mindfulness levels may amplify the negative effects of peer victimization on their well-being-contradicting much of the mindfulness literature. Together, these findings point to the simultaneous importance of social relationships from multiple domains in fostering young people's well-being, spanning from dispositional factors, to family influences, to broader peer relationships.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123905 - Symposium

Family systems and the development of emotion regulation in young children

Main Presenting Author: Rae, Jesse

Additional Authors: Longpré, Charlotte ; Roy, Mélodie; Parent, Sophie; Séguin, Jean; Joussemet, Mireille; Mageau, Geneviève A

Abstract: *Family systems theory views families as interconnected subsystems that influence one another. Studying these subsystems together offers a fuller understanding of children's behaviours, such as emotion regulation, yet many studies examine them in isolation. This study explores the additive and interactive roles of the parent-child and marital subsystems in children's emotion regulation. A total of 192 mother-child dyads completed a filmed laboratory session at age 4, during which we observed and coded need-supportive parenting (affective involvement, structure, autonomy support) and children's emotion regulation (adaptive, under-, and over-regulation). At age 4, mothers reported on couples' satisfaction and children's regulation via questionnaires. Path analyses revealed that global need-supportive parenting was associated with greater adaptive emotion regulation and less over-regulation. Exploratory analyses indicated that autonomy support and affective involvement were specifically linked to adaptive regulation, whereas parental control was associated with greater under-regulation. Overall, need-supportive parenting appears central to promoting adaptive regulation and limiting maladaptive strategies. Specific facets of couple functioning (e.g., conflict, co-parenting) may be more relevant for children's emotion regulation than general couple satisfaction.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123908 - Paper within a symposium

Two sources, one outcome: Family and romantic support additively predict adolescent well-being

Main Presenting Author: Burik, Anastasiia

Additional Author: Kil, Hali

Abstract: *Adolescence is a period of profound social change. During this period, some youth begin to form romantic relationships, broadening social connections beyond their family. Drawing on the social support buffering hypothesis, this study tested whether family closeness and romantic relationship support uniquely and jointly predict adolescents' well-being. Using intensive longitudinal data from 15-year-olds followed biweekly over one year ($N = 354$; 4002 observations; 59% girls), multilevel models showed that adolescents who, on average, reported greater family closeness and higher romantic relationship quality experienced better well-being over time ($b = 0.15$, $p < .001$ and $b = 0.23$, $p < .001$, respectively). In addition, adolescents reported greater well-being on weeks when their romantic relationships were perceived as especially supportive ($b = 0.17$, $p < .001$), underscoring the importance of temporal variations in partner support. Contrary to expectations, the interaction between romantic and family closeness was not significant, indicating that these relationships function as independent and additive rather than interactive sources of resilience. Our findings suggest that both family and romantic relationships provide distinct yet complimentary foundations for adolescent well-being, underscoring the importance of social support across multiple domains for youths' positive outcomes.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123907 - Paper within a symposium

When awareness amplifies social stress: Mindfulness makes peer victimization hurt more among Salvadoran adolescents

Main Presenting Author: Sosa, J. Andrés

Additional Authors: Johnson, Nathan J; Kil, Hali

Abstract: *Peer victimization undermines youth well-being worldwide. Thus, identifying factors that may protect adolescents from its negative consequences is crucial. Trait mindfulness-the tendency for present-focused, nonjudgmental awareness-is linked to heightened youth well-being and may buffer the harmful effects of victimization. However, little is known about the benefits of mindfulness for Latin American youth. In this study, we examined whether mindfulness protects against the negative effects of peer victimization among adolescents in El Salvador. Adolescents from two Salvadoran public schools (N=193; aged 12 to 19 years) completed surveys on peer victimization, dispositional mindfulness, and well-being. Controlling for age and gender, our moderation analysis revealed that peer victimization was significantly linked with reduced well-being ($b = -.21$, $p < .001$). The interaction between peer victimization and mindfulness was also significant ($b = -3.23$, $p < .001$). At low levels of mindfulness, peer victimization was not significantly related to well-being ($b = -.08$, $p = .24$), but at high levels, the association was significantly negative ($b = -.57$, $p < .001$). Thus, contrary to expectations, mindfulness may amplify sensitivity to victimization. Findings caution against the protective value of dispositional mindfulness for victimized Salvadoran youth.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123909 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: IMPROVING AND PROMOTING HEALTH

Helping people make healthy lifestyle choices, facilitating peak human performance, and improving the treatment of complex human problems.

12-Minute Talk

"Clear State, Clean Skate": A Dialectical Approach to Intuitive Eating for Youth Figure Skaters

Main Presenting Author: Gruber, Talia B

Additional Authors: Breitmeyer, Angela ; MacNeil, Brad

Abstract: *Eating disorders (ED) in youth figure skaters are driven by sports-specific pressures emphasizing appearance, weight control, and early competitive demands. Pubertal changes and limited emotional coping further elevate risk, underscoring the need for early, developmentally tailored prevention. Clear State, Clean Skate is an eight-session primary-prevention program integrating dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) and intuitive eating principles for figure skaters ages 10-12. Six in-person, closed-group workshops focus on mindfulness, emotion regulation, distress tolerance, flexible eating, and sport-specific body image challenges, supported by brief individual consultations. Pre-, post-, and follow-up self-report measures will assess changes in intuitive eating, body appreciation, mindfulness, emotion regulation, and cognitive flexibility. Paired t-tests and Cohen's d will evaluate program impact and effect size. This intervention aims to reduce ED risk factors while promoting resilience, self-awareness, and healthier athletic identities. Findings will inform implementation within skating communities and future adaptation for other weight-sensitive sports, contributing to earlier ED prevention in high-risk youth athletes.*

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 122558 - 12-Minute Talk

3MDR Overview and Effectiveness of 3MDR Therapy in Treating PTSD up to 12 Months Follow-up

Main Presenting Author: De Clerck, Shandra
Co-Presenting Author: Bremault Phillips, Suzette

Additional Authors: Sevigny, Phillip ; Brown, Matthew R G; Bright, Katherine; Burback, Lisa ; Winkler, Olga

Abstract: *Multi-modal Motion-assisted Memory Desensitization and Reconsolidation (3MDR) is an emerging therapy for PTSD, originally developed for military members.We studied changes in mental health measures in n=50 participants with PTSD who received 3MDR therapy. Subsets of the 50 participants also completed measures at 3, 6, and 12 months after 3MDR. Participants were 24 men and 26 women, age 25-72. Two participants were active military members, 15 were military veterans, 28 served in public safety roles, and 20 served as healthcare workers. 22 participants had treatment-resistant PTSD.Mean PTSD scores assessed with the PCL-5 dropped significantly from 48.6±2.2 (SE)*

pre-3MDR to 32.2±2.9 post-3MDR (p=0.00001, permutation test). The PCL-5 score was 22.3±3.7 at 12 months follow-up (n=21 participants). We saw similar improvements in PTSD scores from the CAPS-5 clinical interview as well as scores for depression (PHQ-9), anxiety (GAD-7), moral injury (MIOS), and resiliency (CD-RISC-25).These results extend the evidence for the effectiveness of 3MDR therapy in treating PTSD in three ways. They provide additional evidence, building on our previous studies of 3MDR with Canadian military members and veterans. They are the first results reported from 3MDR applied to Canadian public safety personnel and healthcare workers. They extend the follow-up period to 12 months post-3MDR therapy.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126093 - 12-Minute Talk

A Core Mechanism of Resilience: Self-Compassion Mediates Emotional Regulation and Well-Being Across Neurodiversity

Main Presenting Author: SHAMIM, ASMA

Additional Author: Ferrari, Michel

Abstract: *Background/Rationale:Emotional regulation difficulties are common among postsecondary students, especially those with ADHD, and are linked to poorer well-being. Self-compassion has been proposed as a protective factor, yet it remains unclear whether it operates similarly for neurodivergent and non-neurodivergent students. This study examined self-compassion as a mechanism linking emotional regulation and life satisfaction, and whether this pathway differs for students with ADHD.Methods:Undergraduate students (N = 159; 70 with ADHD, 89 without) completed standardized measures of emotional regulation, self-compassion, and life satisfaction. Hayes' PROCESS Model 7 tested moderated mediation using ADHD status as a moderator.Results:Emotional regulation significantly predicted self-compassion (p = .002), and self-compassion strongly predicted life satisfaction (p < .001). Emotional regulation did not directly predict well-being once self-compassion was included. The indirect effect was significant for both ADHD and non-ADHD students, and ADHD did not moderate mediation, indicating that the self-compassion pathway operates universally.Conclusions:Self-compassion fully explains how emotional regulation relates to life satisfaction across student groups.Action/Impact:Findings support incorporating self-compassion practices into campus mental health and resilience programs*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126415 - 12-Minute Talk

A Cross-Cultural Study: How Social Support and Digital Media Use Buffer Bullying Effects on Adolescent Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Reed, Claire Narae

Additional Authors: Maltais, Natasha ; Liu, Yan

Abstract: *In the digital age, exposure to bullying (in-person and cyber) is consistently predictive of adverse well-being (WB) in adolescents. As adolescence is a critical phase of development, it is important to identify protective factors that mitigate the negative effects of victimization. Using PISA 2022 data, this study aims to address: (1) how bullying relates to psychological and physical WB; (2)*

whether teacher support, family support, and peer relationships buffer these associations; and (3) whether ICT use moderates the cyberbullying-WB relationship. All relationships were examined across groups, including gender and marginalized groups (e.g., SES levels). Using a multilevel modeling approach, this study conducted a comparative analysis of 6 countries to examine cross-cultural variations in WB determinants. Our preliminary results showed that higher bullying exposure was related to lower WB, while supportive relationships helped to reduce negative effects of victimization on WB. The moderation results for cyberbullying showed varying effects of ICT use (both positive and negative) across countries. Our findings offer evidence-based recommendations to educators and policymakers to develop targeted interventions and remediation strategies to help identify vulnerable subgroups of adolescents, strengthen social supports, and promote digital safety.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125751 - 12-Minute Talk

A QUALITATIVE STUDY UNDERSTANDING HELP-SEEKING EXPERIENCES IN CANADIAN PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL

Main Presenting Author: Amin, Dania

Abstract: *First responders face elevated risks of mental health challenges due to repeated exposure to traumatic events and occupational and organizational stressors. Nearly half of Canadian public safety personnel (PSP) report symptoms consistent with mental health disorders, yet many remain hesitant to seek help. This qualitative phenomenological study explored factors shaping help-seeking intentions, decisions, and behaviours among 14 recently retired first responders from law enforcement, paramedicine, firefighting, and corrections. Interviews were analyzed using thematic analysis and interpreted through the Health Belief Model. All participants accessed psychological services, primarily following significant traumatic exposures resulting in psychological distress and functional impairments. Identified barriers to help-seeking included stigma, fears of career repercussions, low mental health literacy, limited organizational support, accessibility challenges, and difficulty accessing specialized clinicians. Informal peer support emerged as a key facilitator of help-seeking. Findings highlight implications for clinical practice, including the need for specialized training programs in Canada and for public safety organizations to reduce stigma, address systemic barriers, and improve access to culturally competent mental health care.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125929 - 12-Minute Talk

A Systematic Literature Review of Intimate Partner Relationship Therapy in Group Settings over the last twenty-five years - Crossroads to Collaboration

Main Presenting Author: Mrozinski, Sabrina A K

Additional Authors: Sharp, Jessica ; Wood, Katie; MacIntosh, B Heather

Abstract: *Intimate partner relationships can be protective and health promoting, yet they can also lead to relationship distress and subsequent poor individual health and economic outcomes. Existing literature suggests that group versions of Intimate Partner Relationship Therapy (IPRT) are effective treatments for relationship distress with additional therapeutic benefits (e.g., peer-to-peer support, cost-effectiveness, etc.,). The present study involves a systematic literature review and meta-analysis*

aimed to determine key characteristics of effective IPRT in twenty-first century group settings. Sixty-five studies over the last twenty-five years met inclusion criteria. Preliminary findings indicate similar levels of effectiveness across IPRT frameworks as a treatment for relationship distress in group settings - in particular, for treatment programs that are a structured hybrid between psychoeducation and therapy, which provide opportunity for longer-term follow-up treatment. Overall, group programs tailored to participant demographics appeared to be most effective (e.g., addressing known minority stress factors in marginalized groups). This investigation has resulted in an international collaboration with Dr. Heather MacIntosh from McGill University to adapt and pilot a new IPRT group program based on Developmental Couple Therapy for Complex Trauma (DCTCT) in an Australian setting.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 124712 - 12-Minute Talk

A Timeline Inquiry into an Eating Disorder Misdiagnosis

Main Presenting Author: Bell, Joshua R.

Additional Author: Thomson, Bruce

Abstract: *Eating disorders (EDs) are sometimes misdiagnosed due to overlapping symptoms with other disorders, such as neurological conditions (e.g., Huntington's Disease) or gastrointestinal illnesses (GI). This study examines such a case, in one woman's journey with a GI that was initially misdiagnosed as an ED during adolescence, subsequently leading to a genuine ED, reinforced through patient beliefs and sociocultural factors. We utilized a 'timeline inquiry' based on a qualitative case study design, integrating timeline methodology (interpretive description), narrative inquiry, and collaborative ethnography. Guided by a hand-drawn timeline of her life events, we then facilitated a series of semi-structured, in-depth interviews and a written journal to explore such events in her ED journey. This uncovered how intimate partner violence and abuse history partly predicted relapse, multiple traumatic vehicle accidents led to symptom escalation misclassified as psychotic features, and incorrectly diagnosed comorbidities, which allowed certain pharmacological interventions, led to the continuance of a real, chronic ED. Our findings demonstrate the utility of timeline-guided narrative methods to better capture complex ED etiology, ED symptomatology, and uncover how overlapping experiences shape illness development; thus challenging traditional diagnostic frameworks in complex case work.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 122666 - 12-Minute Talk

Affective Dynamics Across Eating Disorder Diagnoses

Main Presenting Author: Riddle, Devyn

Additional Authors: Trolio, Vittoria ; Miller, Alexia; Bicaker, Ege; Racine, Sarah

Abstract: *Negative affect (NA) is an established risk factor for eating disorders (EDs), and positive affect (PA) might maintain certain ED symptoms, but few studies have explored dynamic aspects of affect other than intensity in this population. This research examined both NA and PA intensity, differentiation, inertia, and instability in a sample of women with different EDs. Diagnoses included anorexia nervosa restricting type (AN-R; n = 43), anorexia nervosa binge eating/purging type (AN-*

BP; n = 27), bulimia nervosa (BN; n = 63), binge eating disorder (BED; n = 21), avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID; n = 20), and non-ED controls (n = 47). Participants completed a 14-day ecological momentary assessment protocol that included five daily prompts assessing NA and PA. There was a significant effect of diagnosis on NA intensity, differentiation, and instability, as well as PA intensity and inertia. Individuals with AN-BP and BN generally demonstrated greater NA difficulties than the other diagnoses and controls. Controls demonstrated greater PA intensity and inertia than ED groups. Preliminary findings suggest that affective dynamics differentiate people with EDs from controls, with important variation across ED diagnoses. Upcoming analyses using generalized linear mixed models will examine relationships with specific ED symptoms, with implications for targeted treatment.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123164 - 12-Minute Talk

Attachment, Trust, and Mental health Symptoms as Predictors of AI-Based Mental Health intervention Acceptance: The Most Vulnerable Prefer AI-Based Tools

Main Presenting Author: Bekes, Vera

Additional Author: Aafjes-van Doorn, Katie

Abstract: *Background. The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into digital mental health interventions (DMHIs) has the potential to overcome traditional barriers to treatment. However, acceptability of these tools greatly varies. We investigated how individual's psychological profile predicts acceptance of AI-based interventions.Methods. We collected data on mental health symptoms, attachment style, epistemic trust, and acceptance of AI-based chatbot and avatar DMHIs using online survey from 1,612 (potential) patients and clinicians. Using cluster analysis, we identified three distinct psychological profiles: 1) "Avoidant-not trusting," 2) "Secure-trusting-healthy," and 3) "Young-anxious-ambivalent-symptomatic."Results. Results showed a paradoxical pattern: Individuals in the two most vulnerable clusters (1,3) demonstrated higher acceptance of AI-based DMHIs, whereas the psychologically healthier cluster (2) showed the lowest acceptance.Conclusion. AI-based interventions may be uniquely suited to reach individuals who struggle with human-to-human relationships, however, those vulnerable people might also miss out on the relational learning that takes place in human-based therapies.Action/Impact: Patients and clinicians should be educated about AI tools' limits and their value as accessible supports for people who struggle to engage in human therapy.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126023 - 12-Minute Talk

Beyond Survival: A Scoping Review of Supportive Care Needs in Endometrial Cancer

Main Presenting Author: Manoj, Megha

Additional Authors: Panjwani , Aliza A; Devaraja, Kaviya; Lau, C.L Sharlane ; Lima, Bianca ; Fazelzad, Rouhi; Kim, Soyoun Rachel

Abstract: *Endometrial cancer (EC) is the most common gynecologic malignancy in North America and is rising across ages. With increasing survival, the psychological, physical, and relational impacts of EC and its treatments become more relevant. Yet no review has synthesized the full spectrum of supportive care needs (SCNs) for this population. This scoping review aims to map SCNs across the EC trajectory and, where possible, identify the distinct needs of younger adults. Using Joanna Briggs Institute methodology, 7 databases were searched for empirical, peer-reviewed studies on SCNs among adults with EC. Grey literature, intervention studies, and mixed samples lacking EC-specific analyses were excluded. Two reviewers screened 13,446 titles/abstracts and 713 full texts; 130 studies met inclusion criteria, and 62 have been extracted to date. Analysis will use a convergent integrated approach. Preliminary findings show that physical and psychological needs dominate the literature, while informational, family, and health-system needs remain underexamined. Fatigue, depression, anxiety, and sexual functioning consistently emerge as major unmet needs. Few studies examine younger adults specifically. These findings highlight the need for more inclusive, rigorous research to address underexplored SCN domains. Insights from the review can guide future development of person-centered models of care.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125941 - 12-Minute Talk

Bio-Psycho Strengthening: An Investigation of the Effects of Strength Training on Adolescents' Depression Symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Jackart, Laine RH
Co-Presenting Author: Saadeddin, Abullah

Additional Author: Ford, Laurie

Abstract: *Adolescence is a period of marked decline in physical activity coupled with a marked increase in internalizing disorders, with an estimated 27.6% increase in depressive disorder diagnosis having occurred since 2020 (Ahmad, 2021; Santamuro et al., 2023; Van Mechelen et al., 2000). Additionally, further reduced rates of physical activity in adolescents have been seen across the last 5 years (Frömel et al, 2025; Rodrigues et al., 2025; Wang et al., 2022). The link between exercise and depression symptoms is clear, with multiple meta-analyses and systematic reviews espousing the potential for exercise to improve depression symptoms (Barahona-Fuentes et al., 2021; Marinelli et al., 2024; Rodriguez-Ayllon, 2019). This study was designed based upon calls within these meta-analyses to conduct further research on adolescents between 13-18, to research the effects of strength training on those with depressive disorder diagnoses, and to examine the effects of strength training interventions on depression symptoms in adolescents. In this research, a non-concurrent multiple baseline design was used to examine the effects of a strength training intervention on the symptoms of adolescents with depression. Preliminary results of the present study will be discussed, as well as potential strategies for implementation of strength training interventions in schools and community settings.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124337 - 12-Minute Talk

Borderline Personality Features in Adolescence Predict Dating Violence Perpetration in Early Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Button, Shawna

Additional Authors: Krygsman, Amanda ; Brittain, Heather; Gazzola, Nicola; Vaillancourt, Tracy

Abstract: *Borderline personality (BP) pathology and dating violence are significant public health concerns that have been found to negatively affect well-being across the lifespan. BP pathology can increase the likelihood of dating violence perpetration and victimization in adulthood. There is less research on these associations in adolescence. The developmental pathway of BP pathology during adolescence is still not well defined, despite it being a key developmental window.Data were drawn from the McMaster Teen Study, a longitudinal study of Canadian youth (N=572; 55.7% girls; 82.9% White). Using latent class growth analysis and ANCOVAs, we examined developmental trajectories of BP features in adolescence (from ages 14-18) in the prediction of dating violence experiences (victimization and perpetration) in early adulthood (ages 19-20).Three BP feature trajectories were identified: low- (n=215), moderate- (n=246), and high-stable (n=111). BP feature trajectory groups did not differ on dating violence victimization but did on perpetration; the high-stable group had the highest dating violence perpetration scores, F(2, 179)=3.61, p=.03.Our findings address a gap in the literature on BP pathology and dating violence in adolescence and highlight the importance of early intervention. We discuss possible avenues including emotion regulation, mentalization, and improving social support.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123963 - 12-Minute Talk

Building Early Bonds in a Digital World: Findings from the Online Make the Connection Program

Main Presenting Author: Kempe, Samantha

Additional Authors: Deneault, Audrey-Ann ; Pillai Riddell, Rebecca; Madigan, Sheri; Lovegrove, Anne

Abstract: *Background: A strong caregiver-child relationship is foundational to early development, yet many caregivers receive limited guidance on how to build these bonds (Ainsworth, 1979; Bornstein et al., 2010). Make the Connection (MTC), delivered in person for over 20 years, was recently adapted into an online, self-directed program (Barriault et al., 2024). Methods: This randomized controlled trial evaluated the effectiveness of the online MTC program in improving caregiver outcomes. The sample includes 313 primary caregivers (91% female; 75% aged 30-39 years) of children aged 0-3 (M = 14 months, SD = 10.8). Results: Preliminary findings suggest promising trends among caregivers who completed the program. Caregiver competence showed modest improvement, increasing from Mpre = 67.7 (SD = 9.9) to Mpost = 68.9 (SD = 8.8). Perceived attachment also increased, from Mpre = 68.4 (SD = 8.8) to Mpost = 70.8 (SD = 7.4). Small reductions in stress and depressive symptoms were observed across groups. There were modest improvements across caregiver-reported outcomes based on participation in MTC. Conclusion: Findings will inform the effectiveness of the online modality and considerations for supporting engagement in self-directed parenting programs. Impact: The results offer early insights that can inform future research on self-administered parenting interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125731 - 12-Minute Talk

Challenges and Opportunities of First-Generation Immigrant Therapists in Counselling Indigenous Clients

Main Presenting Author: Rai, Ronak

Additional Authors: Villebrun, Gwendolyn ; Yohani, Sophie

Abstract: *Due to historical and ongoing colonialism, Indigenous peoples in Canada experience disproportionately higher rates of mental health challenges. Euro-Western mental healthcare practices undermine Indigenous knowledge systems and perpetuates oppression, necessitating providers to learn how to work effectively with Indigenous clients. Concurrently, Canada's rapid immigration has increased the number of immigrant healthcare providers. While research on Indigenous mental healthcare has examined barriers for non-Indigenous practitioners, less is known about the experiences of immigrant therapists. This study addressed this gap by exploring the challenges and opportunities first-generation immigrant therapists face when working with Indigenous clients. Semi-structured interviews with five participants were analyzed using interpretive phenomenological analysis informed by decolonization, critical race theory, and intersectional feminism. Four themes emerged: 1) initial perceptions of Indigenous peoples as first-generation immigrants, 2) transformative shifts in understanding and practice, 3) barriers to effective work with Indigenous clients, and 4) strengths and opportunities tied to immigrant identity. Findings strengthen decolonizing efforts by emphasizing the need for culturally responsive training, relational accountability, and Indigenous-led practice in counselling psychology.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125963 - 12-Minute Talk

Connected after service: Post-service camaraderie and Veteran well-being across the lifespan

Main Presenting Author: Lauzon, André

Additional Authors: Gregory, Adelina ; MacEachern, Kate; Welch, Laurie-Ann; Houle, Stephanie; Le Bel, Madeleine; Rodrigues, Sara

Abstract: *Research on aging often reveals a paradox where mental well-being (MWB) improves or stabilizes with age, a trend seen in both civilian and Veteran populations. For Veterans, this trajectory is shaped by unique military experiences that produce distinct health and psychological functioning pathways compared to non-Veterans. Camaraderie, a core element of military life, strongly influences MWB, yet whether its protective role varies across the lifespan remains unclear. This study investigated whether post-service camaraderie (PSC; ongoing kinship and peer support among veterans) moderates the relationship between age and MWB in Canadian Veterans. Preliminary data from 156 Canadian Armed Forces Veterans (M= 58.27, SD=13.09) were analyzed using a moderation model (PROCESS), with age predicting MWB and PSC as the moderator. A significant interaction emerged (B=-0.37, p =.031), with the model explaining 24.5% of the variance. Simple slopes analysis revealed that for Veterans with low PSC, older age significantly predicted higher MWB (p =.005). Conversely, for Veterans reporting high PSC, MWB was uniformly high regardless of age (p =.913).*

PSC is a powerful protective factor; its absence disproportionately impacts the well-being of younger Veterans. Findings indicate a need for early and ongoing post-service peer support and connection to foster long-term psychological health.

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 125896 - 12-Minute Talk

Effects of Mindfulness Based Eating Awareness Training (MB-EAT) for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Patients: A Longitudinal Randomized Controlled Trial

Main Presenting Author: Park, Katey E

Additional Authors: Du, Chau ; Wang, Wei; Royal, Sarah; Cassin, Stephanie E; Sockalingam, Sanjeev; Wnuk, Susan

Abstract: *Background: MB-EAT is an 8-week intervention that cultivates mindful awareness of internal experiences related to eating, including hunger, satiety, emotions, and automatic habits. MB-EAT improves mindfulness, pathological eating, and psychological distress in adults with Type 2 diabetes, but its effectiveness for MBS patients is unknown.Methods: In this RCT, 83 post-MBS patients were randomized to MB-EAT or wait-list control. Participants completed measures of mindfulness, pathological eating, psychological distress, and self-compassion at baseline, post-intervention, 6-month, and 1-year follow-up.Results: Compared to controls, MB-EAT participants showed significantly greater pre-to-post improvements in mindfulness, uncontrolled eating, emotional eating, dichotomous thinking, depression, emotion regulation, and self-compassion (ps < .05). No differences emerged for cognitive restraint or anxiety. Improvements in dichotomous thinking persisted at 6 months and 1 year, and self-compassion gains remained at 6 months but diminished by 1 year.Conclusions: MB-EAT produced psychological benefits for post-MBS patients, with durable effects for eating-related cognitive flexibility and self-compassion.Action/Impact: Findings support integrating MB-EAT into MBS aftercare and highlight the need for strategies (e.g., continued practice or booster sessions) to maintain long-term gains.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126182 - 12-Minute Talk

Emotion-Aware Generative AI for CBT-Informed Therapeutic Dialogue: A Neurocomputational Approach to Supporting Emotion Regulation in Anxiety and Depression

Main Presenting Author: Anzer, Ayesha
Co-Presenting Authors: Dominique, Christian ; Sinha, Sujata

Additional Author: Roy, Arunima

Abstract: *Affective dysregulation in prefrontal-amygdala circuitry contributes to anxiety, depression, and emerging digital addictions. CBT can restore regulatory control, but limited therapist availability restricts treatment frequency and continuity. This study evaluates a neurocomputational, emotion-aware generative AI system designed to extend CBT support between sessions. Using clinician-patient transcripts, we fine-tuned a GPT-2 model with LoRA to simulate core CBT processes, including Socratic questioning, cognitive restructuring, and empathic validation. A DistilRoBERTa emotion*

classifier conditioned model responses on moment-to-moment affect, and a crisis-detection module identified escalating distress with 96% precision. Fine-tuning reduced the model's perplexity from 4.39 to 2.31, and expert ratings demonstrated enhanced empathy, coherence, and CBT fidelity compared to baseline models. Findings suggest that clinically grounded generative AI can emulate a regulated therapeutic dialogue, strengthen emotion-regulation skills, and serve as a scalable adjunct to traditional psychological care. Future work will integrate physiological signals for multimodal assessment.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124878 - 12-Minute Talk

Establishing a Conceptual Framework of Quality of Life in Crime Victims Using Qualitative Data: Notable Findings and Emerging Notions

Main Presenting Author: Bellavance, Justine

Additional Authors: Fortin, Christophe ; Tremblay, Marjolaine; Geoffrion, Steve; Savard-Kelly, Patrick

Abstract: *Individuals exposed to interpersonal trauma, such as violent crime, face a heightened risk of developing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PTSD negatively affects multiple dimensions of quality of life (QoL). However, no clinical tool regarding QoL seem to be adapted to crime victim's realities. This study aims to develop a conceptual framework of QoL specific to crime victims. A qualitative descriptive research design was used. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 12 participants (adults, victim of crime, diagnosed PTSD) and three psychologists. The World Health Organization Quality of Life Scale (WHOQOL) was selected and the reference framework was used to conduct the thematic qualitative analysis. A Delphi method was used to validate the resulting framework. Preliminary findings indicate that the WHOQOL framework does not fully reflect crime victim's realities. There seems to be lacking specificity, as well as missing or under-represented themes in the WHOQOL framework. Notable themes include hypervigilance, paranoia and flashback, sense of physical security, use of psychotherapy, life changes after the trauma, and judicial processes. Furthermore, many participants described a strong sense of dichotomy in their lives. This study's results will inform the development of a QoL questionnaire tailored to crime victims, which can help identify therapeutic targets.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123232 - 12-Minute Talk

Examining the transdiagnostic role of coping motives and experiential avoidance in the relationship between generalized anxiety disorder and addictions

Main Presenting Author: Vieira, Jenna L.

Additional Authors: Antony, Martin M.; Milligan, Karen; Tabri, Nassim; Kim, Andrew (Hyounsoo)

Abstract: *Background: Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) is highly comorbid with substance and behavioural addictions. This study examined whether coping motives mediate the relationship between GAD symptom severity and the severity of problematic alcohol use, cannabis use, gambling, and gaming more strongly at high levels of experiential avoidance. Method: Canadian adults (N=1,221)*

recruited via Prolific completed online self-report measures in November 2024. Results: GAD symptom severity, substance use and addictive behaviour severity, coping motives for each corresponding substance and addictive behaviour, and experiential avoidance were positively associated. Coping motives mediated the positive relationship between GAD symptom severity and both problematic alcohol use and gambling symptom severity at low and high levels of experiential avoidance, such that these effects became stronger at higher levels of experiential avoidance. No significant moderated-mediation effects were observed for cannabis or gaming. Conclusions: Coping motives and experiential avoidance may be transdiagnostic factors that interact to increase risk for both problematic alcohol use and gambling in individuals with elevated GAD symptoms. Impact: Findings provide a foundation for future longitudinal research and may inform clinical interventions for GAD that co-occurs with problematic alcohol use and gambling.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125628 - 12-Minute Talk

Exploring the influence of shame and guilt on motivating behavior and influencing psychological functioning among offendingpopulations: A scoping review

Main Presenting Author: Lall, Megan K

Additional Authors: Losier, Bruno ; McKinnon, Margaret

Abstract: *Background: Shame and guilt are moral emotions that can promote altruistic behaviour and inhibit antisocial acts, yet they may also intensify psychological distress among people who have offended. This scoping review examined how these emotions relate to psychopathology and recidivism in justice-involved populations. Methods: A systematic search of five electronic databases was conducted. Two reviewers independently screened citations for eligibility, and one reviewer extracted data. Both quantitative and qualitative syntheses were completed. Results: Across studies, shame was associated with defensive responding, self-hatred, externalization of blame, aggression, mistrust of others, negative self-perceptions, and heightened suicidality, shaping how people relate to themselves and their communities. Guilt, in contrast, was linked to self-blame, self-forgiveness, empathic concern, responsibility-taking, cooperative behaviour, and partial protection from antisocial traits and personality pathology. In some contexts, however, both emotions were also tied to greater psychological burden and increased risk of reoffending. Conclusion: Overall, shame and guilt exert complex, context-dependent influences on mental health and behaviour in justice-involved populations. Further research is needed to clarify these dynamics and inform assessment and rehabilitation.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124002 - 12-Minute Talk

Exploring the relationship between trauma and gambling through lived experience - implications for both research and intervention practices

Main Presenting Author: Monson, Eva
Co-Presenting Author: Villotti, Patrizia

Additional Author: Morvannou, Adèle

Abstract: *Background: Both gambling-related problems and trauma have long been associated with substantial costs for individuals, their families, and society. Existing reviews of research on the relationship between trauma and gambling have thus far been limited to quantitative work. Methods: A scoping review of published peer-reviewed qualitative research was conducted to synthesize existing research concerning the relationship between trauma and gambling. Relevant articles were identified through database searches in Ovid MEDLINE, APA PsycNET, PubMed, Scopus, PTSDpubs, and through hand sorting methods. English and French articles that comprised original qualitative research with results exploring the relationship between trauma and gambling were included. Results: A total of 22 articles published between 2007 and 2022 were included in this review. Four major themes emerged during the narrative and thematic synthesis of the articles: (1) gambling as a consequence of trauma, (2) trauma as a consequence of gambling behavior, (3) cyclical relationship of trauma and gambling, and (4) healing from trauma and gambling-related harms. Conclusion: This study highlights the importance of qualitative research in exploring the complex relationships between trauma and gambling and how qualitative research allows us to better understand, and respond to, the needs of individuals who suffer from gambling related harm. Impact: This presentation will include an in depth discussion of how qualitative research on the relationship between trauma and gambling can inform not only future research, but also clinical practices.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123172 - 12-Minute Talk

Factors Influencing the Development of Counselling Self-efficacy among Psychotherapy Trainees

Main Presenting Author: Van Kessel, Kate

Additional Authors: Brugnera, Agostino ; Compare, Angelo; Poletti, Barbara ; Pievani, Luca ; Tasca, Giorgio

Abstract: *Counselling self-efficacy (CSE) is a key training goal for psychotherapists, as higher CSE predicts more effective and efficient services (Larson & Daniels, 1998). Yet, little is known about how CSE develops or which factors shape its growth. This study examines how time-varying perfectionistic self-presentation, anxiety, and trainees' alliance with their program influence CSE trajectories, and how identity factors may moderate these paths. Method: 500 trainees in a 4-year psychotherapy program in Italy completed self-report measures of perfectionistic self-presentation (Hewitt et al., 2003), anxiety (Grös et al., 2007), and program alliance (Hatcher & Gillaspy, 2006) annually. Identity factors included gender, age, race, sexual orientation, and immigration background. Data collection is ongoing, and available data (N = 500) will be used in the analyses, which are currently underway. Analyses: Latent-growth and multi-level models will test whether perfectionistic self-presentation and anxiety impede CSE development, whether program alliance buffers these effects, and whether identity characteristics shape distinct patterns. Conclusions: Findings will clarify personal and professional influences on CSE development. Impact: Results will guide educational practices and inform recruitment, training, and retention strategies to improve client outcomes.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124749 - 12-Minute Talk

Fear of Cancer Recurrence Therapy (FORT): Analysis of Post-Implementation Facilitators and Barriers in Canadian Hospital Settings

Main Presenting Author: Guindon, Aurélie

Additional Authors: Chu, Alanna ; Kearns, Emma; Prudent, América; Marris, Maya Alycia; Beattie, Sara; Garland, Sheila; Lebel, Sophie

Abstract: *Background: Fear of cancer recurrence (FCR) is the most common unmet need of cancer survivors. Clinical FCR has been successfully addressed by the Fear Of Recurrence Therapy (FORT), a structured six-session group intervention. Following two randomized controlled trials, FORT was implemented across 5 Canadian cancer centers. The study objective was to examine post-implementation facilitators and barriers of FORT's maintenance across these centers. Methods: Healthcare professionals involved in FORT (n = 18) participated in semi-structured videoconference interviews after completing program delivery. Interviews were recorded, transcribed, and analyzed using deductive thematic analysis guided by the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR). Coding was facilitated by the NVivo Codebook provided by CFIR. A trained team (n = 4) met regularly to review coding outputs and ensure intercoder reliability (40% interviews double coded). Results: Preliminary findings highlight survivors' positive experience and perceived efficacy of FORT as facilitators, whereas limited resources, alignment with clinic workflow, misfit with clinician style, and intervention complexity emerged as barriers. Conclusion: This study provides strategies learned from different sites that could help in the maintenance of FORT and similar therapeutic programs across diverse Canadian hospital settings.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 123410 - 12-Minute Talk

How Might Adolescent Social Skills and Masking Behaviours Change Across the PEERS® Intervention?

Main Presenting Author: Jackart, Laine RH
Co-Presenting Authors: Jhinjar, Nimrit RH; Ford, Laurie

Additional Author: Schanding, Thomas

Abstract: *The Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS®) for Adolescents is a social skills program that seeks to help motivated adolescents learn to make and keep friends, as well as to broaden their social network and deepen pre-existing relationships. While the program has continued to evolve in seeking to incorporate neuroaffirming approaches to treatment, such as including a neuroaffirming pledge, it is not clear if the program may promote masking or camouflaging behaviours for its participants. The current project examines pre- and post-data collected from 10 youth who completed the 16-week program between September - December 2025. Adolescents were asked to complete the Camouflaging Autistic Traits-Questionnaire (CAT-Q) at the beginning and end of the program. Additionally, youth and their parents were asked to complete the Test of Adolescent Social Skills (TASSK), Quality of Socialization Questionnaire (QSQ) and the Social Skills Improvement System-Social Emotional Learning Edition (SSIS-SEL) to measure participants' knowledge of social skills, the quality of their pre/post socialization, and the progression of their social-emotional learning abilities. Results of the present project will provide preliminary data related*

to how youth experience the program with regard to perceptions of needing to mask or camouflage themselves.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126324 - 12-Minute Talk

Implementing Integrated Behavioral Parent Training for Child and Parent ADHD in Pediatric Primary Care: Lessons Learned From Stakeholder-Guided Implementation

Main Presenting Author: Lui, Joyce
Co-Presenting Author: Okigbo, Christine

Additional Authors: Taubin, Daria ; Danko, Christina; Bounoua, Nadia; Marschall, Donna; Bennett, Ian; Robb, Adelaide; Chronis-Tuscano, Andrea

Abstract: *Background: Parent and child ADHD often co-occur, and parent ADHD impacts outcomes of behavioral parent training (BPT). Treating both parent and child ADHD together may lead to better outcomes. Pediatric primary care may support integrated ADHD care, but implementation guidance is limited. We describe lessons learned from implementing integrated BPT (iBPT) in pediatric primary care in the context of a clinical trial. Methods: 5 parents, 3 pediatricians, 2 clinic staff, and 3 behavioral health providers participated in nine meetings on implementation throughout the duration of the 5-year trial. Meetings were recorded, transcribed, coded, and thematically analyzed. Results: Three themes emerged: (1) Parents as collaborators, not patients-framing iBPT as "for the whole family" kept the focus on the child while building trust and buy-in. (2) Beyond the skills-parents with ADHD wanted more in-the-moment scaffolding, reduced home practice, flexible pacing, and flexible scheduling compared to typical BPT. (3) Fit with mission, not capacity-parent mental health care aligned with pediatrics, but billing, scheduling, and staffing limits can recreate access barriers.Conclusions/Impact: Uptake is supported by collaborative framing and ADHD-responsive delivery adaptations. Near term, pediatrics may work best as an entry point that identifies parental needs and activates supported referrals; sustained integration will likely require infrastructure and staffing redesign.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125425 - 12-Minute Talk

Improving Sleep Health in Canadian Adults: Testing the Usability and Feasibility of the ABCs of SLEEPING for Adults mHealth Application

Main Presenting Author: Dockrill, Mya M

Additional Authors: Aubin, Lindsay ; Bertrand, Michel; Garland, Sheila; Corkum, Penny

Abstract: *Sleep health is essential for physical and mental well-being, yet access to evidence-based sleep resources is limited. This study tested the usability, preliminary effectiveness, and implementation of the ABCs of SLEEPING mobile application, which features a Sleep Check In, personalized Sleep Report Card, and tailored Sleep Tips. Sixteen adults a) reviewed the application, b) completed an interview on its usability using Morville and Sullenger's (2010) User Experience Honeycomb framework, and c) completed pre- and post-intervention questionnaires assessing*

feasibility (i.e., effectiveness, implementation). Results suggested high usability ratings across all Honeycomb dimensions. All participants found the application useful, easy to access, and credible. Some indicated more information was needed for effective use, noted repetitive content, and wanted more reminders. In terms of effectiveness, there was a significant, large effect size for reduced dysfunctional beliefs and attitudes about sleep (d = .669, p = .041) and a non-significant yet moderate effect size for improved sleep health (d = .423, p = .171). Users implemented the Sleep Tips on average 14 out of 28 days and most (56%) continued after four months. The frequency of daily implementation showed a non-significant, yet moderate effect-size for the association with positive sleep improvements (r = .362, p = .247) and a significant and large effect-size for its association with dysfunctional beliefs and attitudes about sleep (r = -.862, p < .001). Feedback will inform program modifications and future large-scale testing. This application has the potential to be an accessible resource to promote adult sleep health.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123873 - 12-Minute Talk

INTEGRATING PEER SUPPORT WITH ONLINE SELF-DIRECTED CBT FOR PERINATAL ANXIETY

Main Presenting Author: Reynolds, Kristin AA

Additional Authors: Arora, Bhavya ; Uchechukwu, Light; Urizar, Rebeca; Meilleur, Melissa; Hardman, Madison; Furer, Trish; Alcolado, Gillian

Abstract: *The perinatal period (pregnancy to one year following childbirth) is a time of substantial adjustment, and includes physical, hormonal, and emotional impacts. Approximately 1/3 of Canadian perinatal women experience depressive or anxious symptoms (SOGC, 2025). Unfortunately, though effective psychological treatments exist, availability and accessibility are poor, and over 60% of perinatal women with mental disorders do not receive the mental health services they need (Pankratz et al., 2024). Community-based peer support programs have the potential to improve service relevance and accessibility. This presentation aims to highlight our group's research in three separate but related studies: (a) A randomized controlled trial (RCT) examining the effectiveness of a 6-session online self-directed Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) program for perinatal anxiety - Overcoming Perinatal Anxiety (OPA); (b) An environmental scan of the availability and components of perinatal mental health peer support programs; (c) The development and implementation of OPA Peers+, which integrates weekly virtual peer support alongside the 6-session online self-directed OPA program. RCT findings highlight significant reductions in anxiety, depression, and psychological distress, and significant gains in postnatal attachment and maternal efficacy. Following program completion, participants voiced a desire to connect with other "moms feeling the same way." A main finding from our environmental scan revealed a lack of peer support programs for perinatal anxiety. The process of developing and implementing OPA Peers+ as well as findings from implementation evaluation will be discussed, providing implications for scalability of perinatal peer support across Canada.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124918 - 12-Minute Talk

It's not just the women, it's the men! Testing the sex difference in depression with an experimental paradigm.

Main Presenting Author: Aucoin, Courtney D

Additional Authors: Altman, Max S; Thind, Anmol K; Andrews, W Paul

Abstract: *The sex/gender difference in depression is among the most robust findings within psychology. Many hypotheses have been proposed to explain this phenomenon with limited success and conflicting support. Through the experimental rumination induction paradigm (E-RIP), we evaluate three of the most common hypotheses (reporting bias, differential diathesis, differential exposure). The E-RIP induces a depressive syndrome in a non-clinical sample using controlled social rejection. The induced symptoms include sadness, anhedonia, feelings of worthlessness, and feelings of guilt. Five hundred and twenty-seven undergraduate students were randomly assigned to either the exclusion (experimental) group or inclusion (control) group. Both men and women in the exclusion group self-reported an increase in sadness, anhedonia, and rumination-related cognitive variables. Women did not develop greater depressive symptomology in reaction to the paradigm than men, contradicting both the reporting bias and differential diathesis hypotheses. Unexpectedly, men showed a higher ruminative response; they were engaging in higher levels of causal thinking than the women despite having the same affective response to the paradigm. We will examine this surprising finding in terms of sex-specific social strategies that were likely triggered by our social stressor.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126221 - 12-Minute Talk

Manifestation and Psychopathology Correlates of Affective Dynamics in Adolescence

Main Presenting Author: Rappaport, Lance M

Additional Author: Menna, Rosanne

Abstract: *Extant research in adults described affective dynamics (e.g., variability, inertia) in positive and negative affect over time, and the associations of each with psychopathology (e.g., depressive symptoms). Research is needed to clarify the manifestation of affective dynamics in adolescence and their associations with psychopathology. In the present study, adolescent participants (N = 149, aged 14-17) reported on externalizing and internalizing syndrome severity then completed a 35-day daily diary period, during which they reported twice daily on positive affect, negative affect, and stress. Dynamic structural equation models showed that stress experienced each day was associated with increased negative affect and decreased positive affect. Participants who reported elevated severity of depressive, generalized anxiety, and panic/somatic symptoms, but not externalizing symptoms (e.g., irritability or conduct problems), demonstrated stronger associations of stress with negative and positive affect. Psychopathology was also associated with altered mean severity of, and variability in, positive affect, negative affect, and stress. Results demonstrate variation in stress reactivity in adolescence, which may be specifically associated with the severity internalizing distress.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125012 - 12-Minute Talk

Mapping the Measurement of Compulsive Sexual Behaviour: A Systematic Review of Assessment Tools

Main Presenting Author: Snaychuk, Lindsey

Additional Authors: Cassin, Stephanie ; Antony, Martin; Bőthe, Beáta; Grubbs, Joshua; Kim, Hyoun S

Abstract: *Background: The lack of consensus around the conceptualization of compulsive sexual behaviour (CSB) has contributed to the development of numerous assessment tools grounded in various theoretical frameworks. Objective: The present study was a systematic review of all assessment tools for CSB. The aim was to collect information on the underlying theory, structure, and use of each tool. Methods: A systematic search of six academic databases yielded 1595 articles. Articles were eligible for inclusion if they were empirical validation studies of CSB measures. A total of 22 articles met eligibility criteria and therefore, 22 tools were included in the present review. Results: Tools were grounded in multiple frameworks, primarily the impulse control model and the sexual addiction model. Some tools were unidimensional whereas others included between three and six subscales (e.g., control, salience, consequences). Most measures aimed to assess symptoms of CSB, and a handful included traits (e.g., emotion dysregulation) associated with CSB. Conclusions: Results from the review highlight the high degree of variability in the conceptualization of CSB and wide range of approaches to assessment. Action/Impact: These findings underscore the need for more unified, multidimensional approaches to guide tailored interventions for CSB.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124630 - 12-Minute Talk

Moderated Mediating Effects of Burdensomeness and Belongingness in the Link between Social Support and Suicidal Behaviours among University Students

Main Presenting Author: Primo, Clara M.

Additional Authors: Oh, Seokmin ; Hives, Ben A.; Liu, Yan

Abstract: *Suicide is a major health crisis worldwide, and the highest rate of suicidal ideation is among 16-34 years old. However, there is a lack of research in suicidal behaviours among Canadian university student population. To fill in this gap, this study aims to investigate the mediating effects of perceived burdensomeness (PB) and thwarted belongingness (TB) in the relationship between social support and suicidal behaviours (suicidal ideation and suicide attempt) among university students. We also examined the moderating role of a cultural factor, individualism-collectivism, in the link between social support with PB and TB. A total of 496 undergraduate students, recruited through Carleton University's SONA pool, responded to an online survey (Mage= 20, 67% female). Path analysis based on structural equation modelling was used to conduct a moderated mediational model. Results showed that PB completely mediated the relationship between social support and suicidal behaviours, while TB only partially mediated social support and suicidal ideation. Additionally, we did not find a moderation effect from the cultural factor. This research offers valuable insights to guide future studies that focus on developing intervention programs for addressing suicidal behaviours among university students.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125741 - 12-Minute Talk

Non-pharmacological Treatments for Tinnitus: A Systematic Review

Main Presenting Author: Sharafaddin-zadeh, Yekta

Additional Authors: Booth, Lindsay ; Chau, Justin

Abstract: *Tinnitus is a common and often debilitating condition with few effective treatments. This systematic review evaluates the effectiveness of non-pharmacological interventions, including cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), mindfulness-based therapies, relaxation approaches, and tinnitus retraining therapy (TRT), for reducing tinnitus distress and improving patient-reported outcomes in adults with chronic subjective tinnitus. Following a librarian-designed search across PubMed, PsycINFO, Embase, and Medline, two reviewers independently screened abstracts, reviewed full texts, and extracted data according to PRISMA guidelines. Of 2189 records screened, 125 randomized controlled trials met inclusion criteria. Preliminary findings show CBT is the most frequently studied modality, followed by mindfulness-based therapies, TRT, and relaxation-based interventions. The THI, TQ, TRQ, and VAS were the most commonly used tinnitus-specific outcome measures. Early patterns suggest that psychological interventions, particularly CBT, consistently reduce tinnitus-related distress and may also improve anxiety and depressive symptoms. Planned analyses include quantitative comparison of intervention modalities and evaluation of changes in validated tinnitus-specific outcomes and psychological measures. Final analyses will clarify the strength and comparative effectiveness of these approaches for evidence-based tinnitus management.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123440 - 12-Minute Talk

Overcoming Porn Addiction: A Youth-Led, DBT-Informed Group Intervention for Adolescent Boys

Main Presenting Author: Sawyer, Kafui
Co-Presenting Author: Sawyer, Adam

Additional Author: Sawyer, Aaron

Abstract: *Exposure to online pornography has become a public health concern due to its impact on adolescent development. Explicit content may overwhelm neurocognitive and emotional systems that are still maturing, making sexual images difficult to interpret. Evidence suggests that youth may experience trauma responses, including withdrawal, dissociation, shame, and cognitive distortions, with consequences for relationships and well-being. To address this risk, the Joy Health & Research Centre developed a 10-week, trauma-informed, DBT-based program for adolescent boys focused on emotion regulation, coping, and relational skills. The program integrates psychoeducation on neurobiology and sexual scripts with structured skills practice and group discussion. A pilot is underway with adolescents aged 14-18. Evaluation includes weekly reflections, facilitator observations, attendance, and pre/post measures of emotion regulation, coping, shame, and relational functioning. Early observations suggest strong engagement, increased awareness of triggers, and emerging use of coping strategies. Full results will be presented. These findings indicate that trauma-informed, skills-based interventions may support adolescents in managing pornography use by*

improving emotional regulation and relationships. Ongoing evaluation will examine feasibility and scalability.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 126346 - 12-Minute Talk

Perceived Partner Responsiveness is Associated with Longitudinal Changes in Circulating Inflammatory Biomarkers Among Caregiving Mothers in Midlife

Main Presenting Author: Gouin, Jean-Philippe

Abstract: *Positive social relationships are linked to better health outcomes. However, little is known about specific interpersonal processes underlying this effect. Perceived partner responsiveness (PPR) is an interpersonal process through which an individual comes to believe that their partner attends to and supports core aspects of their self, leading them to feel understood, validated, and cared for by their partner. The goal of this study was to assess the association of PPR with circulating inflammatory biomarkers over time. In this 30-month longitudinal study, 169 partnered mothers caregiving for an adolescent or young adult with a neurodevelopmental disorder, the higher caregiving stress group, or a typically developing adolescent or young adult, the lower caregiving stress group, completed a daily diary assessment of PPR and negative spousal interactions and provided blood samples for inflammatory biomarkers analysis. Results indicated that higher PPR was associated with smaller increases in inflammation over time, over and above differences in negative spousal interactions. Although caregiving stress was associated with higher inflammation at baseline, it did not moderate the effect of PPR. These findings suggest that PPR is a positive interpersonal process that may play a unique role in the health effects of close relationships.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126352 - 12-Minute Talk

Psychopathology Reflected in Language Use: Schizotypy and Autistic Traits Across Language Background Profiles

Main Presenting Author: Hamilton, Arthur P.

Additional Authors: Guimond, Synthia ; Jouravlev, Olessia

Abstract: *Existing literature shows that people with schizophrenia (SZ) tend to present with more symptoms in their native language than an acquired language. However, differences in how SZ-like traits present between multilinguals' languages may be better illuminated by considering various facets of their language background profile. This study further examined the relation between linguistic deficits linked with SZ and multilingualism. A large sample of multilinguals from the general population (n = 1170) were assessed for subclinical SZ-like and autistic traits. (Autistic traits were included on an exploratory basis due to known genetic and phenotypic overlap with SZ and partial overlap in linguistic deficits.) Participants completed tasks from four language domains-lexis, semantics, syntax, and pragmatics-in both English and French. They also provided various language background data, including order of acquisition, age of acquisition, context of acquisition, current usage, and self-rated proficiency. Analyses show SZ-like symptoms are associated with lower performance in all four language domains and, importantly, with English/French differences in some domains. Findings are presented on which language background variables best capture the relation*

between symptoms and English/French differences, and possible explanations and clinical implications are discussed.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 121193 - 12-Minute Talk

Psychophysiological Associations Between Mental Health Symptoms, Cardiac Function, and Health-Monitoring Behaviour in Public Safety Personnel Across Four Studies

Main Presenting Author: Norrie, Holden J

Additional Authors: Teckchandani, Taylor A; Khoury, Juliana M. B.; Asmundson, G. J. Gordon; Krätzig, Gregory R; Neary, Patrick J; Carleton, Nicholas R

Abstract: *Public safety personnel (PSP) are repeatedly exposed to potentially traumatic events, increasing their risk for developing posttraumatic stress (PTSD), major depressive (MDD), generalized (GAD), and social anxiety disorder (SAD). Research in high-stress populations show that chronic psychological distress can alter cardiac functioning. Despite use of modern cardiac-monitoring tools to promote self-awareness of health, little is known about how specific mental health symptoms relate to cardiac function. We have conducted four studies examining associations between mental health symptom and cardiac function indices among Royal Canadian Mounted Police cadets (ns=33-81). Participants who reported increases in symptoms of PTSD, MDD, GAD, and SAD evidenced problematic changes in cardiac function. Elevated GAD symptoms at and after baseline, were associated with greater cardiac-monitoring, possibly reflecting heightened health-related anxiety and potentially harmful reinforcing behaviours. Results suggest a meaningful association between psychological distress and cardiac function, highlighting a potential future need for integrating cardiac-rehabilitation practices into PSP fitness programs, while cautioning that unrestricted access to cardiac-monitoring devices may potentiate adverse patterns of anxiety-related reinforcing behaviours.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125400 - 12-Minute Talk

Reimagining Newcomer Student Wellness in Canadian Higher Education: A Social Justice and Comprehensive School Health Approach Using Arts-Based Engagement Ethnography

Main Presenting Author: Charania, Farah
Co-Presenting Authors: Elliott, Yasmin ; Kassan , Anusha

Additional Authors: Russell-Mayhew, Shelly ; Papazian-Zohrabian, Garine ; Eryigit-Madzwamuse, Suna

Abstract: *Newcomer youth in Canada face unique mental health and wellness challenges as they begin higher education. Yet institutional supports often rely on Western, individualistic ideas of wellness that overlook cultural, linguistic, and systemic influences. This presentation introduces a four-year, multi-site research program designed to reconceptualize newcomer student wellness from a combined social justice lens and the comprehensive school health model. In this presentation, we will outline an*

arts-based engagement ethnography that positions newcomer students as experts of their own experiences-using cultural probes, individual interviews, and planned discussion groups to capture how they attend to wellness while integrating into new academic and social contexts. Conducted across universities in Vancouver, Calgary, and Montréal, this research will examine how wellness is understood, practiced, and influenced during this transition. Expected outcomes include a more nuanced understanding of wellness, bilingual recommendations for higher education, and a digital Wellness Hub for students who are the first in their families to pursue university. This overview demonstrates how participatory, arts-based methods can inform policy, improve institutional responsiveness, and support more inclusive learning environments for newcomer students.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124685 - 12-Minute Talk

Rethinking Hope in Refugee Counselling: Implications for Reframing Hope-Focused Interventions

Main Presenting Author: Thayyilayil, Shaima Ahammed

Additional Authors: Larsen, Denise ; Yohani, Sophie

Abstract: *Hope has long been theorized as a future-oriented, agentic capacity following Snyder's (2002) influential theory. Given the significance of hope in therapy, such cognitive-behavioural frameworks have widely informed hope-focused therapeutic interventions. Yet, these models that assume the possibility of agency and future orientation inadequately capture the experience of hope as lived by refugees surviving displacement, traumatic grief, and ongoing existential threat. The aim of this interpretative phenomenological analysis was to understand counsellors' experiences of hope when working with refugee clients. This presentation focuses on one emergent Group Experiential Theme: the unique phenomenology of hope as lived in refugee experience. Findings highlight a distinct refugee experience of hope that is existential not aspirational, focused on endurance rather than future goals, residing in micro-moments of survival rather than future goals or achievement. Within this existential frame, hope restoration requires witnessing not intervening, with therapists recognizing clients' survival as a manifestation of hope.In light of these findings, implications for both therapeutic practice with refugee people and phenomenological understandings of hope will be discussed.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125118 - 12-Minute Talk

Social media and student well-being: Supporting mental health in a digital world

Main Presenting Author: Gulinigaer, Renée

Additional Authors: Impey, Danielle ; Huizinga, Annette; Porath Eves, Amy; Batoula, Evelyn; Korbut, Tricia; Vasiliou, Stephanie; Kaur, Nerin; Milligan, Karen

Abstract: *Background: Good2Talk is Ontario's 24/7/365 post-secondary student helpline, offering free, confidential support. As social media increasingly shapes student well-being, an evidence-based resource was developed by Good2Talk partners to address students' online experiences.Methods: A literature review examined current evidence on social media use among post-secondary students and its impact on well-being, with attention to social anxiety, belonging, and equity considerations. The*

resource was co-developed with students, subject matter experts, and clinical specialists to ensure accuracy, accessibility, and relevance.Results: The resource presents a balanced view of social media's impact and includes trauma-informed strategies, supportive engagement examples, and practical suggestions to help service providers respond to student stress and anxiety linked to online experiences.Conclusions: Social media plays a complex role in shaping students' mental health and well-being. Informed approaches to addressing social media use are needed to promote safer and healthier digital engagement.Impact: The resource equips service providers with practical, student-informed strategies to address emerging needs, enhance reflective practice, and support safer navigation of digital spaces, contributing to more responsive and evidence-based service delivery.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125894 - 12-Minute Talk

The Ecological Momentary Assessment of Depressive and Anxiety Symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Rappaport, Lance M

Additional Authors: Roberson-Nay, Roxann ; Neale, Michael C; Amstadter, B Ananda; Zilioli, Samuele

Abstract: *Prior research highlights the importance of fluctuations in anxiety and depressive symptoms for clinical assessment, yet few validated measures assess short-term fluctuations in depressive and anxiety symptoms. This presentation will describe programmatic research on an ecological momentary assessment (EMA) measure of depressive and anxiety symptoms. For example, in one study, university students (N=294) completed EMA reports three times per day over 14 days assessing depressive symptoms, anxiety symptoms, and positive and negative affect. Participants then completed retrospective self-report measures of depressive and anxiety symptoms. In one, randomly selected, half of the sample, within-person item covariation distinguished between generalized anxiety, panic/somatic anxiety, and depressive symptoms; between-person item covariation indicated a single factor of internalizing distress. These patterns replicated via multilevel confirmatory factor analysis in the remaining half of the sample. Covariation of symptoms with affect demonstrated convergent and discriminant validity. Finally, self-reported depressive, anxiety, and stress symptomatology correlated with mean EMA-assessed severity and symptom dynamics. There is preliminary support for the hypothesis that this measure assesses depressive and anxiety symptoms in EMA designs.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125002 - 12-Minute Talk

The Influence of Restrictive Emotionality on Mental Health Help-Seeking Among University Aged-Men

Main Presenting Author: Kar, Priya

Abstract: *Background: As mental health concerns among post-secondary students have been on the rise, male students are a subpopulation least likely to seek assistance for their concerns. This study aims to understand how traditional masculine norms of restrictive emotionality affect college-aged men's willingness to seek mental health support.Methods: Phase one of the study involved a campus-wide survey collecting data on men's psychological distress, restrictive emotionality and help-seeking behaviours. This was followed by phase two, consisting of in-depth interviews of with 24 men to understand how they rationalize their help-seeking behaviours.Results: Pearson correlation*

demonstrated a negative correlation between higher scores of restrictive emotionality and help seeking behaviours. Additionally, thematic analysis demonstrated three themes from the interviews: internal pathways, external influences, and their intersection.Conclusion: This study suggests that perceptions of masculine norms perpetuate restrictiveemotionality, which deters men from openly seeking mental health services.Action: To further encourage college-aged men from seeking help, increasing awareness of the service options available (online or in-person) may subsequently increase and maintain attendance. Additionally, culturally specific services can also promote help seeking amongst all.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123042 - 12-Minute Talk

The Magic is in the Process, Not the Product: The Co-Design of AppforIndependence for Opioid Use (A4iO)

Main Presenting Author: D'Arcey, Jess N

Additional Authors: Tackaberry-Giddens, Leah ; Zedan, Saleena A; Kidd, A Sean

Abstract: *Background: Design research consistently shows that digital tools are less effective and engaging when end users are not meaningfully involved in their development. In the A4iO project, we designed an app for people seeking treatment for opioid use; a population facing increasing risks in Canada, particularly in Ontario's shifting policy landscape. As such, tools to help individuals navigate recovery and safety resources are urgently needed.Methods: We used a three-step iterative co-design process involving people with lived experience and clinicians: (1) focus groups and interviews, (2) a one-month open feasibility trial, and (3) a hackathon workshop. Qualitative data from each stage were thematically analyzed, and feasibility trial data were examined for safety indicators.Results: Step 1 highlighted the need to combat persistent stigma surrounding opioid use via app functions that acknowledge the multifaceted nature of opioid use and emphasize autonomy. Step 2 showed that A4iO was safe and feasible (no adverse events or symptom worsening, with a trend toward improvement). Feedback during this stage was positive, with clear direction on refining app functions. Step 3 offers further design suggestions and reflections on how research constraints shaped lived expert participation.Conclusion/Impact: The iterative co-design process strengthened A4iO and illustrated the value of sustained end-user involvement. Our findings emphasize the need for ongoing reflexivity when navigating research constraints while centring lived expertise in co-design research.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124855 - 12-Minute Talk

The Mediating Roles of Boredom and Coping Motives in the Association Between ADHD and Alcohol Use Among Young Adults: A Gender-Moderated Model

Main Presenting Author: Kronstein, Naama B

Additional Authors: Dawson, Samantha ; Hodgins, David C; Tabri, Nassim; Allami, Youssef; Shead, Will; Kim, Andrew; Keough, Matt

Abstract: *Alcohol Use (AU) in Canada is especially common among young adults, with heavy drinking linked to greater harms. Two psychological factors, trait boredom (TB) and attention*

deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), are strongly associated with higher AU. TB reflects the frequent experience of state boredom in cognitive, motivational, emotional, and physiological domains. People with more ADHD symptoms report more frequent and more aversive boredom, increasing vulnerability to maladaptive coping. Individuals with ADHD often try to avoid uncomfortable internal states, such as boredom, through substance use, suggesting boredom may link ADHD to AU. This study examined how ADHD severity, TB, and coping motives relate to AU in young adults, and whether these links differ across genders. 3783 undergraduate participants completed measures assessing ADHD symptoms, TB, coping motives, and AU. Serial mediation tested whether TB and coping motives explained links between ADHD and AU. Multi group SEM assessed gender interactions. Model fit was acceptable. ADHD predicted boredom, which, in turn, predicted coping motives, which strongly predicted AU. A serial mediation from ADHD to AU through boredom and coping was found. Gender moderated paths from ADHD to motives and AU and from boredom to motives. Findings highlight boredom and coping as key intervention targets to reduce AU.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124873 - 12-Minute Talk

The Relationship Between Behaviour Change Techniques and Physical Activity Among University Students with Disabilities: A Secondary Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Bedard, Gabrielle Danika

Additional Authors: Pastore , Olivia L.; Herbison, Jordan D.; Liska, M. Tayah; Tomasone, Jennifer R.; Mullan, Marley A.R.S; Sweet, Shane N.

Abstract: *Background: Behaviour change techniques (BCTs) are evidence-based strategies that support behaviour change, yet little is known about how daily enactment improves physical activity (PA) among university students with disabilities. Using data from a 10-day experience sampling study, we examined daily associations between BCT enactment and PA, and combinations of BCTs used when facing competing demands (e.g., exams, pain). Methods: For 10 days, 53 participants reported daily PA, enactment of 28 selected BCTs, and competing demands. Multilevel linear models estimated daily associations between BCTs and PA, controlling for perceived capability, opportunity, and motivation. Network and combination analyses mapped co-enactment patterns and context-specific clusters. Results: Twenty-four BCTs had significant positive associations with daily PA. Meaning-based strategies (e.g., finding meaning [b=60.24, t=5.47]; obtaining information on how to perform PA [b=62.97, t=4.99]) had the strongest associations. Network analysis identified two clusters: (1) action- and goal-oriented strategies and (2) emotion-based strategies. Across demands, students enacted 12 BCT combinations, often using five or more strategies. Conclusion: Supporting students with disabilities in flexibly combining action- and emotion-based strategies during competing demands may better promote PA participation.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125233 - 12-Minute Talk

Therapeutic Presence in Videoconferencing Psychotherapy: Connecting Across the Digital Divide

Main Presenting Author: Mulder, Justin H

Additional Authors: Gazzola, Nicola ; Mayled, Mackenzie

Abstract: *Background: Videoconferencing (VC) psychotherapy has become prevalent, but questions remain regarding best practices (Connolly et al., 2020). Online therapeutic presence is one area requiring exploration. While research supports therapists bringing their whole self into session to foster connections with their client (Geller & Greenberg, 2023), less is known about online therapeutic presence.Method: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with participants addressing challenges, and key practices of online therapeutic presence. Thematic analysis was used to analyse and chart the data (Braun & Clarke, 2021).Results: Our study revealed therapists' experiences with VC therapy, aiming to illuminate pathways for ethical and client-centered care by highlighting innovations in therapeutic practice and education. Six main themes and 12 subthemes emerged from the data.Conclusions: Our findings support therapeutic presence's relevance in VC therapy, lending credence to the common factor hypothesis (Geller & Greenberg, 2023). Reported barriers and challenges aligned with past research (Batastini et al., 2020), were surmountable, and did not greatly alter therapeutic presence.Impact: Our findings inform therapy practice by (1) prioritizing client welfare, (2) enhancing psychotherapist competency in therapeutic presence and, (3) shaping therapist education of presence in digital spaces.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 122966 - 12-Minute Talk

Things that go Bump in the Night: Developing Quality Sleep (an Online Course for Parasomnias)

Main Presenting Author: Holmqvist, Maxine

Additional Authors: Vincent , Norah ; Moroz, Tammy

Abstract: *Parasomnias are sleep disorders characterized by unusual behaviours, movements, and emotional disturbances that often impact both the affected individual and their bed partners (Singh et al., 2018). Some of these include Non-Rapid Eye Movement (NREM) Sleep Arousal disorders (e.g., sleepwalking/eating/talking, sleep terrors), Rapid Eye Movement Sleep Behaviour disorder, and Nightmare Disorder. Parasomnias are associated with numerous adverse effects, including physical injuries (Correa et al., 2023), psychological distress (Byrne et al., 2019), and completed suicide (Nadorff et al., 2011). Referrals to our publicly funded, outpatient Behavioural Sleep Medicine Clinic for parasomnia treatment have been increasing, underscoring the need for tools to evaluate the impact of these conditions and broader dissemination of effective psychological treatments. In this talk, we will begin with an overview of our clinic's efforts in this area, including the development of the Parasomnia Effects Scale and initial testing of a transdiagnostic cognitive-behavioural therapy protocol for parasomnias (CBT-p; Vincent et al, 2023). We will then discuss the process of developing a new, online, self-guided course for patients with parasomnias, including treatment components, use of an adapted 4-P model to organize psychoeducation and introduce interventions, engagement strategies, and other clinical considerations (e.g., safety planning, screening). We will review how this course, if found to be effective, could be integrated into our stratified care treatment model and will share lessons learned that may be applicable to others aiming to create evidence-based online materials.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 123797 - 12-Minute Talk

Visibility matters: Daily relational and behavioural outcomes of positive and negative social control in couples

Main Presenting Author: Dymarski, Maegan

Additional Author: Gouin, Jean-Philippe

Abstract: *Partners often try to influence each other's health behaviors through positive (e.g. encouragement) or negative (e.g. pressure) social control. These efforts, even if well-intentioned, can backfire by reducing self-efficacy or evoking resentment. Invisible social control (i.e. attempts unnoticed by the recipient) has been proposed as a less costly alternative. This study tested if daily proportions of invisible social control predict intimacy, negative emotions, fruit/vegetable intake, and physical activity (PA). In a daily diary study, 183 couples reported whether they provided and received five positive and five negative diet- and PA-related items. Visibility was coded by matching provider reports to partner receipt: visible (both), invisible (provider only), or none. Predictors were the daily proportion of invisible and total positive and negative social control. Two-level HLMs were used, accounting for partner interdependence. A higher proportion of invisible positive social control predicted lower intimacy, reduced PA, and more negative emotion. Conversely, more total positive attempts predicted better outcomes. Negative strategies had worse outcomes regardless of visibility. Invisible positive social control did not reduce relational costs or improve health behaviors. Couples-based health interventions should emphasize explicit, positive influence over subtle approaches.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125287 - 12-Minute Talk

Weathering the Weather: The Role of Anxiety Sensitivity in Adaptive and Maladaptive Responses to Climate Change Anxiety

Main Presenting Author: Underwood, Robson M

Additional Authors: Banga, Preet ; Watt, Margo C; Lively, J Christopher

Abstract: *Climate change is an urgent crisis threatening lives and ecosystems globally. Climate Change Anxiety (CCA) refers to feelings of worry, fear, and dread regarding catastrophic climatic consequences (APA, 2021). High CCA has been linked to poorer mental health and both adaptive and maladaptive responding strategies (Ojala, 2012). A transdiagnostic risk factor, like anxiety sensitivity (AS: specific fear of arousal-related somatic sensations; Reiss & McNally, 1985) might explain relations between CCA and mental health symptoms. Study 1 tested this possible mediation with 780 participants (58.2% male, Mage = 36.97). Results indicated a significant direct effect of CCA on mental health symptoms ($p = .04$) and a significant indirect effect via AS ($p < .001$). Study 2 participants included 277 (38.6% male; Mage = 24.29) who completed the CCA Scale (Clayton & Karazsia, 2020), Depression Anxiety and Stress Scale (Lovibond & Lovibond, 1995), AS Index-3 (Taylor et al., 2007), and an author-constructed Maladaptive and Adaptive Climate Coping Scale (Underwood & Watt, 2025). Discriminant function analyses will explore which factors -demographics, mental health, AS or CCA - best distinguish adaptive from maladaptive responding. Findings are anticipated to guide interventions targeting dispositional factors, such as AS, to mitigate maladaptive and encourage adaptive strategies for managing CCA.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124150 - 12-Minute Talk

What Transitional-Aged Youth Want: Youth-Defined Goals in Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Care

Main Presenting Author: Lumb, Andrew B

Additional Authors: Suschinsky, Kelly ; Krause, Sandra; Conrad, Gretchen

Abstract: *Background: Transitional-Aged Youth (TAY) have the highest rates of mental health (MH) & substance use disorders (SUDs). Limited research on youth-defined treatment goals may explain their low service utilization and poor treatment adherence. We examined self-reported treatment goals of clients in an outpatient TAY service (16-25) with moderate to severe concurrent disorders. Methods: TAY clients (N=94) completed self-report questionnaires of demographics, substance use, mental health, and up to three treatment goals at intake. Two authors independently coded 289 goals. Initial overall inter-rater reliability was substantial, k=0.78 (95% CI=0.74, 0.82), p<.001. Remaining differences were resolved collaboratively between the authors. Results: Most clients (M age = 19.7; 40% male, 44% female, 16% gender diverse) reported substantial to severe drug use (69%), hazardous or harmful drinking (76%), and moderate to severe symptoms of depression (84%) or anxiety (72%). The top three types of goals were MH-related: (1) 19.0% - managing/reducing mental health symptoms; (2) 14.9% - emotion regulation and coping; (3) 13.1% - improving psychological well-being. Conclusions: Results emphasize the need to include youth-driven goals in recovery focused treatment. Actions: Understanding and targeting clients' treatment goals may lead to better treatment engagement, adherence, and outcomes.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125471 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Addressing the Treatment Gap in Complex PTSD: A Round Table on International Models and Policy Implications

Main Presenting Author: Langevin, Rachel
Co-Presenting Author: Thomas, Zoë

Additional Authors: Bachem, Rahel ; Stadtmann, Manuel P.

Abstract: *TOPIC. Complex trauma remains vastly undertreated despite its substantial economic, medical, and social impact. Repeated interpersonal trauma is highly prevalent and can lead to long-term difficulties that go beyond PTSD, including affect dysregulation, dissociation, somatic distress, impaired self-development, and relational difficulties. Yet treatment for complex PTSD (CPTSD) remains sparse. PERTINENCE. CPTSD is underdiagnosed and undertreated, and trauma-focused therapy programs in Canada and elsewhere are extremely limited. Non-specific treatments offered to individuals with complex PTSD (CPTSD) tend to be ineffective as they rarely address pervasive relational and emotional impairments alongside classic PTSD symptoms. Diagnostic approaches also diverge intercontinentally, with DSM-5-TR excluding CPTSD while ICD-11 includes it. PURPOSE. This Round Table invites mental health professionals to discuss how to improve access to specialized*

CPTSD treatments in Canada and Europe. Two evidence-based models-from Montreal (QC) and Winterthur (Switzerland)-will be presented to highlight shared and distinct strengths and challenges. RELEVANCE. To stimulate a collective reflection on the urgent need to improve services, participants will explore barriers and potential solutions to better serve individuals with complex trauma.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 122888 - Conversation Session

Beyond a Deficit Orientation: Expanding Psychological Assessment Practice by Integrating of Positive Psychology Principles and Approaches

Main Presenting Author: Martow, Jennifer H
Co-Presenting Authors: Newby-Clark, Elissa; Lumley, Margaret N.

Abstract: *The Canadian Psychological Association (2023) identified psychological assessment as a profession-wide core competency. Clients are usually referred for assessment services because "something is wrong," and the resulting evaluation is designed to deeply understand and address that "problem". Persisting with this deficit-oriented lens can unintentionally reinforce stigma by defining clients chiefly by what is "wrong" with them; this stigmatization, coupled with missed opportunities for well-being promotion, may in turn narrow or diminish optimal therapeutic outcomes. This roundtable conversation session will introduce the limitations of current deficit-oriented assessment practices and how they may negatively impact our clients. The session will then invite participants to move beyond this traditional approach by considering how psychological assessment practice may deliberately integrate aspects of positive psychological science. Participants will discuss how they may meaningfully integrate clients' strengths, capacities, and capabilities into all aspects of the assessment process from intake, testing, report writing, and feedback. Given the increasing mental health related needs of Canadians, psychological assessments are essential for early identification and for connecting clients with tailored, effective supports that aim to both reduce symptoms and promote well-being.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125820 - Conversation Session

Finding Common Ground: A Dialogue to Align Views on Pathological Demand Avoidance

Main Presenting Author: Hui, Janisa
Co-Presenting Author: Mah , Janet W. T.

Abstract: *Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) was proposed as a distinct profile within pervasive developmental disorders (Newson et al., 2003). However, PDA has sparked debates within the psychology field. Some view it as associated symptoms or comorbidities (Green et al., 2018), while others conceptualize it as a new type of mental disorder (Woods, 2022). Although PDA is not formally recognized in Canada or listed in the DSM-5, its relevance is growing in the community. The Canadian PDA Facebook group has over 7,000 members, and many families see PDA as a validating label for their experience. The lack of consensus and the great public interest about PDA makes it a complex topic worthy of exploration.This roundtable will focus on aligning clinical insights and practical strategies for supporting families, instead of engaging in diagnostic debates. The presenters*

will provide a brief and impartial overview of PDA, and offer a rough draft of a parenting resource aimed to bridge these views. We will invite participants to provide feedback and brainstorm ways to balance accuracy and emphatic resonance. Given the potential for polarized views, the presenters will create a safe and inclusive space for dialogue by establishing group norms, incorporating anonymous input tools (e.g., Mentimeter), and guiding culturally-sensitive discussions that welcome diverse perspectives and experiences.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123869 - Conversation Session

Revisiting Domestic Violence Interventions for Male Aggressors: Going Beyond the Traditional Intrapersonal and Correctional Treatments

Main Presenting Author: Takano, Yoshiyuki
Co-Presenting Author: Choo, Ping Ying

Abstract: *The existing domestic violence (DV) interventions for male aggressors are predominantly correctional treatments with the aims of placing accountability on aggressors and facilitating cognitive restructuring to reduce the engagement of DV. However, male aggressors often experience shame in the process of receiving such correctional treatment, which may preclude their openness to intervention. The purpose of this discussion is to invite fellow care professionals to share their experiences working with this population and explore other alternative approaches, such as addressing shame as a form of yearning and co-constructing interpersonal responsibility to facilitate meaningful changes in male aggressors (Takano, 2014, 2017, 2025). This discussion will spark novel insights into potential new directions for DV interventions beyond the traditional intrapersonal and correctional treatments.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125555 - Conversation Session

Revisiting the Boundaries of Behavioural Addiction

Main Presenting Author: Snaychuk, Lindsey
Co-Presenting Author: Vieira, Jenna

Additional Author: Kim, Hyoun S

Abstract: *This session examines how behavioural addictions (BAs) are conceptualized, questioning if they reflect the same underlying processes as substance use disorders or whether they constitute distinct clinical phenomena. Debates around BAs often are often rooted in the premise that behaviours have addictive potential. Yet, emerging evidence suggests notable variation both across (e.g., gambling vs. compulsive sexual behaviour) and within behaviours (e.g., addictive vs. impulsive or compulsive mechanisms). The session aims to provoke thoughtful discussion about advancing the conceptualization of BAs by exploring true addiction-specific features (e.g., craving, tolerance, withdrawal, etc.) from other pathways to excessive/impulsive behaviour. Participants will collaboratively engage with discussions about conceptual models and identify implications for diagnosis and intervention. Clarifying BA conceptualization has critical implications for assessment, treatment planning, and public policy. As Canada increasingly considers behavioural conditions within mental health and addiction systems (e.g., gambling disorder), there is a need to ensure that diagnostic frameworks are grounded in evidence to shape evidence based interventions.*

Misclassification of behaviours as "addictions" may pathologize normative activities or obscure non-addictive mechanisms, potentially leading to ineffective or stigmatizing interventions. This session will openly address these risks and how to mitigate them.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125396 - Conversation Session

Unceremonious Departures: Exploring Friendship Dissolution in Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Amir Pour, Rose

Additional Authors: Raghunath, Rakshita ; Faisal, Sarah; Sunderani, Shafik

Abstract: *Friendships are vital sources of identity and support in adulthood, yet many end quietly-without confrontation, explanation, or closure. This roundtable invites participants to explore unspoken friendship dissolution as a psychologically meaningful process rather than a social inconvenience. Drawing on attachment theory, boundary regulation, and ambiguous-loss frameworks, we will consider why adults often drift apart rather than discuss endings, and how these silent departures affect well-being and belonging. The discussion integrates emerging research on friendship loss (Vieth et al., 2022; Santucci et al., 2025) with clinical and developmental perspectives to highlight both the costs and adaptive functions of disengagement. Discussion questions will include: (1) Why do adults avoid talking about friendship endings? (2) How does ambiguous loss manifest when a friend disappears without conflict? (3) When does silence represent healthy boundary-setting versus emotional avoidance? (4) How can clinicians and educators help individuals process the grief of friendship loss? Through collaborative dialogue, attendees will connect friendship endings to broader models of rupture, boundary management, and connection across adult life.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124787 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

Integrating research into a community-based program: Perspectives from a clinician, an academic, and a community-based organization

Moderator(s): Woods, Sarah

Panelists: Eward, Chloe; Craig, Stephanie; St-Martin, Debbie

Abstract: *This panel will explore three complementary perspectives on partnerships in clinical when developing, evaluating, and delivering evidence-based intervention programs for children in Canada. Although such programs are central to supporting child mental health, the pathways from research to real-world practice are rarely straightforward, making this a pertinent topic for clinical psychology. Panelist 1, an academic researcher, will discuss successes and challenges in conducting research with children in treatment settings, including considerations for measuring outcomes and balancing scientific rigour with real-world constraints. Panelist 2, representing a community-based organization, will reflect on the challenges and successes involved in partnering with researchers, and the need to balance the priorities of clinical care with knowledge advancement. Panelist 3, a clinician, will share frontline experiences of delivering the program, including engaging families, maintaining*

clinical excellence, and integrating research partnerships in community-based clinical services. Together, the panel will consider how research and clinical practices intersect in bringing effective programs to children and families.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125706 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

"A ruffled mind makes a restless pillow": Sleep and mental health in post-secondary students with and without disabilities (PART 1)*

Main Presenting Author: Groppini, Samantha
Co-Presenting Author: Di Pietrantonio, Noemi

Additional Authors: Creti, Laura ; Havel, Alice; Qin, Yuxuan; Liao, Huanan; Bailes, Sally; Libman, Eva

Abstract: *IntroductionThe literature about sleep problems such as insomnia and parasomnia among students with diverse disabilities is sparse. The few studies available tend to focus on students with ADHD or learning disability (1). It is simultaneously well established that good sleep quality and mental health are critical to academic success (2).MethodsParticipants were 202 post-secondary students, comprising four disability groups: Mental Health Disability Only (MHO), Mental Health Plus Other Disability (MH+), Other Disability (OD), and No Disability (NoDis). Mean age was 24.0 (sd 4.26). They completed questionnaires, including the Munich Parasomnia Screening (MUPS), the Insomnia Severity Index (ISI), Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scales (HADS).ResultsOver 90% of participants reported at least one parasomnia event in the prior year. A one-way MANOVA (4 groups, 5 measures) revealed that the MHO and MH+ groups reported greatest severity of sleep disturbance. The ISI and HADS subscale scores were coded according to established cutoffs for clinically diagnosable disorders. Of the whole sample, 40% scored in the clinical range for anxiety. Chi-square tests revealed that the MH+ group had a greater likelihood of clinical insomnia and depression than the MHO group.ConclusionsThis study documents that a substantial proportion of post-secondary students struggle with anxiety. The students most vulnerable to diagnosable sleep problems and psychological distress are those who have both mental health and other disabilities. The knowledge translation phase of this study is focused on developing informational, referral and self-help materials to be made available to students and faculty at the start of the semester.AcknowledgementsThis study builds upon the work initiated by the late Dr. Catherine Fichten, whose insight and dedication continue to guide this work.*Charlotte Brontë, The Professor (1857).References1.Gaultney, J. F. (2014). College Students with ADHD at Greater Risk for Sleep Disorders. Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability,27(1), 5-18.2.Toscano-Hermoso, M. D., Arbinaga, F., Fernández-Ozcorta, E. J., Gómez-Salgado, J., & Ruiz-Frutos, C. (2020). Influence of sleeping patterns in health and academic performance among university students. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health,17(8), Article 2760. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17082760*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125678 - Printed Poster

"I'm not alone": Perinatal Women's Experiences in an Online Self-Directed Program for Perinatal Anxiety

Main Presenting Author: Uchechukwu, Light

Additional Author: Reynolds, Kristin

Abstract: *Pregnant and postpartum women face high rates of anxiety and barriers to mental health care. A self-directed online treatment may be a feasible and effective tool for providing care to this population. This study leveraged qualitative methods to understand participants' experiences with a 6-week self-directed online CBT program for perinatal anxiety. A mixed qualitative method design was used. Content analysis and reflexive thematic analysis were used for two different data sources (open-ended online questionnaire feedback and qualitative interviews, respectively). Participants (N = 95) were randomized to an intervention or waitlist condition in a cross-over RCT design. All participants completed feedback questionnaire surveys, while a subset of intervention participants (n = 20) completed a qualitative interview after program completion. Data sources were analyzed separately and compared. The themes that converged across the two data sets were that participants valued the program's flexibility, modes of delivery (i.e., video, text, and audio), program content and connection to the material, and suggestions for improving the program. Distinctions between the two data sources centred on issues that arose during the program. Findings show promise for the scalability of OPA to improve access to low-cost psychological treatment for perinatal women experiencing anxiety in Canada.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125547 - Printed Poster

A 3-Study Replication Failure of a Screen Time Reduction Intervention

Main Presenting Author: Stoakes, Alysha

Additional Authors: Gmiro, Yulia ; Howard, Andrea

Abstract: *Concerns about the impact of social media on young adult's mental health persist, yet empirical evidence remains inconclusive. In three studies, we aimed to replicate widely-cited findings by Hunt and colleagues (2018) that limiting social media use for three weeks improves well-being. Participants (n=644 across three studies; 66.5% women) were young adults (17.8 to 29.9 years old) randomly assigned to limit social media use to 30 minutes per day or to continue use as usual. Each study also extended the replication to test plausible intervention variants and individual differences: limiting social media interactions to real-life acquaintances [Study 1]; online anonymity [Study 2]; and student status [Study 3]. In 18 of the 19 multilevel regression models tested, there were no significant differences in well-being between conditions in any study weeks, with or without covariates included. A key problem of this study was low protocol adherence. Over 85% of participants exceeded daily time limits on social media, calling into question the practicality of social media time limits as a strategy for enhancing well-being. We found no evidence that instructing young adults to limit social media use to 30 minutes a day enhanced well-being, and we questioned the feasibility of such an intervention in real life.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125980 - Printed Poster

A Mixed-Methods Analysis Integrating Emotion Regulation into a Model of Barriers to Substance Use Treatment Engagement for Pregnant and Parenting Individuals

Main Presenting Author: Gryspeerdt, Charlie

Additional Authors: Milligan, Karen ; Thomas, Fiona; Nichol, Emily; Urbanoski, Karen

Abstract: *Rates of substance use among pregnant and parenting individuals are rising. Becoming a parent may enhance motivation for healthier ways of being, though rates of substance use treatment engagement remain low. This sparked development of a model of social and structural barriers to treatment and the implementation of associated services. Though emotion is central to motivated behaviour, emotion regulation (ER) is notably absent in this barrier model. We address this limitation through a longitudinal mixed-methods study of ER, barriers to sustained treatment engagement, and their intersection. Clients (n=18) from two substance use treatment programs for pregnant/parenting individuals in ON and BC completed individual interviews at treatment intake and 3- and 6-months post intake, alongside measures of treatment motivation (TEQ), health-related quality of life (EQ-5D) and working alliance (WAI-S). Reflexive thematic analysis is underway to explore patterns of changes in ER across the first 6 months of treatment and their relation to identified barriers (e.g., fear of losing custody). This study integrates psychology-informed insights into the existing barriers model, applying a strengths-based lens to describing ER trajectories. This expanded model could intervene to promote ER, alongside social and structural barriers to substance use treatment, to support sustained engagement.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125169 - Printed Poster

A person-centred, longitudinal examination of emerging adult university students' depression and help-seeking intentions.

Main Presenting Author: Lane, Victoria
Co-Presenting Author: Barker, Erin

Abstract: *In emerging adulthood, many individuals choose to pursue post-secondary studies. Large-scale Canadian studies have shown high rates of depression among university students; however, rates of formal help-seeking remain comparatively low. The purpose of this study was to examine unique patterns of help-seeking intentions and depression among emerging adult university students using latent profile analysis. A secondary purpose was to determine whether individual membership in specific profiles remained stable over time using latent transition analysis. Participants were 560 undergraduates who completed online surveys across two time points (September 2022, January 2023). Results revealed two profiles of depression and help-seeking intentions: 1) low depression with average help-seeking intentions, and 2) high depression with slightly low intentions to seek help from medical sources, average for informal sources, and slightly high for community sources. Results also reveal that 27.3% of participants transition from profile 1 to profile 2 at the second time point, and 11% transition from profile 1 to profile 2 at the second time point, suggesting that while there is some movement from the first profile, the second is relatively stable over time. The results provide insights into the potential of targeted intervention strategies for specific student subpopulations.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125020 - Printed Poster

Abstract versus Concrete Thinking: The Influence of Ruminative Thinking Modes on Moral Injury in Civilians

Main Presenting Author: Novielli, Julia

Additional Author: Ashbaugh, Andrea R.

Abstract: *Moral Injury (MI) refers to the psychosocial-spiritual distress that can occur when an event violates one's core beliefs. As evidence-based interventions for MI are limited, clarifying the processes involved in its onset/maintenance is imperative. Emerging research suggests different ruminative thinking (RT) modes have distinct consequences following adverse events, with abstract RT amplifying distress and concrete RT reducing it, though these relationships have not been examined in MI. This study examined the influence of abstract and concrete RT on event-related moral emotions (guilt, shame, anger) and MI symptoms. A sample of 212 civilians exposed to a moral stressor completed self-report measures of RT modes, rumination, moral emotions, MI, and MI-related outcomes. Regression analyses showed that abstract RT predicted heightened guilt, shame, anger, and MI symptoms, however, concrete RT did not predict any of these outcomes. Abstract RT was not found to moderate the relationship between event-related rumination and MI. Exploratory regressions showed that abstract RT also predicted higher PTSD and depression symptoms. Findings suggest engaging in abstract RT predicts greater moral pain, MI, and broader psychological distress (PTSD, depression). While more research is needed, targeting abstract RT may constitute a promising avenue for treating MI and associated distress.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123275 - Printed Poster

Acceptability of an Online Self-Reflection and Matched Resources Help-Seeking Intervention for Post-Secondary Students

Main Presenting Author: Cuffaro, Chelsea

Additional Authors: Mettler, Jessica ; Barker , Erin

Abstract: *Participation in post-secondary education continues to rise, yet students remain highly distressed. Although traditional interventions effectively reduce distress, formal help-seeking rates are low. This pilot study assessed the acceptability of a low-intensity online self-reflection and information intervention designed to promote help-seeking. A total of 562 university students (18-29) completed surveys across Fall (T1-T3) and Winter (T4-T6) semesters. In the fall, half were randomly assigned to receive the intervention (N = 284; Control Group N = 278), and all received it in the Winter. Acceptability data were collected at mid- and end-of-semesters and comprehensively at the end of the year (T7). Usefulness ratings increased significantly across both semesters (Fall: F(1,205) = 4.08, p = .045; Winter: F(1,330) = 14.14, p = <.001). At T7, most participants recognized key components (~85%), found the intervention coherent and minimally burdensome, and about half reported better understanding of their stress, though fewer felt that the resource flyers increased confidence in using campus services. Findings suggest brief youth-centred digital interventions are acceptable and feasible for students, but enhancing help-seeking may require pairing resource information with*

targeted strategies (e.g., stigma-reduction) to build confidence in using campus mental health services.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123979 - Printed Poster

Acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT) for institutional informal caregivers (IICs): A feasibility study

Main Presenting Author: De Roo, Briana

Additional Author: Gallant, Natasha

Abstract: *Institutional informal caregiver (IICs) experience high levels of negative mental health outcomes and this distress persists when care recipients enter long-term care. Psychological interventions, particularly Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), are being utilized in caregivers and are widely effective. This study aims to examine if a single-session ACT-based online intervention is feasible for IICs, as limited studies to date have investigated this population. Participants will include 20 self-identified IICs from Canada. They will complete a single-session ACT-based online intervention which will focus on increasing psychological flexibility to cope with difficulties associated with caregiving. Participants will complete pre-and-post intervention measures regarding the feasibility of this intervention and mental health outcomes. To assess effectiveness, pre- and post-program scores will be compared using paired samples t-tests. To determine the acceptability of the intervention, participants will complete semi-structured interviews. Preliminary data analyses are currently underway. Current data shows that participants are satisfied with treatment, expressing that it was helpful, valuable and they feel confident in taking actions in line with their values. This study has the potential to provide IICs with accessible treatment that can improve mental health outcomes.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124261 - Printed Poster

Accommodating behaviour and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) in romantic relationships: Links to intimacy and conflict

Main Presenting Author: Jayaweera, Mika I
Co-Presenting Author: Fairley, Daylia S

Additional Authors: Skillen, Sophie ; Hanjrah, Avneet; Cho, Jessica; Jaworski, Arthur A; Cox, Amanda; Van Blyderveen, Sherry

Abstract: *Background: Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) often impairs social functioning, partly due to accommodating behaviours (AB), which are actions by loved ones intended to alleviate symptoms. While well meaning, AB can cause stress, hostility, and power dynamics within romantic relationships. Despite the recognition of OCD and AB's impact on relationships (e.g. family members), minimal research discusses the role of AB within romantic relationships. Methods: This study investigated how AB and OCD effect romantic relationship quality. Undergraduate students (N = 725) in a current relationship completed an anonymous online survey related to their mental health, perceptions of their partner's mental health, and their relationship experiences. Results: The results*

revealed that AB of the self was correlated with AB of partners. Additionally, AB in the self and partner were moderately correlated with physical conflict and the destruction of belongings in the relationship. Small effect sizes were also found for ABs and emotional and intellectual intimacy as well as negative interactional styles. Conclusions: These results indicate that ABs have significant implications for romantic relationship quality such as conflict, communication, and intimacy. Action/Impact: These findings highlight the importance of reducing AB within romantic relationships.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125593 - Printed Poster

Actions speak louder than coaches: Eating-disorder behaviour among student athletes

Main Presenting Author: Button, Thea

Additional Author: Ouellette, Gene P

Abstract: *The objective of the current study was to examine the prevalence of eating disorder behaviour among student athletes. Two hundred participants completed an online survey that assessed participants eating disorder behaviour, behaviours consistent with the Adonis Complex and perceived social support. The results revealed significant differences in eating disorder behaviour between female and male athletes, with females scoring significantly higher. No differences were found between how female and male athletes scored on the Adonis Complex Questionnaire. Significant differences were found between lean-sport and non-lean sport athletes; lean sport athletes exhibited more eating disorder behaviours. Furthermore, non-lean sport male athletes were found to score significantly higher than lean-sport male athletes for the Adonis Complex. Perceived social support was found to be negatively correlated to eating disorder behaviour, and when considering gender variables, level of competition and type of sport, accounted for unique variance in eating disorder behaviour. These results suggest that athletes are susceptible to negative mental health outcomes, and eating behaviours vary among athletes and sport type. The results highlight the importance of having support systems in place for student athletes and increasing awareness of athletic staff and coaches as to the seriousness and prevalence of eating disorder behaviours among their student athletes.*

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 121075 - Printed Poster

Advancing Early Detection of Mild Cognitive Impairment: Integrating Mobile EEG Biomarkers, Neuropsychological Assessment, and Community Education

Main Presenting Author: Meszaros, Jennifer

Abstract: *Building dementia-friendly communities requires early screening, education, and accessible assessment tools. Our collaboration between the University of Victoria's Theoretical and Applied Neuroscience Laboratory, the Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, and Island Health focuses on validating mobile EEG for early identification of Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). Data collected from adults over 60 who performed a visual oddball task using a portable EEG system and completed cognitive testing with the Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status (RBANS) were classified as cognitively normal or MCI based on RBANS scores. Ongoing analyses examining group differences in ERP amplitudes and latency, and regression models are being used to*

test whether EEG-based neural markers predict cognitive performance. Additionally, mobile testing units deployed across Island Health Centres improve access for rural and underserved communities. Alongside assessment development, the project includes a community-education initiative to increase awareness of MCI and dementia. This multidisciplinary effort aims to produce scalable, low-cost, and user-friendly screening tools that advance early detection and promote cognitive-health equity.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124154 - Printed Poster

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Cardiovascular Patterns of Challenge and Threat and HPA Axis Functioning in American Indians and Alaska Natives

Main Presenting Author: McLaren, Gillian

Additional Authors: Danyluck , Chad ; Blair , Irene V; Daugherty , L Stacie ; Kelsey , Robert ; Brondolo , Elizabeth ; Manson , Spero M

Abstract: *Early childhood is a sensitive period for the development of the stress response systems. Children are particularly vulnerable to environmental insults that can lead to enduring functional alterations and dysregulation. Indeed, adverse childhood experiences disrupt the development of stress response systems, thereby increasing the risk of both mental and physical health concerns. Extant literature suggests dysregulation of the sympathetic-adrenal-medullary (SAM) and hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axes may be a possible mechanism for increased threat perception/hypervigilance following childhood adversity. This study uses the biopsychosocial model of challenge and threat (BPS) as a framework to investigate whether early life adversity is a predictor of threat in a sample of adult American Indians and Alaskan Natives (AI/AN) exposed to a discrimination-related stressor. Further, the study will examine if challenge and threat patterns of arousal explain the relationship between adversity type and cortisol reactivity. Participants (N = 303) were asked to recount an experience of ethnic discrimination while cardiovascular stress arousal was continuously recorded. Path analysis will be used to assess the aforementioned direct and indirect effects. Findings will clarify the impact of early adversity on physiological patterns of stress reactivity.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 126250 - Printed Poster

Amplification of the Effects of Social Support and Negative Social Interactions in People with Central Sensitivity Syndromes: Data from a Nationally Representative Statistics Canada Survey

Main Presenting Author: Melnyk, Carissa

Additional Authors: Gallant, Natasha L; MacLennan, Richard

Abstract: *Background. The social environment may play an important role in mental health/wellbeing for people with central sensitivity syndromes (CSSs; e.g., fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, migraines, and multiple chemical sensitivity) due to the stigma associated with these conditions. Method. Data were obtained from the 2022 Mental Health and Access to Care Survey (MHACS) Public Use Microdata File. The MHACS is a cross-sectional, nationally representative Statistics*

Canada survey that included 9,861 Canadian residents selected through multistage stratified cluster random sampling. Sampling weights and weighted bootstrapping were employed for all analyses. Results. Regression models with interaction terms were conducted to examine whether the relationships between the social environment and various mental health/wellbeing variables differed depending on CSS status. Results predominantly suggest that the presence of CSSs amplifies the protective effects of social support and adverse effects of negative social interactions, but differences exist depending on the specific outcome variable and CSS diagnosis. Discussion/Impact: While the social environment is important for everyone's mental health and wellbeing, it may be especially influential for those with CSSs. Interventions addressing social support and coping with negative interactions may be beneficial for people with CSSs.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124839 - Printed Poster

Amplifying Resilience: Hope Enhances the Protective Effects of Education and Health on Substance Use Problems in Cape Breton's Northside Community

Main Presenting Author: Bossom, Isabella R.L.

Additional Authors: Michalik, Edward ; DeGrace, Sarah; Stewart, H. Sherry

Abstract: *We examined socioeconomic risk and resilience factors' associations with substance use problems in residents of the Northside community in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. Using cross-sectional data from 502 adults (Median age = 35-44; 72% women), we tested whether income insufficiency (the inability to meet basic financial needs) and other risks, predicted substance use problems and whether hope buffered these associations. Moderation analyses (PROCESS Model 1) evaluated whether the effects of income insufficiency, low education, poor health, and low trust on substance use problems varied across levels of hope. We found significant moderation in two cases. Higher education (B=-.15, p=.03) and better health (B=-.31, p=.01) were associated with fewer substance use problems, and this association was stronger among those with higher hope. Trust (B=-.04, p=.36) and higher income sufficiency (B=-.07, p=.58) did not significantly in interaction with hope, however, a main effect of higher income sufficiency on substance use problems was found (B=-.62, p<.001). Results suggest that hope amplifies the protective influence of existing socioeconomic and health resources but does not buffer the adverse effects of income insufficiency or low trust. Findings highlight hope as a resilience-related resource to support substance use prevention efforts in rural communities facing economic disadvantage.*

Section: *Rural and Northern Psychology*
Session ID: 125460 - Printed Poster

An actigraphy-based exploration of the physical activity patterns of youth with past and current depression

Main Presenting Author: Fonseca, Marina

Additional Authors: Szatmari, Peter ; Battaglia, Marco; Lucasius, Christopher; Kundur, Deepa; Vorstman, Jacob; Kloiber, Stefan; Aitken, Madison

Abstract: *Background: Physical activity (PA) has many health benefits, including alleviating depressive symptoms and preventing relapse in youth. Given the adverse outcomes and high relapse rates associated with major depressive disorder (MDD), it is important to understand health behaviours to tailor intervention efforts. The current literature on PA is limited by self-report measures and not parsing out current versus past MDD. Methods: The sample is a longitudinal cohort of youth aged 12-21 with a current or past diagnosis of MDD (N=144, Mage=17.47; 72% cisgender women). PA was measured for four weeks with a triaxial wrist accelerometer. Current MDD was assessed using validated interviewer-rated depression measures. Results: Using descriptive statistics, the amount and intensity of PA will be reported. A linear regression will compare the PA of youth based on current MDD, controlling for age and gender. Conclusions: Conclusions will be drawn about whether youth with past or current MDD are meeting PA guidelines, and whether health promotion efforts should be targeted during treatment or post-treatment. Impact: Understanding the behaviours of youth with both past and current MDD can inform health promotion efforts. These insights may support the integration of PA into clinical treatment and underscore the need for PA post-treatment to prevent relapse.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122772 - Printed Poster

An Examination of Emotion Regulation and Executive Functioning in Romantic Relationships: A Self-Partner Comparison

Main Presenting Author: Skillen, Sophie
Co-Presenting Author: Jayaweera, Mika I

Additional Authors: Van Schaik, Nikki ; Cho, Jessica; Van Blyderveen, Sherry; Fairley, Daylia; Hanjrah, Avneet; Cox, Amanda

Abstract: *Background: Individuals with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) often experience difficulties with emotion regulation (ER) and executive functioning (EF). Although research on ADHD and relationship dissatisfaction highlights the contributing role of ER, the independent influences of ER and EF on romantic relationship functioning remains understudied. Methods: Undergraduate students (N=725) currently in a romantic relationship completed an anonymous online survey related to their mental health, perceptions of their partner's mental health, and their relationship experiences. The DERS-SF and ESQ-R were used to measure ER and EF difficulties, respectively, in participants and their partners. Results: Partner-perceived EF difficulties were associated with higher levels of verbal and physical conflict, less emotional and intellectual intimacy, and greater engagement in pursue/withdraw interactional cycles. Additionally, self-reported and partner-perceived ER difficulties were associated with less emotional and intellectual intimacy and greater engagement in pursue/withdraw interactional cycles. Results related to ER difficulties and conflict were inconsistent. Conclusions: ER and EF difficulties independently impact romantic relationship quality. Impact: The unique contributions of ER and EF on relationship quality highlight specific intervention targets for clinicians.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123874 - Printed Poster

Analyses longitudinales des attitudes et comportements alimentaires problématiques : ce que nous apprennent les distinctions garçons - filles

Main Presenting Author: Dufour, Claudia

Additional Authors: Thibault, Isabelle ; Tougas, Anne-Marie; Pesant, Caroline

Abstract: *Souvent associé aux filles (sexe biologique), les attitudes et comportements alimentaires problématiques (ACAP) affecte aussi les garçons, et ce, dès l'enfance. À ce jour, peu d'études se sont intéressées aux différences selon le sexe en regard de l'évolution des ACAP. À partir d'un échantillon d'enfants (46 % de garçons), les objectifs de l'étude sont : 1. comparer la proportion de filles et de garçons pour différents types d'ACAP (recherche de minceur, boulimie, insatisfaction corporelle, dysmorphie musculaire) ; 2. analyser l'évolution des ACAP selon le sexe. Les participants ont complété l'Eating Disorders Inventory (Garner, 2004) et le Muscle and Dysmorphic Disorder Inventory (Hildebrandt et al., 2004) au début de l'étude (T1, âge moyen : 11,71 ans), puis 12 mois (T2) et 24 mois plus tard (T3). Globalement, les résultats indiquent aucune différence entre les proportions de garçons et de filles pour les différents types d'ACAP au T1, sauf pour l'insatisfaction corporelle (22,5 % filles vs 11,5 % garçons, p = 0,04). Cependant, les analyses longitudinales montrent une distinction entre les garçons et les filles dans le temps. Alors que pour les filles, les proportions d'ACAP et leur gravité sont constantes ou même s'aggravent au fil du temps, pour les garçons, en revanche, ces mêmes indicateurs diminuent avec le temps. Ces résultats démontrent l'importance de la prévention dès l'enfance et de comprendre les déterminants sous-jacents aux distinctions observés.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123513 - Printed Poster

Anxiety, but not depression, moderates the association between negative urgency and alcohol-related consequences in young adults.

Main Presenting Author: Kok, Can

Additional Author: O'Connor, Roisin M

Abstract: *Negative urgency, the tendency to act rashly in response to negative emotions, is consistently linked to alcohol-related problems. However, it remains unclear whether different internalizing symptoms uniquely influence this association. This study examined whether generalized anxiety or depressive symptoms moderate the association between negative urgency and negative alcohol-related consequences in undergraduate students. A sample of 151 young adults (M = 23.3, SD = 1.76) completed self-report measures of generalized anxiety, depressive symptoms, negative urgency, and alcohol-related consequences. Analyses revealed that anxiety symptoms uniquely moderated the association between negative urgency and alcohol consequences (b = 0.0235, p = .029), whereas depressive symptoms did not (b = -0.0051, p = .173). The effect of negative urgency on alcohol consequences was statistically significant and positive at high (+1 SD; b = .3934, p<.001), but not low (-1 SD; b =.1114, p = .1271) anxiety. These findings suggest that impulsivity-related risk pathways are heightened in young adults with elevated anxiety, increasing risk for alcohol-related problems among those high in negative urgency. Interventions may benefit from concurrently targeting negative urgency and anxiety symptoms to reduce risky drinking.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125954 - Printed Poster

As Hard As You Can: Experimentally Investigating Attempts to Lose Control of Your Thoughts

Main Presenting Author: Shapiro, Isabel R

Additional Author: Radomsky, Adam S

Abstract: *Background: Though commonly reported and increasingly relevant to our understanding of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), beliefs about losing control (BALC) remain relatively unexplored. It was proposed that feared, regularly described losses of control may rather reflect misappraisals of regretted choices. However, this has not yet been experimentally investigated. The present study aimed to expand knowledge on BALC via a novel methodology. Method: Participants (n=48) were asked to "try to lose control of [their] thoughts" for 60 seconds (task), and to complete an appraisal battery pre- and post-task, including rating the degree to which they believe they lost control during the task. Results: Analyses revealed low appraisals of having lost control during the task (M=1.53, SD=1.42), moderate appraisals that they can (M=5.14, SD=2.15), and are concerned about losing control in the future (M=3.82, SD=2.00). As well, no significant change from pre- to post-task in the latter two domains was found (t(47)=.068, p=.473; t(47)=1.195, p=.119). Conclusions: Attempts to lose control of one's thoughts in a controlled lab setting were unsuccessful and did not affect the degree to which one believes they can and is concerned about losing control in the future. Impact: Filling gaps in our knowledge of BALC will allow for developing improved strategies to target them in OCD treatments.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125101 - Printed Poster

Assessing Psychache in Male Veterans and First-Responders with a Single-Item Visual Analogue Scale (VAS)

Main Presenting Author: Heisel, Marnin J.

Abstract: *The purpose of the present study was to investigate the psychometric properties of a single-item Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) of psychache (i.e., psychological pain).Methods: Male Veterans and First-Responders (VFR), 50 and older, were recruited into an online RCT of Meaning-Centered Men's Groups (Heisel et al., 2018) for those facing career transition. Participants completed demographic and clinical measures at eligibility and pre-group assessments, including a 0-100 VAS scale assessing physical, emotional, psychological, existential, and overall pain. Test-retest reliability and validity were assessed between eligibility and pre-group assessments.Results: Participants to date include 41 VFR (M=57.3 years, SD=4.8); 7 reported a history of suicide behaviour. The psychache item evidenced strong test-retest reliability (M=106 days, SD=94.5; r=.74, ICC=.84), and positive association with suicide ideation (SI; r=.52), depression (r=.69), hopelessness (r=.43), and loneliness (r=.49), and negative association with reasons for living (r=-.32), perceived support (r=-.34), and life satisfaction (r=-.54). Regression findings revealed unique associations between psychache and SI, controlling for physical and existential pain.Conclusion: Despite limitations associated with single-item assessment and small sample size, these findings suggest value in very brief measures of psychache.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 126167 - Printed Poster

Association between problematic smartphone use and mental health in children and adolescents: a cross-cultural pilot study

Main Presenting Author: ZEROUAL, BRAHIM BRAHIM

Additional Authors: CHAVEROT, Robin ; CRISTINI, Emma ; PEREIRA DA SILVA, Michael ; CARBONNEAU, Noémie ; MATHIEU, Marie-Eve ; TOUCHETTE, Evelyne ; FITZPATRICK, Caroline ; de Fátima GUIMARAES, Roseane

Abstract: *Background: Problematic smartphone use [PSU], in youth is increasingly linked to poorer mental health, but the roles of lifestyle and family factors remain unclear. We examined associations between PSU and depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms in children and adolescents from Canada and Algeria, tested moderation by lifestyle behaviors (physical activity [PA], sleep duration, total screen time), country of origin and parental education. Methods: We analyzed data from the SMARTKids Québec pilot study and its Algeria extension (N = 330; M age = 13.8 ± 4.8 years old; Québec n = 194, Algeria n = 136). Participants completed sociodemographic, the Smartphone Addiction Scale-Short Version (SAS-SV) and the Depression, Anxiety and Stress Scale (DASS-21) questionnaires. Moderation was tested using age- and sex-adjusted regression models. Results: Higher PSU predicted greater psychological distress (β = .34, p < .001). PA moderated this association, with weaker effects among active vs inactive (β = 0.252, p = .033). Sleep duration, total screen time, country, and parental education did not moderate the association. Conclusion: Excessive PSU is associated with poorer mental health, while physical activity may buffer this effect. Promoting digital literacy, parental guidance, and active lifestyles may help support youth mental well-being.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124822 - Printed Poster

Associations between childhood maltreatment, sexual desire, and sexual distress: A dyadic daily diary study

Main Presenting Author: Sansoucy, Florence

Additional Authors: St-Onge, Juliette ; Bergeron, Sophie; Daspe, Marie-Ève; Vaillancourt-Morel, Marie-Pier

Abstract: *Childhood maltreatment (CM) is a major social issue experienced by about 40% of adults and is linked to romantic difficulties such as instability, lower sexual desire, and greater distress. Yet, its effects within couples remain understudied, even though low sexual desire is a common reason for seeking therapy. Most existing studies are cross-sectional, limiting understanding of daily variations in couples' sexual well-being. This study examined how CM relates to daily and mean levels of sexual desire and distress using a 35-day dyadic daily diary design, within 327 cohabiting couples. Individuals with a CM history reported lower mean-level and daily fluctuations in sexual desire, alongside higher mean-level and daily fluctuations in sexual distress, suggesting a persistent inhibition or disengagement from sexual interest, with heightened discomfort related to sexuality. Moreover, a person's CM was also associated with their partner's higher sexual desire, suggesting a possible approach-avoidance dynamic in which the partner increases desire to compensate for*

reduced intimacy. No partner effects were found for sexual distress. These results highlight how CM shapes daily sexual patterns within couples and underscore the importance of studying these dynamics in everyday life. Findings support the need for couple-based interventions to help partners communicate more effectively about sexuality, especially in the context of CM.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 124600 - Printed Poster

Associations between Daily Social Anxiety and Relationship Satisfaction in Married Couples: The Moderating Role of Intercultural Couple Status

Main Presenting Author: Demecillo, Maron

Additional Author: Cobb, Rebecca

Abstract: *Social anxiety can limit emotional openness and engagement in close relationships, yet little is known about how daily social anxiety shapes relationship satisfaction. Intercultural couples who differ in racial identity/religion may face added stressors that intensify communication problems or reduce shared norms that typically support connection. Intracultural couples may benefit from shared communication norms and fewer external cultural stressors which can help buffer them from the relational impact of social anxiety. We hypothesized that on days individuals experience higher social anxiety, they will report lower same-day and next-day satisfaction. Given that social anxiety predicts individuals' own but not partners' experiences, we expect stronger actor than partner effects. We also predicted stronger associations for intercultural couples, for whom reduced cultural similarity may weaken these buffering processes. In a 21-day daily diary study, 125 mixed-gender married couples (Husbands: M = 30.99 years; wives: M = 30.16 years; 30% interracial; 52% interfaith) reported daily social anxiety and relationship satisfaction. Data are complete, and analyses are underway using multilevel modelling and the Actor-Partner Interdependence Model. Findings will clarify how daily social anxiety undermines relationship functioning across cultural contexts and inform intervention targets.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124180 - Printed Poster

Associations Between Infant Sleep and Autism Spectrum Disorder Screening Scores at 24 Months

Main Presenting Author: Martinez, Ariana M

Additional Authors: Dewsnap, Kyle ; Giesbrecht, Gerald F; MacEachern, Sarah; Lebel, Catherine; Keys, Elizabeth; Tomfohr-Madsen, Lianne

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Emerging evidence suggests that neurobiological features of autism may predispose children to disrupted sleep, which can exacerbate autism symptoms and developmental challenges. This study examines the relationship between parent-reported infant sleep across three ages and autism screening scores. METHODS: Individuals enrolled in the Pregnancy During the Pandemic cohort completed postpartum assessments of infant sleep using the Brief Infant Sleep Questionnaire (BISQ) and measures of child autism risk at 24 months using the Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers-Revised (M-CHAT-R). We will use random-slope binomial regression modeling to*

fit a longitudinal model of M-CHAT performance as a function of individual trajectories in infant sleep, captured across three BISQ time points. Participants who completed the M-CHAT-R at 24 months (n = 4,195) will be included in the analytic sample. RESULTS: Data collection is complete, and analyses will be finalized by the time of the conference. IMPLICATIONS: Findings will advance understanding of the relationship between infant sleep difficulties and early autism symptoms, enhancing understanding of whether sleep difficulties may serve as early markers of atypical neurodevelopment. Results will inform future autism research by examining whether early identification of sleep difficulties may support earlier autism diagnosis.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125285 - Printed Poster

Associations of social support and sociodemographic risk with internalizing disorder symptoms in adolescence

Main Presenting Author: MacTavish, Alexandra

Additional Authors: Menna, Rosanne ; Rappaport, Lance

Abstract: *Mental health disparities impact people with marginalized social identities. Research implicates social support, the belief that one can rely on others to help in times of need, as a protective psychosocial factor for a wide range of life stressors (e.g., natural disasters). The present study leveraged baseline data from a longitudinal study of adolescent (ages 14-17) wellbeing (N=152) to investigate associations and interactions of sociodemographic factors (e.g., subjective socioeconomic status, identification with a historically marginalized racial or ethnic group, and biological sex), and satisfaction with perceived social support with adolescents' self-reported internalizing disorder symptoms (e.g., depression, anxiety, irritability symptoms). Overall, females and adolescents from low SES backgrounds reported greater internalizing disorder symptoms and lower satisfaction with social support. Adolescents from historically marginalized racial or ethnic backgrounds reported lower anxiety and stress symptom severity. Across sociodemographic factors, greater satisfaction with social support was associated with lower severity of internalizing disorder symptoms, though social support did not interact with risk factors. Findings highlight the importance of social support to bolster adolescents, regardless of their sociodemographic backgrounds.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124113 - Printed Poster

Attending to Shame in Domestic Violence Interventions for Male Aggressors: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Takano, Yoshiyuki
Co-Presenting Author: Choo, Ping Ying

Additional Authors: Vitale, Mathew ; Henry, Brianna

Abstract: *The existing domestic violence (DV) interventions for male aggressors are predominantly correctional treatments with the aims of placing accountability on the aggressors and facilitating cognitive restructuring to reduce their engagement in DV. However, male offenders often experience complex experiences of shame, which can lead to a reactive response of fight or flight, which may*

preclude their openness to intervention (Takano, 2025). Thus, working on shame is critical for male offenders of DV for change (Takano, 2025), and the researchers conducted a scoping review of existing DV interventions that integrate shame transformation as a component. After searching three databases (i.e., APA PsycINFO, APA PsycARTICLES, Medline Ovid), 60 potentially relevant articles were identified and screened. Of the three articles included in the final analysis, only one was an interventional study, and two were interventional conceptualization papers. Considering the connection between violence and shame, understanding and addressing shame in male aggressors, as well as linking shame to their yearning and the broader sociocultural discourses related to relational interactions, can provide potential new directions for DV interventions beyond the traditional intrapersonal and correctional treatments. Implications and research directions will be discussed.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125552 - Printed Poster

Attitudes Toward Male Hormonal Contraceptive Use and Perceptions of Masculinity: A Review

Main Presenting Author: Adineh, Shahla
Co-Presenting Author: Oinonen, Kirsten

Additional Author: Mazmanian, Dwight

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Novel male contraception methods which inhibit sperm production have advanced in terms of clinical development. Notably, reversible male hormonal contraception (MHC) is expected to become available in the near future. This review examined the relevant literature to determine the extent to which men's use of MHCs is associated with their self-perceptions of masculinity and how others perceive such use. Methods: A systematic search of peer-reviewed English-language studies in the areas of male contraception, infertility, masculinity, and mate preferences was conducted on January 31, 2025. Databases searched included PsycINFO, PubMed and Web of Science. Twenty articles met the inclusion criteria. Results: The majority of publications (55%) reported qualitative findings, and 40% reported quantitative findings. Also, most of the work (70%) was done with male-only samples. Discussion: The findings indicated that men's and women's attitudes toward the use of MHC were most frequently associated with the maintenance of conventional masculine identity. In addition, the acceptability of MHCs among men and women was suggested to be positively associated with the perception of a non-traditional masculine identity. Impact: Although there is not enough research to draw firm conclusions, societal and individual perceptions of traditional or non-traditional masculinity will likely play a role in the use of MHCs.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 122473 - Printed Poster

B Well Behavioural Medicine Service: Results from a primary care lifestyle intervention for patients living with or at risk for chronic disease

Main Presenting Author: Thompson, Sandra

Additional Authors: Wilson, Michelle N; Tran, Vivian ; Wong, Christina; Burns, Amy

Abstract: *Research demonstrates that behavior-change interventions which target core factors impacting health behaviors can significantly improve patient outcomes. B-Well is a small-changes evidence-based intervention embedded in three primary care networks in British Columbia. Patients are supported by health coaches who are supervised by a registered psychologist. Participants were 248 middle-aged (M=48.83+14.14), men (32%) and women (68%), from diverse backgrounds (57% Caucasian), weight reported as overweight/obese (M BMI =32.05+6.22) and reported on average 3.07 chronic health conditions (SD=1.71). Patients completed on average 18 coaching sessions (SD=5.02) over average of 10 months. Analyses showed significant decreases in weight (M kg weight change =-3.06+9.36) t(238) = -5.061, p < 0.001, d = 0.324, mean=-3.5% change) and significant increases in daily physical activity by over 25 minutes per day (M daily step count changes=2535+2774), t(221)= 13.614, p <0.001, d = 0.410). Moreover, patients reported significant reduced symptoms of depression (M PHQ-9 change = -2.86+4.51), t(238) = -9.804, p < 0.001, d = 0.239), and anxiety (M GAD-7 change = -2.93+4.89), t(238) =-9.261, p < 0.001, d = 0.220). Additional health outcomes will be reported including self-efficacy, perceived stress, self-compassion, lifestyle behaviours, as well as patient satisfaction and maintenance of changes.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124038 - Printed Poster

Behaving like one of "us": Identity enactment relates to well-being through social identification but not social relatedness

Main Presenting Author: Ayotte, Anaïs

Additional Authors: Codjia, Olivia Fêmi ; Cárdenas, Diana

Abstract: *Connecting with others is critical for our well-being. While much research has focused on connection at the interpersonal level, i.e., when a person feels socially related to other individuals (social relatedness), there is increasing evidence that group connection, specifically social identification (being psychologically connected to the group), contributes significantly to our well-being. In this research, we examine how social relatedness and social identification simultaneously relate to well-being in sports teams. Importantly, few studies have explored how to encourage social identification. In this study, we focus on identity enactment (i.e., engaging in behaviours that are typical of a group) and hypothesized that identity enactment fosters well-being through social identification but not social relatedness. Ultimate frisbee players (N = 224) completed online self-report questionnaires. Mediation analyses were conducted and the results showed that identity enactment predicted well-being only through the identification pathway (β=.095 [.021;.168], p=.011) but not through social relatedness (β=.040 [-.029;.109], p=.262), though social relatedness predicted well-being. These findings show that group and interpersonal processes are key for our well-being, highlighting the need for policies and interventions that promote group participation to support individual well-being.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125545 - Printed Poster

Beliefs Related to Vaccination Behaviour: A Network Approach

Main Presenting Author: Renaud, Tristan

Additional Author: Burns, Rachel

Abstract: *Health beliefs can predict health behaviour. However, little is known about how health beliefs interrelate and if these interrelations impact behaviour. This study used network analysis to model the interrelations of beliefs related to the COVID-19 vaccine and compare networks of beliefs between vaccinated and unvaccinated Canadians. Data came from the International COVID-19 Awareness and Responses Evaluation (iCARE) study and were collected shortly after the COVID-19 vaccine was made available to the general public (May 31st - June 14th, 2021). Regularized networks of self-reported beliefs about COVID-19 and the vaccine were estimated for vaccinated (n = 2,459) and unvaccinated (n = 437) participants. Both networks exhibited excellent stability (CS = 0.672 - 0.750) and edge weight accuracy. A Network Comparison Test revealed that groups differed significantly in overall structure (M = 0.216, p = 0.003), but not global strength (S = 0.022, p = 0.978), of their belief networks. This indicates that the belief networks of vaccinated and unvaccinated participants were built differently, but were equally strong. The structural difference between groups suggests that the ways beliefs relate to each other may impact behaviour. Integrating belief interrelations into theories may improve existing explanations of health behaviour.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125636 - Printed Poster

Believing You Can Regulate Emotions Weakens the Link Between Negative Affect and Dysphoria: A Daily Diary Study

Main Presenting Author: Sah, Jessica

Additional Author: Park, Juhyun

Abstract: *High negative affect (NA) is a key risk factor for depression and anxiety, but it remains unclear when or for whom NA is associated with these disorders. Emotion regulation self-efficacy (ERSE) refers to one's perceived ability to manage emotions and may moderate this association. Greater ERSE is considered adaptive because of its link to reduced depression and anxiety, but research rarely tested its buffering role in the context of other risk factors such as NA. To bridge this gap, we examined the moderating role of ERSE in the association between NA and dysphoria that reflects general distress shared across depression and anxiety. We conducted multilevel structural equation modeling using data from a 10-day daily diary study where 154 adults with a history of depression and anxiety reported NA and ERSE under the most intense negative emotional event each day and daily symptoms of dysphoria. The hypothesized moderating role was supported at the occasion-by-occasion level (β=-0.21, p=.002) such that the association between NA and dysphoria was weaker on days individuals reported greater ERSE than when they reported lower ERSE. This was not found at the individual difference level. This study provides initial support for ERSE's protective role in daily life, which can refine theoretical models of internalizing disorders and guide interventions in the context of negative affect.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125177 - Printed Poster

Breaking Barriers: A Behaviour Change Intervention Promoting Meaningful Physical Activity to Support Mental Health in Post-Secondary Students

Main Presenting Author: Sgro, Delaney

Additional Authors: Fenesi, Barbara ; Sehgal, Maheep

Abstract: *Many post-secondary students recognize the mental health benefits of physical activity (PA), yet anxiety and depression often make even simple movement feel out of reach. This study evaluated a 12-week behaviour change intervention grounded in the Capability, Opportunity, Motivation-Behaviour (COM-B) model to help post-secondary students identify and overcome the psychological and environmental barriers that shape their ability to engage in PA. Participants completed personalized COM-B assessments, set meaningful PA goals, and completed validated measures of anxiety, depression, emotion regulation, and motivation across three time points. Post-intervention interviews explored students' experiences and shifting perceptions of movement. Data analysis is underway, examining changes in PA, mental health symptoms, and emotion regulation, as well as how students understood and engaged with the intervention. Preliminary qualitative insights suggest that many students began to view movement as more attainable and enjoyable, rather than overwhelming or pressure-filled, helping them reflect on their habits and barriers. These emerging findings highlight the potential of COM-B-based interventions to restore a sense of capability, agency, and positive wellbeing, offering a practical path for supporting mental health and sustainable PA engagement during this transformative life stage.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125388 - Printed Poster

Breaking Barriers: Examining Differences in Barriers to Anxiety Care Between Racialized and Non-Racialized Adults

Main Presenting Author: Kasprzak, Emilia

Additional Authors: Tariq, Inaya ; Rowa, Karen; Alarachi, Arij

Abstract: *Anxiety and related disorders (ARDs) are the most prevalent group of mental disorders, characterized by a lifetime prevalence of 31%, yet racialized (i.e., visible minorities or people of colour) communities remain underrepresented in treatment centers. No studies have investigated factors underlying this racial/ethnic disparity in access to ARDs care. To address this gap, the present study compared barriers to care using a cross-sectional survey among racialized (n=50) and non-racialized adults (n=79) at an outpatient ARDs clinic. Participants completed the Barriers to Access to Care Evaluation (BACE v3). Results found that concerns that professionals from their own ethnic group are not available ($p < .001$) and that people they know would find out they are seeking treatment ($p < .045$) were endorsed more strongly in racialized vs. non-racialized participants. These results highlight the importance of considering client-clinician ethnic matching and concerns about privacy and concealment for some racialized clients attempting to access ARDs care. Further analyses will examine how discrimination and social support moderate racial differences in ratings of perceived barriers to care. Recommendations for ARDs clinicians will be discussed to facilitate equitable access to care.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 124482 - Printed Poster

Bringing relief to caregivers: The effect of mindfulness training on cognitive and psychological well-being in family caregivers of persons with dementia.

Main Presenting Author: Ramana, Shreeyaa

Additional Author: Fiocco, Alexandra

Abstract: *By 2030, 75 million people globally will be living with dementia, increasing burden on family caregivers for people with dementia (PWD). Chronic stress increases risk for cognitive decline and psychological distress in caregivers, necessitating targeted interventions to enhance resilience. The current study examines whether an 8-week virtual mindfulness-based intervention (MBI), improves cognition and psychological wellbeing in family caregivers of PWD. Cognitive (digit span, flanker) and psychological (Five Facet Mindfulness Questionnaire; FFMQ, stress, depression, emotion regulation, Quality of Life; QoL, burden) measures were collected pre- and post-MBI. Preliminary analysis using paired samples t-tests were conducted to assess differences from baseline in 13 caregivers. Analyses showed significant increases in FFMQ non-reactivity, QoL, congruent flanker accuracy and reaction time, suggesting improvements in psychological characteristics that may support resilience among family caregivers. However, analyses also showed a decrease in FFMQ non-judgement, which may reflect greater insights of the judging mind post-intervention. Preliminary findings suggest that virtual MBI may promote better health outcomes for caregivers, contributing to long-term physical and mental wellbeing and resilience.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 123257 - Printed Poster

Caffeine Consumption Patterns Among Young Adults on CYP1A2-Inhibiting Psychiatric Medications and Implications for Clinical Practice.

Main Presenting Author: Dabir, Daniel
Co-Presenting Author: Sukhon, Hala

Abstract: *Background: Caffeine fuels university life, yet students on certain psychotropics may experience 30-hour caffeine half-lives. CYP1A2 metabolizes 95% of caffeine but is unequally inhibited by different medications, with fluvoxamine being among the most potent inhibitors. How patients adjust their caffeine consumption in real-world settings is still underexplored. Methods: This cross-sectional analysis used NHANES data to assess self-reported daily caffeine consumption among young adults aged 18-24 (N=241). Participants were divided across nine medication groups: controls (n=45), sertraline (n=58), escitalopram (n=35), fluoxetine (n=28), citalopram (n=22), venlafaxine (n=19), paroxetine (n=14), clozapine (n=10), and fluvoxamine (n=10).Results: ANOVA showed significant differences between groups ($p < .01$, $\eta^2 = .09$). Controls consumed 185 mg of caffeine daily (SD = 68). Participants on potent CYP1A2 inhibitors consumed less, with fluvoxamine users at 73 mg daily (SD = 52). Participants on SSRIs without CYP1A2 inhibition had intake similar to that of controls.Conclusion: Reduced caffeine intake suggests learned behavioural compensation to avoid adverse reactions resulting from the prolonged caffeine exposure. The results necessitate integrating proactive caffeine education and intake assessment into standard prescribing protocols for all CYP1A2-inhibiting medications.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 126169 - Printed Poster

Camouflaging Behaviour and Physical Health in Autistic Adults: A Meta-Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Chhina, Sahajdeep

Additional Author: Sepehry, Amir A

Abstract: *Background: Camouflaging in autism is linked to anxiety, depression, burnout and exhaustion, yet its physical health effects are unclear. Autistic adults show high rates of chronic health conditions, somatic symptoms and sleep problems, suggesting that camouflaging might contribute to physiological stress. A latest meta-analysis on camouflaging in autism identified 15 studies (2020-2024) but did not examine physical health outcomes, which this project addresses. Methods: Using the same selection criteria as the meta-analysis, the 15 studies were scrutinized for physical health outcomes, including somatic symptoms, chronic pain, sleep quality, autonomic dysregulation, fatigue, and general medical comorbidity, and the literature search was updated. Additionally, we extracted age, gender, diagnostic status, camouflaging measure, and study design information for mediation analysis. Results: Based on preliminary analysis of the 15 studies, only one study measured a physical health outcome, fatigue, and found that higher camouflaging correlated with greater exhaustion. Conclusions: Upon evidence, this suggests that camouflaging may contribute to physical fatigue, but the scarcity of available data highlights a major gap in the literature. Future research should measure physical-health outcomes in camouflaging studies.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 124033 - Printed Poster

Can we increase help-seeking and mental health-promoting behaviors among distressed university students by reducing shame? A randomized controlled trial examining the relative effects of three single-session online workshops

Main Presenting Author: Kelly, Allison C.

Additional Authors: Kraus, Giselle E.; Katan, Aleece; Gilchrist, Jenna

Abstract: *Mental illness is rampant among university students, yet help-seeking is rare. Campus mental health literacy approaches have had limited success in addressing this issue, which we theorized might stem from insufficiently targeting the barrier of shame. We hypothesized that self-compassion would better alleviate shame and thereby promote more help-seeking and mental health-promoting behaviours (e.g., meditation) than mental health literacy. Distressed undergraduates (N=201) with no prior treatment-seeking were randomly assigned to one of three workshops: (1) Resources Only (Control); (2) Resources + information on common mental illnesses (Literacy); or (3) Resources + a guided self-compassion practice (Self-Compassion). Moderated mediation analyses revealed that among participants with mean or higher pre-workshop shame, both Self-Compassion and Literacy reduced post-workshop shame. Whereas reduced shame did not affect help-seeking, it resulted in Self-Compassion and Literacy participants engaging in more mental health-promoting behaviours than Controls by 2 weeks. Thus, contrary to hypotheses, both self-compassion and mental health literacy can reduce shame for high-shame students. Consistent with hypotheses, reduced shame*

encouraged distressed individuals to take more short-term steps to improve their mental health, highlighting the value of intervening with shame.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124492 - Printed Poster

Canadian Oncologists' Pain Knowledge and Training Needs: A Mixed-Methods Study

Main Presenting Author: Manan, Jasmine

Additional Authors: Langmuir, Tori ; Alschuler, Kevin; Frett, J. Michael; Nathan, Paul; Piché, Nelson; Gauthier, Lynn; Alberts, Nicole M.

Abstract: *Background: Pain is prevalent but undertreated in cancer patients and survivors. Oncologists' pain knowledge is one of many factors influencing cancer pain management. Yet, no studies have examined Canadian oncologists' pain knowledge or training needs. Methods: Oncologists (N=27, median [SD] age=48.1 [10.3] years, 51.9% female) completed a sociodemographic survey, the validated 41-item Knowledge and Attitudes Survey Regarding Pain (KASRP), and 4 open-ended questions examining pain training needs. Descriptive statistics examined overall pain knowledge (% correct on the KASRP). Responses to open-ended questions were analyzed using content analysis. Results: Overall, oncologists demonstrated adequate pain knowledge, scoring 80.1% (SD= 6.5, range=66.0-95.0) on average on the KASRP. The most frequently correct item involved pediatric pain assessment (>96% correct), while the most frequently incorrect item involved opioid administration (77.8% incorrect). Oncologists described several training gaps, particularly the need for better opportunities in pharmacology and sociocultural aspects of pain management. Conclusions: Canadian oncologists possess adequate pain knowledge overall. Nonetheless, gaps in knowledge and training were observed and research is needed to further explore these. Action: Findings can help guide the development of future oncologist pain education initiatives.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125142 - Printed Poster

Cannabis Use Motive Profiles and Patterns of Use Among Young Adults who Report Using Cannabis for Medicinal Reasons

Main Presenting Author: Bedard, Sophie

Additional Authors: Fox, Nicolle ; Amini, Tahmina; Wardell, D Jeffrey

Abstract: *Young adults often endorse both medicinal and recreational motives for cannabis use, but how these motives relate to cannabis use patterns and outcomes in this population remains unclear. This study examined how medicinal and recreational motives relate to cannabis use behaviours and cannabis problem severity among young adults.Young adults (N=148; 80% female) completed a baseline survey as part of a larger study of medicinal cannabis use. The survey assessed cannabis use behaviour and asked participants to rate the extent to which their use was motivated by recreational or medicinal reasons on a 4-point scale. Based on the midpoint of these scales, participants were classified into three motive groups: High medicinal-High recreational (n=95), High medicinal-Low recreational (n=34), and High recreational-Low medicinal (n=19).Preliminary ANOVAs comparing*

the three groups on cannabis use frequency and problem severity found no statistically significant differences (p>.05). Planned analyses will compare the groups on other cannabis outcomes (e.g., preferred forms of cannabis, amounts used, cannabis-related consequences) once the data are fully cleaned. Medicinal and recreational motive profiles could be relevant for understanding in cannabis use outcomes among young adults. Results could have implications for tailoring harm reduction strategies.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 126038 - Printed Poster

Ceremonies of Liberation: Exploring Psilocybin's Role in Addressing Racial Trauma in Black and Indigenous Populations

Main Presenting Author: MacIntyre, Myriah

Additional Authors: Williams, Monnica T. ; Perez-Rosal, Sergio; Dwyer, Patrice; Acolatse, Sedina

Abstract: *Background: Psychedelics have become an emerging treatment option for mental health and are increasingly used recreationally. While clinical trials have explored their efficacy in treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), racially minoritized populations remain excluded, especiallyBlack and Indigenous populations in Canadian psychedelic trials. While standard PTSD interventions are inadequate for treating racial trauma, evidence supports psilocybin as a potential therapeutic tool for racial trauma. This poster shares preliminary findings from our investigation into the efficacy of psilocybin in reducing racial trauma symptoms among BIPOC Canadians and Americans, following participation in Psilocybin mushroom group ceremonies. Method: 30 BIPOC participants will be recruited between July 2025 to July 2026. To date, 11 individuals have attended and completed baseline, post-ceremony 1 and 2, and post retreat measures; 10 identified as members of the Black diaspora (i.e., African American, Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Indigenous, Afro-Latinx, Black Canadian, Black biracial). Results: A significant reduction in racial trauma symptoms is expected post-ceremony compared to pre-ceremony scores. Conclusion: Findings may inform culturally responsive practices in psychedelic therapy that empower BIPOC communities.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126118 - Printed Poster

Changing Emotion with Emotion: The Best Sequence for Emotional Transformation Depends on the Presenting Emotional

Main Presenting Author: Baher, Tabarak

Additional Authors: Nardone, Stephanie S; Pascual-Leone, Antonio

Abstract: *Introduction: This study examined whether resolving lingering anger or sadness after an interpersonal interaction depends on the sequence in which these emotions are experienced. Method: A total of 167 participants were grouped by their predominant emotional concern related to an interpersonal conflict: lingering anger (angry group, n = 70) or lingering sadness (sad group, n = 97). Within each group, participants completed written interventions in one of two randomly assigned conditions (i.e., anger-before-sadness or sadness-before-anger). The conditions differed only in the order in which emotions were elicited. Results: In the angry group, those guided to feel anger-before-*

sadness showed a greater reduction in anger than those in the sadness-before-anger condition (d = -.56). In the sad group, those guided to experience sadness-before-anger showed a greater decrease in sadness than those in the anger-before-sadness condition (d = -.26). Conclusion/Implications: Strategically ordered sequence of emotion states seems to have a synergistic impact in facilitating change. Such sequences may help guide how therapists guide client process in psychotherapy.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125524 - Printed Poster

Cognitive Functioning and Physical Health Outcomes Following a First Episode of Psychosis: Findings from the PEPP-Montréal 10+ Study

Main Presenting Author: Ghanem, Joseph

Additional Authors: Percie du Sert, Olivier ; Dorais, Marc; Raucher-Chéné, Delphine; Lepage, Martin

Abstract: *The elevated prevalence of physical health comorbidities in psychotic disorders is clear but poorly understood. Worse cognitive functioning has emerged as a risk factor linked to natural cause mortality in schizophrenia. Here, we investigated the association between cognition and physical health comorbidities in a sample of first episode psychosis (FEP) patients who received early intervention treatment 10+ years earlier. The sample included 688 FEP patients treated at the PEPP clinic at the Douglas Mental Health Institute between 2003 and 2018. Administrative health data for physical health diagnoses was used. Cognition was measured at PEPP admission. An index of comorbidity was computed. It included 32 medical conditions (e.g., diabetes, cancer). The association between each cognitive domain and the index of comorbidity was examined with spearman correlations. The average age of patients at entry was 23.5 years, the average follow-up period was 13 years, and 70% were male. There were significant negative correlations between the 2-year index and global cognition, memory, processing speed, and executive functions. Only global cognition and memory were significantly linked to the end of follow-up index. This association may reflect a shared pathology between cognitive functioning and medical conditions, and a reduced ability to seek health services or identify symptoms.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 126037 - Printed Poster

Cognitive reappraisal and physical activity across the adult lifespan

Main Presenting Author: Cholette, Justin N

Additional Authors: Rutledge, Jocelyn ; Barlow, Meaghan

Abstract: *The prevalence of physical inactivity and sedentary behavior continues to rise globally, posing significant public health risks for chronic disease and premature mortality. Cognitive reappraisal may help promote physical activity in younger adults, yet its effects in older adults are not well understood. We compared the association between reappraisal use and physical activity across younger (18-35 years) and older (66-92 years) adults to identify age-related differences. Participants completed 14 daily surveys with measures assessing reappraisal and activity levels. Multilevel analyses revealed that younger adults engaged in more vigorous activity on days when they used more*

positive reappraisal. Additionally, younger adults who positively reappraised more exhibited lower sedentary time. Conversely, older adults demonstrated opposite patterns. Moderate activity followed similar trends but did not reach significance. These findings suggest an age-related difference in the mechanism linking reappraisal and physical activity. Further research is needed to clarify these differences and provide insights to ensure that existing emotion regulation and physical activity interventions are age inclusive.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125854 - Printed Poster

Communicating with Pediatric Nonspeaking Patients: Exploring the Perspectives of Healthcare Professionals

Main Presenting Author: Lew, Derek

Additional Authors: Hassett, Amanda ; Altanbadralt, Misheel; Glenn-Anderson, Kristen; Chen, Viola; Luu, Jessica; Boerner, Katelynn

Abstract: *Background: Nonspeaking patients (i.e. those with little or no intelligible speech) face more preventable medical errors and worse health outcomes. While research has focused on adult settings, emerging evidence shows similar challenges with pediatric care. This study examined clinician perspectives on communication with nonspeaking pediatric inpatients. Methods: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 20 clinicians at BC Children's Hospital from various disciplines (e.g. nursing, physiotherapy, pharmacy) and inpatient units (e.g. neurosurgery, intensive care, acute rehabilitation). Questions focused on experiences of staff with nonspeaking patients, current knowledge of communication strategies, and perspectives on resources/training. Results: Reflexive thematic analysis described two preliminary themes: "Communication as Connection" [communication is critical for trauma-informed, relational care beyond routine clinical tasks] and "I can do it, but…" [clinicians can complete tasks without communication but experience associated moral distress and inefficiency]. Conclusions: Clinicians across units and disciplines emphasized the need for education and speech-language pathologists to improve care for nonspeaking patients. Actions: Findings will guide the development of interventions to strengthen patient-provider communication for nonspeaking pediatric inpatients.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 122794 - Printed Poster

Comparing the Clinical Profiles of Autistic Women Diagnosed in Early Versus Middle Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Aamir, Liaba

Additional Authors: Porthukaran, Alex ; Jackson, Kaitlyn; Li, Ashley; Carrier, Christina; Walters, Lucas; Desarkar, Pushpal; Lunsky, Yona

Abstract: *Autistic individuals assigned female at birth (AFAB) often remain undiagnosed until adulthood and report more psychological distress than those recognized in childhood (Diemer et al., 2025). Exploring the impact of diagnosis at various stages of adulthood can guide support/services for adults. This retrospective chart review compares the clinical/demographic profiles of AFAB adults*

diagnosed in early versus middle adulthood. Diagnostic assessments were conducted from 2023-2024 at an outpatient clinic in Toronto. Chi-squared analyses with 178 AFAB adults (85 aged 18-27; 93 aged 28-64) reveal some demographic differences, with younger adults more likely to live with parents (p<.001) and older adults more likely to be employed full-time (p=.004). Both age groups reported depression (84%), anxiety (80%), past suicidal ideation (67%), and had received a psychological assessment (70%) or therapy (55%) before receiving an autism diagnosis. However, symptoms and service use did not differ across groups. Data analysis is ongoing, and further analyses will examine co-occurring diagnoses and autistic traits. Preliminary findings suggest that older and younger AFAB adults experience comparably high levels of mental health concerns and had missed opportunities for earlier autism diagnosis. This research highlights the need to improve diagnostic timing and clinical services for adults AFAB.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125490 - Printed Poster

Comparing The Effectiveness of the Butterfly Hug and the MindShift App in Reducing Symptoms of Anxiety Among University Students

Main Presenting Author: Ragaven, Keshika H

Additional Authors: Levin, Elizabeth ; Urajnik, Diana; Guitard, Joline

Abstract: *University students frequently experience anxiety, yet many face barriers to accessing mental health treatment. This study evaluated two accessible approaches to anxiety management: the Butterfly Hug, a physical self-soothing exercise, and the MindShift mobile application. While both methods have shown promise in anxiety reduction (Fabillar et al., 2024; Susanti et al., 2025), no research to date has directly compared their effectiveness among university students.First year students were randomly assigned to one of two groups (Butterfly Hug or MindShift App) and completed their assigned task three times per week for two weeks. Self-reported anxiety levels were measured pre- and post-intervention. The study also examined participants' perceptions of each approach, including helpfulness, ease of use, and likelihood of continued use.Analysis of results is ongoing. Within-group changes will be assessed using paired-samples t-tests, and between-group differences in post-intervention anxiety, controlling for baseline levels, will be evaluated using ANCOVA. Participants' perceptions of each intervention will be compared using independent-samples t-tests.Findings may provide evidence that cost-free, easy-to-use interventions can support students' mental health. Findings may also promote the use of these strategies as independent coping tools and guide campus mental health initiatives.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124427 - Printed Poster

Compulsive Sexual Behavior and Minority Stress Among LGBTQ+ Couples

Main Presenting Author: Lecours Leclair, Julie

Additional Authors: François, Anaïka ; Beaulieu, Vanessa; Michaud, Aurélie; Danella, Marianne; Bőthe, Beáta

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Compulsive sexual behavior disorder (CSBD) may emerge to cope with minority stress (MS) in LGTBQ+ exposed to discrimination (Pachankis et al., 2015). Among couples,*

MS proliferation is likely to occurs between partners (Leblanc et al., 2015), but no studies have yet addressed how MS may relate to CSBD among couples. This study aims to explore how each partner's MS may shape their own and their partner's CSBD.METHODS: To this day, 75 couples including at least one LGBTQ+ partner were recruited online and self-reported their CSBD and MS levels through an online survey using the Compulsive Sexual Behavior Disorder Scale (Bőthe et al., 2020) and the Heterosexist Harassment, Rejection, and Discrimination Scale (Szymanski, 2006). RESULTS: Data analyses are underway and results will be available for the conference. Actor-partner interdependence model (Cook & Kenny, 2005) will be used to explore how MS is associated with one's own and their partner's CSBD. Sexual and gender identities will be used as moderator to explore potential differences across diverse identities. CONCLUSIONS: This study will help understand how MS is associated with both partners's CSBD, and how diverse identities can moderate those associations. IMPACTS: Findings may help clinicians adopt more inclusive and adapted practices when working with LGBTQ+ individuals and couples experiencing CSBD.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125153 - Printed Poster

Considerations for Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Mental Health Care

Main Presenting Author: Kambari, Yasaman

Additional Authors: Prassinos, Alyssa-Marie ; Mandatori, Antonietta; Fujita, Elizabeth ; Rodrigo, Achala

Abstract: *Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly becoming integrated into mental health services. Clarifying public perceptions of AI use in this regard is crucial for its successful implementation. The present study explored the acceptance of AI use in mental health service delivery in a group of Canadian social media users. Participants (n=1024) completed a brief online survey, which included a questionnaire evaluating the likelihood of accepting mental health services provided solely by AI-based tools, solely by human clinicians, or as a collaboration between humans and AI. Results revealed that the frequency of past AI-based tool use for supporting mental health, and the perceived likelihood of needing future mental health supports were positively associated with accepting all three service delivery options. On the other hand, the frequency with which participants had used mental health services in the past, and the degree of familiarity with others who had navigated mental health services in the past were negatively associated with the likelihood of accepting service delivery options that had any AI involvement. In contrast, familiarity with others navigating mental health services was positively associated with seeking help from human clinicians. These results will be discussed with a focus on improving accessibility and efficacy of AI use in mental health services.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125605 - Printed Poster

Daily and Bedtime Screen Exposure Associated with Sleep Duration in Children Aged 24-36 Months

Main Presenting Author: Yang, Lisa

Additional Authors: Horn, Sarah ; Muslu, Hayal; Dewsnap, Kyle; Keys, Elizabeth; Giesbrecht, Gerald; Lebel, Catherine; Tomfohr-Madsen, Lianne

Abstract: *Only 1 in 3 toddlers meet screentime guidelines (<1 hour/day). Screen exposure is linked to sleepproblems and less sleep, which is concerning as insufficient sleep in early childhood impairscognitive, socioemotional, and language development. Longitudinal dose-response relationshipsin toddlers remain unclear, including whether screen use at bedtime adds risk beyond total dailyuse.Participants (n=5055; Mage=32.4 yrs) from the Pregnancy during the Pandemic cohort reportedon their child's sleep and screentime at 2- and 3-years of age using the Brief Infant SleepQuestionnaire and expert-developed assessments.Linear mixed-effects models revealed that each hour of screentime was associated with 7.2minutes less nightly sleep at 2-years (β=-2.82, p<.001). Bedtime screens had effects on sleep thatwere over twice as large as exceeding daily guidelines (β=-8.37 vs -3.35, p<.001). Toddlers whoboth exceeded guidelines and used screens at bedtime slept significantly less than those who metguidelines without bedtime screens (p <.001). Associations remained stable from 2- to 3-years ofage.Findings show a dose-response relationship between screentime and sleep, with additive effectswhen both risk factors are present.Results identify modifiable factors parents can use to support their children's sleep, includinglimiting screen duration and creating screen-free bedtime routines.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123442 - Printed Poster

Depression and Alcohol-Cannabis Co-Use in Emerging Adults: The Mediating Role of Coping and Enhancement Motives

Main Presenting Author: Velchovska, Nadezhda

Additional Authors: Asuncion, Toni-Rose ; O'Connor, Roisin M.

Abstract: *Emerging adulthood is a developmental period marked by increased substance use and heightened emotional distress. This distress may manifest as depressive symptoms, which has been linked with elevated alcohol and cannabis use. Though this connection has been well-established with the individual use of these substances, the connections to alcohol-cannabis co-use, defined as using both substances within the same occasion, remain unclear. This study examines (1) whether depressive symptoms predict co-use and (2) whether coping and enhancement motives, two internally sourced processes, reflect pathways underlying this association. It draws on an online survey of Canadian undergraduates aged 18-25 y.o. (N=404) assessing depressive symptoms, alcohol-cannabis single and co-use motives, and 14-day co-use frequency and quantity. Data collection is complete and analyses are underway. Multiple linear regression and parallel mediation models will evaluate indirect pathways from depressive symptoms to co-use frequency and quantity. This work will clarify whether depressive symptoms operate through internally sourced motives to influence co-use behaviour and whether co-use motives explain unique variance beyond single-substance motives. Identifying coping and enhancement motives as distinct intervention targets is important, as it may support more targeted prevention programs for co-users.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124758 - Printed Poster

Depressive Symptoms and Anhedonia Predict Alcohol-Related Problems via Risky Drinking Motives inPeople with Major Depressive Disorder

Main Presenting Author: Bossom, Isabella R.L.

Additional Authors: Hagen, Amanda E.F.; Murray, Taran; Harrington, T. Zoe; Stewart, Sherry H.

Abstract: *Major depressive disorder (MDD) commonly co-occurs with alcohol-related problems. A possiblecontributing mechanism involves risky drinking motives. We assessed whether anhedonia vs otherdepressive symptoms (key criteria of MDD) were associated with alcohol-related problems via distinctrisky drinking motives. We hypothesized depressive symptoms would predict drinking to cope withdepression (CM) and anhedonia would predict drinking for enhancement (EM). Sixty-one communityrecruitedparticipants who met likely MDD criteria (via the MINI), and who drank alcohol in the pastmonth, completed self-report measures. Regressions tested whether depressive symptoms predictedCM, whether anhedonia predicted EM, and whether distinct motives mediated or moderated symptomassociations with alcohol-related problems. While depressive symptoms positively predicted CM,anhedonia did not predict EM. Unexpectedly, anhedonia predicted more alcohol-related problems atlower EM levels. Both depressive symptoms and anhedonia predicted alcohol-related problems via CM(controlling EM). However, alcohol-related problems also predicted depressive symptoms andanhedonia via CM (controlling EM). Findings that CM explain the links of both anhedonia and otherdepressive symptoms to alcohol-related problems in MDD require qualitative exploration and mayinform interventions pending longitudinal replication.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125464 - Printed Poster

Developing a Culturally Responsive Canadian Food Image Database

Main Presenting Author: Stockley, Paige

Additional Authors: Gallagher, Louise ; Feighan, Sarah-Marie

Abstract: *Creating a food stimulus database that reflects Canada's cultural diversity is critical for research on eating behaviour and food perception. This study draws on culturally varied samples of children and adults to examine how cultural background and developmental stage shape responses to food images, food preferences, and standardized meal feasibility. A cross-sectional, mixed-methods online survey was conducted. Caregivers of children and independent adults evaluated a randomized subset of 30 images selected from a 140-item pool of foods sourced from international open-access databases. Participants rated recognizability, familiarity, appeal, and categorization, and completed open-ended questions on preferences and meal feasibility. The final sample comprised adults: N = 133, 75% female, ages 18-65+; children: N = 60, 50% female, ages 10 months-17 years. Planned analyses include comparisons across cultural groups, developmental differences, and models testing their combined influence. Mean scores will identify top stimuli, and qualitative analysis will capture culturally informed preferences and practical considerations. Preliminary results show contrasts between children and adults, with additional cultural patterns to be explored. Findings will support the development of a culturally responsive, developmentally informed food-image database for diverse Canadian populations.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125040 - Printed Poster

Developmental Pathways Linking Childhood Adversity, Stress, and Substance Use

Main Presenting Author: Kim-Shin, Christina

Abstract: *Substance use problems (SUPs) have major public health impacts, including higher rates of chronic disease and economic burden (James et al., 2018). Adverse childhood experiences and dysregulated stress reactivity have both been linked to SUPs, but studies are cross-sectional, limiting temporal conclusions (Leza et al., 2021; McMains et al., 2024). This study uses data from the Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development (n = 200). Participants reported adversity across adolescence and retrospectively in adulthood. At age 23, they completed the Trier Social Stress Test (TSST; Allen et al., 2017) to assess cortisol reactivity and reported substance use. Regression analyses will test associations between (1) adversity and SUPs, (2) adversity and stress reactivity, and (3) stress reactivity and SUPs. Preliminary results show that adversity does not predict overall stress reactivity even when controlling for time of day of TSST administration. However, adversity before and after age 18, as well as stress reactivity, significantly predict cannabis use in early adulthood. Additional analyses controlling for factors influencing cortisol (e.g., contraception, medication, smoking) are underway to minimize confounding. Findings will help clarify mechanisms linking adversity, stress physiology, and substance use, informing prevention efforts by identifying at-risk individuals.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124731 - Printed Poster

Dimensions of Early Life Adversity and Affective Mechanisms of Social Anhedonia in Adolescentss

Main Presenting Author: Macfarlane, Megan Noelle

Additional Authors: Bontkes, Oliver ; Jameson, Taylyn; Grocott, Bronwen; LeMoult, Joelle

Abstract: *Social anhedonia--diminished pleasure or motivation in social interactions--is a barrier for well-being during adolescence. Negative Affective Interference Theory suggests that individuals with trauma histories may exhibit lower positive and higher negative affect, which may explain increased social anhedonia. Still, a further consideration is whether different types of trauma (threat vs deprivation) lead to different affective outcomes. The Dimensional Model of Adversity and Psychopathology (DMAP) is a framework for testing this possibility. We aim to examine if traumas related to threat vs deprivation are associated with differences in positive and negative affect, and whether such differences predict the development of social anhedonia in N=71 adolescents transitioning to high school. We will use DMAP to code responses to the Child Trauma Questionnaire-Short Form and test whether threat/deprivation are associated with self-report measures of the Behavioural Activation System (positive affect) and Behavioural Inhibition System (negative affect). We will examine whether these factors predict the longitudinal development of social anhedonia using the Anticipatory and Consummatory Interpersonal Pleasure Scale-adolescent version. We are in the final stages of data preparation, and results will offer insight into how trauma and emotions shape youth social engagement.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126241 - Printed Poster

Discrepancies in Caregiver and Youth Reports of Youth Mental Health Symptoms and Relation to Service Use on an Adolescent Inpatient Mental Health Unit

Main Presenting Author: Dollimount, Anna

Additional Authors: Arbuthnott, Alexis ; Peluola, Fiyinfoluwa; Castillo, Louise; Tran, Vivian

Abstract: *Background: Studies on alignment between caregiver and youth reports of youth mental health symptoms are mixed, as some studies show agreement and others found discrepancies. Few studies have examined report alignment and outcomes in inpatient settings. This study examined whether: 1) there is alignment between self- and caregiver-reports of the youth's mental health symptoms (mood, anxiety, dissociation); 2) discrepancies predict admission (length, serious incidents) or post-discharge (ER visits, readmissions) outcomes, and; 3) prior service use (ER visits, admissions) predicts discrepancies. Methods: Participants were 71 adolescents admitted to an inpatient mental health unit. Youth and caregivers each completed measures of the youth's mental health symptoms. Results: All measures completed by the same respondent were correlated. Self- and caregiver-reports correlated for anxiety symptoms, but not for mood or dissociative symptoms. Discrepancies were not associated with any admission or follow-up outcomes and were not predicted by prior service use. Conclusion: The results demonstrated that individual raters are consistent and there is agreement regarding anxiety symptoms, though there is not alignment on all symptoms. Further, discrepancies may have limited clinical utility. Impact: The results from this study can be used to inform the assessment process on inpatient units.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124838 - Printed Poster

Discrepant Views: The Role of Child Attachment in Parent-Child Symptom Reporting Discrepancies After Pediatric mTBI

Main Presenting Author: Mosi, Julia M.

Additional Authors: Amarnath Nair, Medha ; Doan, Quynh; Silverberg, D. Noah; Schmidt, Julia; Gagnon, Isabelle; Cairncross, Molly

Abstract: *Parent-child agreement on symptom reports post pediatric mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) is modest. Demographic factors such as age, sex, and symptom type influence discrepancies. The role of psychosocial factors such as parent-child attachment on symptom agreement post-mTBI is unclear, though attachment may influence discrepancies in other conditions. In this study, we examined if attachment (i.e., quality of parent-child affective and cognitive bonds) predicted parent-child discrepancies in mTBI symptom reports. Parent-child dyads (N=76, Magechild=11.7) recruited from two Canadian pediatric emergency departments within 48hours of injury completed the Acute Concussion Evaluation Symptom Checklist, encompassing physical, cognitive, emotional, and sleep domains. Children also completed a measure of attachment quality, the Inventory of Parents and Peers Revised. Preliminary results from multiple linear regression showed that higher attachment quality predicted higher number of symptoms reported by parents compared to children after controlling for age and sex of the child (β=0.052, p=.028), though the effect was small (adj.R2=.09, , f^2=0.15). By symptom domain, attachment only predicted parent-child discrepancies in emotional symptoms (β=0.020, p=0.04). Attachment is associated with parent-child discrepancies, suggesting clinicians may consider relational factors post-mTBI.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125845 - Printed Poster

Does Internalized Weight Bias Moderate Changes in Body Image 12 months After Bariatric Surgery?

Main Presenting Author: Ball, Marah M

Additional Authors: Patel, Stuti ; Gerbeza, Matea; Telfer, Jo Ann; Campbell, Tavis; Williamson, Tamara

Abstract: *Background: Body image dissatisfaction (BID) is highly prevalent among bariatric surgery candidates (~80%), yet approximately 1-in-5 show little postoperative improvement. Internalized weight bias (IWB) - the self-directed adoption of weight-based stereotypes - may help explain this variability.Aim: This longitudinal cohort study will examine whether pre-surgery IWB moderates changes in BID at 1-year post-surgery.Methods: Adults with obesity completed validated measures of BID, IWB, depression, and anxiety pre- and 1-year-post surgery. Paired sample t-tests evaluated pre-to-post-surgery changes in BMI, BID, IWB and depression/anxiety. Linear mixed-effects models will examine changes in BID and the moderating impact of IWB, adjusting for relevant covariates. Results: In total, 152 patients (82% women, 91% white, mean age=47±11 years, BMI=45.94±7.98 kg/m2) were included. BMI, BID, depression, and anxiety improved significantly at 1 year (p's <.001). While 61% of patients showed reliable BID improvement, 37% did not, and one patient worsened. Moderation analyses will be available in Spring 2026.Conclusions: Preliminary findings show that BID improvements are not guaranteed post-surgery. Identifying psychological factors like IWB may clarify variability in postoperative change and support the integration of stigma-reducing, IWB-informed interventions into bariatric care.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125830 - Printed Poster

Does the updated Diagnostic Assessment Research Tool (DART) Screener improve with the addition of distress and impairment items to diagnose DSM-5 disorders?

Main Presenting Author: Matsumoto, Katelyn M
Co-Presenting Author: Pawluk, Elizabeth J

Additional Authors: Scott, Andrew M; Parkinson, Sydney A; McCabe, E Randi

Abstract: *Diagnostic screening tools are essential to provide efficient care as demands for mental health services increase. The purpose of this study is to explore the validity of the updated Diagnostic Assessment Research Tool Screener (DART; McCabe et al., 2017), which includes new items querying whether symptoms causing distress and impairment improve the validity of the DART screener. The DART screener is a self-report questionnaire completed prior to a DART interview which guides clinicians to administer relevant DART diagnostic modules. It is hypothesized that including distress and impairment will improve accuracy between participant mental health concerns and the clinician-identified diagnosis. Preliminary data collected from 286 participants indicates that the inclusion of distress and impairment offers higher specificity, while the screener without these items offers higher sensitivity. Thus, the DART screener offers users flexibility depending on the end goal of the screener. If the goal is to ensure possible diagnoses are not missed, individuals would benefit from omitting the distress and impairment items. Whereas, if the goal is to confirm a diagnosis, the inclusion of distress and impairment items is beneficial. Overall, the flexibility of the DART screener depending on user needs reflects an efficient diagnostic process tailored to the needs of clinicians and patients.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123233 - Printed Poster

Dual Model of Passion, Compulsive Buying and Materialism

Main Presenting Author: Watson, David C

Abstract: *Harmonious and obsessive passion were investigated in terms of compulsive buying and materialism. Harmonious passion is an independent internal drive towards engaging in an activity. Obsessive passion is when the individual feels compelled to do the activity. Compulsive buying is chronic, repetitive purchasing and is a method of reducing negative feelings. There is a well-established relationship between compulsive buying and materialism which is the emphasis on acquiring material possessions, money, status and power. However, there is little research investigating how the two types of passion are related to compulsive buying and materialism. With a sample of undergraduate students, compulsive buying was found to mediate the relationship between materialism and obsessive passion. With the well-established negative relationship between materialism and well-being, compulsive buying and obsessive passion were found to be significant indirect mediators. However, harmonious passion was not a significant mediator in this relationship. Postmaterialism is a contrasting set of values emphasizing community, self-expression and social equity. Harmonious passion was found to mediate the relationship between post-materialism and well-being. The study adds to the understanding of the dual model and has implications for potentially reducing compulsive buying and materialistic tendencies.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122365 - Printed Poster

Early Externalizing Behaviors and Later Alcohol vs Cannabis Use

Main Presenting Author: Huo, Yuhan

Additional Authors: Cox, Sylvia M.L.; Castellanos-Ryan, Natalie; Brendgen, Mara; Côté, Sylvana M.; Tremblay, Richard E.; Séguin, Jean R.; Leyton, Marco

Abstract: *Early externalizing (EXT) behaviors are thought to presage later substance use, but questions remain about timing and generalizability. Here, we examined these associations in youth who had EXT features collected from age 5 months to 15 years and were followed for substance use through to age 25 (n=938). Across development, high EXT predicted more subsequent cannabis use (r = 0.08 to 0.36, p≤ 0.04 to 0.0001) and an earlier age of use onset (r = -0.08 to -0.13, p ≤ 0.05 to 0.001). These associations remained significant for adolescent EXT after adjusting for sex, socioeconomic and family factors, sensation seeking (SS) and internalizing. Alcohol outcomes, in comparison, were not related to childhood EXT but were predicted by adolescent SS and EXT scores measured temporally close to the outcome (r = 0.11 to 0.25, p ≤ 0.005 to 0.0001). Indeed, across development, EXT was more strongly associated with cannabis than alcohol use frequency (z = 2.08 to 5.49, p ≤ 0.05 to 0.0001). Together, these findings suggest that cannabis involvement is predicted by trait-like EXT tendencies, whereas alcohol use is more closely related to proximal EXT and SS, highlighting differences in EXT-related risk pathways across substances. These distinctions underscore the importance of considering substance-specific risk and may inform strategies for early identification and intervention.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125886 - Printed Poster

Education Professionals' Knowledge of Paediatric Brain Injury: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Marshall, Sara

Additional Authors: Muscat, Christine ; Drake, Marnie; Quintin, Eve-Marie; Scratch, Shannon

Abstract: *Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) is a leading cause of disability in youth, and can impact cognition, motor skills, behaviour, and social-emotional wellbeing. When youth return to school after an ABI, teacher understanding of their injury is important for a successful transition. However, many studies report gaps in educators' ABI knowledge. This scoping review addresses two main questions (1) What do education professionals know about ABI? (2) What ABI knowledge is being explored by researchers? Six databases were searched using terms covering brain injury (e.g., ABI, concussion) and education personnel (e.g., teacher, school staff). Studies were screened by two screeners, with conflicts resolved by a third. 6100 unique articles resulted from the database searches. After title and abstract screening, 104 full-text articles were assessed. The final sample includes 54 studies. Results highlight that educators across countries have strong ABI knowledge in some domains (e.g., concussion symptoms) and gaps in others (e.g., epidemiology). Researchers used a variety of tools to measure ABI knowledge, including psychometrically-validated questionnaires, self-written questionnaires, and interviews. Summarizing this literature will ultimately lead to a better understanding of educator ABI knowledge and the research exploring it, providing insight to inform interventions and future research.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124680 - Printed Poster

Empathy and Self-Control as Predictors of Bullying Reduction Among Children in the Stop Now and Plan (SNAP) Program

Main Presenting Author: Rooney, Lucas

Additional Authors: Mansueto, Sara ; Craig, Stephanie

Abstract: *Bullying is a widespread issue among children and is linked to harmful and long-lasting developmental consequences for both victims and perpetrators. Deficits in empathy and self-control are associated with high levels of bullying, emphasizing the need for early intervention programs that target these skills. The Stop Now and Plan (SNAP) program is an evidence-based intervention designed to reduce externalizing behaviours by improving children's emotional regulation, problem-solving, and self-control. Although SNAP has been shown to reduce aggression, less is known about its effectiveness in lowering bullying behaviours, and which specific skills lead to these reductions. This study aims to fill these research gaps and examine whether changes in empathy and self-control predict decreases in bullying behaviours among children who participated in SNAP. Participants include children ages 6-11 (N = 390), using archival parent-reported pre- and post-intervention data collected by the Child Development Institute (CDI). A repeated t-test will assess the changes from pre- to post-intervention, and a multiple linear regression will determine whether changes in empathy and self-control predict reductions in bullying. Findings will contribute to understanding which skills promoted by SNAP reduce antisocial and bullying behaviours and guide future program development.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125397 - Printed Poster

Engagement Patterns of Users of the Manage My Pain App: A Study Examining Pain Severity, Number of Pain Conditions, and Opioid Medication Use

Main Presenting Author: Lumsden-Ruegg, Heather

Additional Authors: Skoric, James ; Janmohamed, Tahir; Rahman, A Quazi; Katz, Joel

Abstract: *Background: Digital health tools are increasingly used by individuals with chronic pain, yet little is known about how engagement relates to pain severity, number of pain conditions, or opioid use. Understanding these relationships may improve reach and app effectiveness.Methods: After REB approval, profiles from 79,806 consenting Manage My Pain app users were analyzed. Users were classified into five clusters based on longevity and number of records. One-way ANOVA and chi-squared tests assessed differences in self-reported pain severity (0-10 NRS), number of pain conditions, and opioid use (yes/no).Results: Pain severity differed across clusters, $F(4, 79,801)=155.00$, $p< .001$, $\eta^2=.008$. All differed except the highest and lowest engagement groups ($p=.46$). Two least engaged clusters reported higher severity than more engaged clusters. Number of pain conditions, $F(4,65028)=153.60$, $p< .001$, $\eta^2=.009$, and opioid use, $\chi^2(4,N=58481)=531.91$, $p<.001$, also differed. Clusters with highest longevity reported more pain conditions and opioid use than all others ($p<.001$).Conclusions: Engagement patterns differed by pain attributes and opioid use. Pain severity related to number of records while pain conditions and opioid use related to longevity.Action: App engagement metrics can be used to tailor support and improve impact.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125061 - Printed Poster

Evaluating a Family Accommodation Reduction Intervention for Family Members of Adults with OCD: A Pilot Study

Main Presenting Author: Jamalifar, Rei

Additional Authors: Rowa, Karen ; Metcalfe, Spencer; Bullard, Carrie; Soreni, Noam

Abstract: *Rationale: Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is a prevalent and debilitating condition, yet up to 30% of individuals do not respond adequately to its gold-standard treatment, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT). Reducing Family Accommodation (FA)-where family members participate in or facilitate OCD symptoms-may improve treatment outcomes, as FA is consistently linked to poorer treatment response. In that vein, our team developed a 6-session Family Accommodation Reduction (FAR) intervention for family members of adults with OCD, and this study evaluated its feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness.Methods: This pilot study delivered the 6-session FAR program to 15 family members of adult patients with OCD at a specialty anxiety clinic. Feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness were assessed through recruitment data and self-report questionnaires. Results: Of 47 family members contacted, 35 were screened, 24 enrolled, and only 2 withdrew. Participant feedback indicated high satisfaction. FAR produced significant reductions in FA, as well as decreases in depression, anxiety, and stress.Conclusion: FAR is feasible, acceptable, and effective in reducing OCD-related FA.Impact: Findings support advancing FAR to a randomized*

controlled trial and highlight its potential as a valuable adjunct to OCD treatment that may improve outcomes for both patients and families.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126130 - Printed Poster

Evaluating the Preliminary Effectiveness of Cartier Equine Assisted Learning Among Trauma-Exposed Public Safety Personnel

Main Presenting Author: Penta, Stephanie M.

Additional Authors: Krishnakumar, Kavita ; Chrysler, Christina; Mirabelli, A. James; Parise, Vanessa; Held, Nicholas; Glew, Nanci; McKinnon, Margaret C.

Abstract: *Background: Public safety personnel (PSP) are at increased risk for exposure to traumatic events and developing posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and related symptoms. Experiential therapies that focus on arousal-based symptoms, including Cartier Equine Assisted Learning (C-EAL), have emerged as potential interventions for reducing PTSD symptoms among Canadian PSP.Method: Forty-two trauma-exposed PSP in Saskatchewan were assigned to C-EAL or a waitlist control. Participants completed diagnostic interviews (CAPS-5, MINI) and self-report measures (e.g., PCL-5) at baseline (T1), post-treatment/post-waitlist (T2), and 3-month follow-up (T3). The C-EAL group received sixteen 90-minute sessions twice weekly over 8 weeks; waitlist participants were offered C-EAL after study completion.Results: The C-EAL group demonstrated significant symptom reductions from T1 to T2 on the CAPS-5 ($t=3.59$, $p=.02$) and PCL-5 ($t=3.02$, $p=.03$), and T1 to T3 on the CAPS-5 ($t=2.84$, $p=.04$). All Time × Group interactions were nonsignificant.Conclusions: Although C-EAL produced meaningful short-term PTSD symptom reductions, overall improvements were comparable to those in the waitlist condition. These findings suggest that EAL is a promising experiential approach for trauma-exposed PSP, but further refinement and research are needed to clarify its unique therapeutic effects.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125341 - Printed Poster

Evaluating the Utility of the Patient Health Questionnaire for Detecting Depression and Suicidal Ideation at Cardiac Rehabilitation Intake

Main Presenting Author: Moran, Chelsea

Additional Authors: Gelibo, Terefe ; Quirouette, Evyanne; Harris, Jennifer ; Adey, Katelyn; Tulloch, Heather; Reed, Jennifer ; Mir, Hassan

Abstract: *Depression screening is recommended in cardiac rehabilitation(CR) to identify patients who may benefit from psychosocial care. This study evaluates the utility of the Patient Health Questionnaire(PHQ-9) for assessing depressive symptoms and suicidal ideation(SI) at CR intake. We conducted a retrospective chart review of patients referred to CR at a tertiary cardiac center in 2023. All patients completed PHQ-2 at CR intake; those scoring ≥3 were administered PHQ-9. Descriptive analyses examined depressive symptoms, SI endorsement on item 9 of the PHQ-9, PHQ-2 positive predictive value(PPV) for PHQ-9 ≥10(moderate-to-severe depressive symptoms), and total score correlation between PHQ-9/PHQ-8(which excludes PHQ-9 item 9). A total of 852 patients were*

included. Of these, 18%(n=154) screened positive on PHQ-2 at CR intake and 80%(n=123) completed the PHQ-9. Among PHQ-9 completers, 56%(n=69) scored above≥10 cut off. Item 9 was endorsed by 19%(n=23), identifying passive SI with no intent. PHQ-2 PPV was 56%, with 44%(n=54) false positives. PHQ-8/9 total scores were highly correlated(r=.99). Nearly 1 in 5 CR patients screened positive on PHQ-2. High PHQ-8/9 correlation suggests omitting PHQ-9 SI item does not alter depression detection, while moderate PHQ-2 PPV supports use of PHQ-8 as a single screening step in CR. This will be discussed in context of program resources and literature.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124224 - Printed Poster

Examining Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) and Social Anxiety Disorder (SAD) in Romantic Relationships: A Self-Partner Comparison

Main Presenting Author: Hanjrah, Avneet

Additional Authors: Fairley, Daylia ; Skillen, Sophie; Cho, Jessica; Jayaweera, Mika I; Van Schaik, Nikki; Cox, Amanda; Van Blyderveen, Sherry

Abstract: *Background: Research indicates that anxiety disorders negatively impact romantic relationship quality. However, research typically focuses on broad relationship satisfaction, resulting in a partial understanding of anxiety in romantic relationships. Current literature does not compare generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) and social anxiety disorder (SAD) nor self- and partner-perceived anxiety in romantic relationships. Methods: Undergraduate students (N = 725) currently in a romantic relationship completed an anonymous online survey related to their mental health, perceptions of their partner's mental health, and their relationship experiences. Self-reported and partner-perceived GAD and SAD were measured using the GAD-7 and Mini-SPIN. Results: Individuals with GAD were more likely to have partners with symptoms of GAD or SAD, while individuals with SAD were more likely to have partners with GAD but not SAD. Both self-reported and partner-perceived GAD and partner-perceived SAD were associated with negative interactional cycles within the partnership. Partner-perceived GAD and SAD were associated with lower emotional and intellectual intimacy and higher levels of conflict. Conclusions: Relationship functioning is most impacted when anxiety is perceived in one's partner. Impact: Intervention should target partner-responsiveness and communication cycles in couples facing anxiety.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125658 - Printed Poster

Examining the Contribution of Demands and Resources in the Development of Burnout Among Nursing Students

Main Presenting Author: Wilson, Erin

Additional Author: Stroink, Mirella

Abstract: *Burnout and secondary traumatic stress (STS) are serious problems for nursing students. Demands from placements and coursework can increase dropout intentions and negatively impact their physical and mental health. Factors such as compassion satisfaction (sense of fulfillment from helping others) (CS) and various university resources can act as protective factors against burnout*

symptoms. This study aimed to investigate how academic and placement demands and resources affected the development of both academic and placement-related burnout in nursing students. Nursing students from Ontario universities and colleges were recruited. Four hypotheses were developed and tested using a correlational matrix and multiple linear regressions. Our results revealed that both university demands, $t(89) = 3.28$, $p < .001$, and STS, $t(84) = 5.86$, $p < .001$, were significant predictors of placement burnout. Similarly, university demands, $t(89) = 5.36$, $p < .001$, and STS, $t(84) = 4.67$, $p < .001$, were also significant predictors of academic burnout. This suggests that the stress nursing students experience from their placements and academic environments overlap, influencing the development of both types of burnout. This contributes to our knowledge of factors that may exacerbate burnout symptoms. Details regarding additional completed regressions will be further discussed in the presentation.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123598 - Printed Poster

Examining the interplay between perfectionism and relationship satisfaction

Main Presenting Author: Cho, Jessica

Additional Authors: Hanjrah, Avneet ; Jayaweera, Mika I.; Skillen, Sophie; Fairley, Daylia S.; Van Schaik, Nikki; Cox, Amanda; Van Blyderveen, Sherry

Abstract: *Perfectionism has been linked to conflict, lower forgiveness, and dissatisfaction in romantic relationships. Prior research highlights maladaptive attribution styles and reduced self-disclosure as mechanisms explaining these effects. This study examines the influence of multiple dimensions of perfectionism on relational outcomes, including conflict, commitment, and intimacy. Undergraduate students (N=725) in a romantic relationship completed an anonymous online survey related to their mental health, perceptions of their partner's mental health, and their relationship experiences. Self-reported and partner-perceived perfectionistic tendencies did not relate to negative experiences in the relationship. Moreover, high personal standards in the partner were positively associated with relationship intimacy, respect, and responsibility. These results suggest that high personal standards perceived in one's partner may contribute to more favourable ratings of relationship quality, contrary to our hypothesis. Although future research is needed to better understand this relationship, it may be that high personal standards in a partner are perceived as signs of integrity, self-regulation, strong values and likelihood of long-term commitment. High perceived personal standards in the partner may also contribute to higher standards and behaviour of the self and thus improve the relationship.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125572 - Printed Poster

Examining The Links Among Non-Suicidal Self-Injury Functions and Severity and Suicidal Ideation in Community Adults

Main Presenting Author: Schwartzentruber, Tanner B.

Additional Authors: Kao, Chiao-En J.; Tan, Josephine C. H.

Abstract: *Background: Non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) is the intentional act of damaging one's body tissue without suicidal intent. Many who engage in NSSI also reported having suicidal ideation (SI) and suicide attempts. While some studies have linked suicidality to NSSI severity (NSSI frequency and*

methods) and a few NSSI functions (reasons), most have been conducted with youth/young adult inpatients or undergraduate students. The current study extends the research by looking at the association between NSSI severity, functions, and suicidal ideation among adults within the general community. Methods: Adults (N=344) in Canada and the USA who engaged in NSSI completed online questionnaires that assessed demographic characteristics, NSSI severity (method and frequency), and 13 NSSI functions. Results: Among participants with complete data (n=229), those with lifetime (n=187) or recent (previous 12 months; n=107) SI had significantly higher scores on the anti-suicide function of NSSI than those without SI (lifetime n=42; recent n=122). Further analysis will compare the groups on NSSI severity and the remaining 12 NSSI functions, and the links between severity and functions. Impact: Information about the relationship between the various NSSI functions and severity and suicidal ideation can potentially alert clinicians to suicidal risk among those who engage in NSSI.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125087 - Printed Poster

Examining the Role of Overprotective Parenting in the Link Between ADHD Symptoms and Physical Injury in Children

Main Presenting Author: Hodges, Amanda

Additional Authors: Lukacs, Julia ; Iarocci, Grace

Abstract: *Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) experience high rates of unintentional injury. Adult supervision is recommended to reduce physical injury in children. However, developmentally excessive caregiver involvement, referred to as overprotection, is maladaptive for children's development. It is currently unknown whether overprotective parenting impacts physical injury in children. This study examines overprotective parenting as a moderator of the relationship between children's ADHD symptoms and physical injury. Caregivers of children ages 5-12 (Mage = 8 years; 51.9% female, 48.1% male) completed measures of overprotective parenting (Multidimensional Overprotective Parenting Scale Short Form), children's ADHD symptoms (Swanson, Nolan, and Pelham IV Questionnaire), and children's injury frequency and severity. Data analysis is ongoing and will be complete by March 2026. A hierarchical regression model will assess whether overprotective parenting moderates the relationships between children's ADHD symptoms and their injury frequency and severity. It is expected that, at high levels of overprotective parenting, the relationship between ADHD symptom severity and physical injury will be reduced. This study provides foundational information for developing parenting strategies that simultaneously reduce overprotective parenting and physical injury in children.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126400 - Printed Poster

Experiences in Virtual Reality - Therapeutic Applications 2 (EVRTA-2)

Main Presenting Author: Zappia, Alessia V

Additional Authors: Frewen, Paul ; Miller, Rebekka

Abstract: *Virtual reality (VR) technology enables users immersive, multisensory experiences through simulated environments, presented via head-mounted displays. While VR exposure therapy has shown*

success in treating phobias and anxiety disorders, its potential to support broader psychological well-being remains underexplored. Research has shown that VR can facilitate mystical-type experiences (MTE) which are profound altered states of consciousness associated with spiritual and psychological well-being.The current study employed a within-subjects design to compare self-reported psychological and psychophysiological responses to two guided VR activities. Participants engaged in both a realistic mindfulness-based meditation, and a surrealistic imagery task, presented in randomized order. To measure psychophysiological responses, an EEG (Muse-2) and HRV (Polar-H10) wearable devices were used. Participants were administered an affective states questionnaire after each activity which measured positive states of arousal (e.g., amusement), Buddhist-affective states (e.g., absorption), and qualities such as novelty. At the end of the VR experiences participants were given the Mystical Experience Questionnaire (MEQ-30). A "complete" MTE was defined as scoring ≥60% on each of four MEQ-30 subscales: Mystical, Spatiotemporal Transcendence, Ineffability, and Positive Mood. Self-reported findings suggested a relative preference for the guided imagery task over the meditation, with significantly higher ratings on MEQ survey items in the Ineffability and Positive Mood subscales when presented with the meditation first. As well, higher ratings on the Transcendence, Ineffability, and Positive Mood, subscales in the imagery first group. For affective states, participants also tended to respond in favour of the imagery task with the exception of elevated reportings of serenity for the meditation. 33% of participants met criterion for a complete MTE, replicating results seen in the literature. EEG and HRV data reveal significant interaction effects indicating that task characteristics exert a measurable influence on participants' psychophysiological responses.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125307 - Printed Poster

Expériences traumatiques et prise de risque post-traumatique chez les jeunes en difficulté d'adaptation hébergés en centre de réadaptation.

Main Presenting Author: Vallée, Noémie

Additional Authors: Roy, Marie-Sophie ; Bourgeois, Alyanne; Laurier, Catherine; Couture, Sophie

Abstract: *La majorité des jeunes hébergés en centre de réadaptation pour jeunes en difficulté d'adaptation (CR) ont vécu des expériences traumatiques à l'enfance (ET). Chez ces jeunes, le vécu d'ET est associé à l'adoption de comportements à risque (p. ex. consommation de substances psychoactives, délinquance, pratique sexuelle à risque), pouvant accroître le risque de retraumatisation. La fugue, rapportée par 48% des jeunes hébergés en CR, illustre cette propension au risque puisqu'elle peut mener à l'adoption de ces comportements. Selon le modèle de Kerig (2019), le vécu d'ET conduirait à la prise de risque post-traumatique, motivée entre autres par la fuite d'émotions intolérables. Cette étude vise donc à explorer l'association entre les ET et la prise de risque post-traumatique chez les jeunes hébergés en CR. Les participants (n = 175) âgés entre 14 et 17 ans, dont 136 ayant déjà fugué (58,9% de sexe féminin), ont répondu au Childhood Trauma Questionnaire et au Posttraumatic Risk-Seeking Scale. Une régression linéaire multiple, contrôlant pour le sexe assigné à la naissance, montre un modèle significatif où l'abus émotionnel est le principal prédicteur. En plus d'appuyer théoriquement le modèle de Kerig, ces résultats soulignent la pertinence d'aborder l'abus émotionnel dans les interventions destinées aux jeunes hébergés en CR.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125252 - Printed Poster

Exploring Black Caribbean Canadian Daughter-in-Law's Experiences With Mother-In-Law Conflict in Toronto, Ontario, Canada: A Qualitative Study

Main Presenting Author: Price-Thomas, Nicole

Abstract: *Rationale: Mother-in-law (MIL) and daughter-in-law (DIL) conflict research has focused on Western or Asian populations. This study fills a gap by qualitatively examining the lived experiences of Black Caribbean Canadian (BCC) DILs in Ontario, highlighting cultural norms, gender roles, and family structure. Methods: Guided by family communication models and triangular theory, eleven BCC DILs participated in semi-structured interviews, analyzed using Reflexive Thematic Analysis. Results: MIL/DIL conflict affected DILs' well-being and marital relationship. Six themes emerged: Cultural Power and Hierarchy, Husband's Role, Marital Impact and Emotional Impact on DIL, Relationship Dynamics and Conflict Triggers, Gender, Religious and Cultural Pressures, Coping Strategies, and DIL Reflections and Meaning-Making. Conclusions: Cultural hierarchy, religious norms, gendered expectations, and husbands as linchpins shape BCC MIL/DIL conflict, causing emotional and family strain. Black women increasingly seek culturally competent clinicians, moving away from Strong Black Woman norms. Action/Impact: Culturally competent therapy requires cultural humility and focus on family hierarchy, intergenerational norms, and communal expectations. Increased Black psychologist representation and culturally specific training are vital. An updated model guides culturally responsive interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123995 - Printed Poster

Exploring Child and Youth Care Workers' Perspectives on Trauma-Informed Care in Group Care Settings for Children and Youth

Main Presenting Author: Duchesneau, Tamia

Additional Authors: Tremblay, Melissa ; Weckend, Emily

Abstract: *Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) has become a guiding framework for supporting clients across health and social service systems, yet limited research has examined how frontline staff experience its application within group care settings for children and youth. This study explores Child and Youth Care Worker (CYCW) perspectives of TIC, particularly how they understand, implement, and evaluate it in their daily practice. A qualitative descriptive design has guided data collection and ongoing data analysis. Data collection included 60-90-minute virtual semi-structured interviews with five CYCWs. Interviews have been transcribed and are currently undergoing collaborative coding to develop an initial codebook for data analysis. Preliminary findings indicate that staff view TIC as critical for promoting safety, connection, and emotional regulation; however, they also describe challenges such as inconsistent training and systemic constraints. These insights underscore the complexity of delivering TIC in these settings. Findings are expected to strengthen understanding of TIC within group care, highlight opportunities to enhance frontline practice, and inform policy aimed at improving the consistency and quality of care. By centering staff perspectives, this study contributes to bridging gaps between research, policy, and everyday practice to better support children and youth in group care.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126274 - Printed Poster

Exploring Factors Associated with Family Related Cancer Distress in Adolescents and Young Adults

Main Presenting Author: Feehan, Anna

Additional Authors: George, Reanna ; Crotty, Pam; Eaton, Geoff; Garland, Sheila

Abstract: *Purpose:Adolescents and Young Adults (AYAs; 15-39 years) undergo significant changes whiletransitioning to adulthood that can be interrupted by a cancer diagnosis. Many AYAs may livewith families and seek their support. This study investigates factors associated w/ familyrelated cancer distress using data from Young Adult Cancer CND'S RECOVER study.Method:Univariable and multivariable linear regressions explored demographic, cancer relatedand psychological variables associated with a question regarding the impact of cancer onrelationship with family from the Cancer Distress Scale - AYAs.Results:Among participants (N =538, M age = 32.46, 407 women), compared to singles, being in arelationship is associated with greater distress (b = 0.485, p < .001). Compared to thosecompleted treatment, not having received t: b = -0.819, p <.001 or not having completedtreatment: b = -0.396, p < .001 was associated with less distress. Perceived social support (b = -0.812, p < .001) was associated with less distress, and compared to participants with nodepressive symptoms, having mild (b = 0.317, p = 0.004) or moderate depression (b= 0.390, p =0.013) was associated with greater distress. All others were not significantly associated.Conclusion:AYAs already face significant change; understanding factors impacting familyrelationships during cancer can inform interventions and supports*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126431 - Printed Poster

Exploring Gender Differences in the Impact of Anxiety and Related Disorders in Different Domains ofLife

Main Presenting Author: Bhandari, Hemanshi

Additional Authors: Scott, Andrew ; Rowa , Karen; McLean, Evelyn

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: There are gender differences in the prevalence and symptoms of Anxiety and Related Disorders (ARDs). However, gender differences in the intrusiveness of ARDs across various life domains have yet to be explored. This study investigated gender differences in anxiety symptom intrusiveness across life domains and whether individuals of different genders respond differently to items assessing illness intrusiveness. METHODS: Adult outpatients (N = 3257) diagnosed with an ARD completed the Illness Intrusiveness Rating Scale (IIRS), a 13-item Likert self-report scale measuring the intrusiveness of anxiety symptoms across 13 domains of life, with one item for each domain. The study excluded participants identifying as non-binary due to a small sample size. RESULTS: Differential item functioning analysis found no gender differences on items, except for Item 2, the item measuring intrusiveness in the health domain. Item 2 was significantly more discriminatory for men, as it performed similarly across both lower and higher scores for men. Conversely, the item was less discriminatory for women, as it performed differently at lower versus higher scores for women. CONCLUSION: There seem to be no meaningful gender differences in ARD symptom intrusiveness in most life domains. IMPLICATIONS: The IIRS appears to perform similarly across men and women with ARDs, supporting its use as a measure of functional impairment. Future studies*

should evaluate both illness intrusiveness as a construct in addition to how the scale functions in gender diverse populations.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122583 - Printed Poster

Exploring perceived gambling habits: A qualitative longitudinal analysis

Main Presenting Author: Lehmann, Katerine

Additional Authors: Monson, Eva ; Légaré, Andrée-Anne; Scheurich, Rebecca; Bergeron, Alex-Anne; Genois, Rosalie

Abstract: *Background: The pandemic transformed gambling habits in Canada, where shifts in health measures and growing anxiety have played a role in influencing gambling behaviour. However, these long-term effects remain poorly documented. Hence, this study aims to better understand the impacts of changes in gambling behaviours by contrasting experiences reported before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Methods: Data collection was carried out in two stages: from January to March 2020, then from September to December 2022. A total of 16 semi-structured interviews were conducted with Québécois gamblers. Pattern-Oriented Longitudinal Analysis (POLA) was used to examine the impact of various pandemic health measures on individuals' gambling experiences and their reasons for gambling. Results: The longitudinal analysis revealed three main patterns in gamblers' behaviour: a decrease, an increase, and variations. Some adjusted their habits by adopting new practices in response to health restrictions, while others reduced their participation. Each group differed in its perception of changes and the motivations behind these behaviours. Conclusions / Impact: This study highlights the importance of adopting a nuanced approach to analyzing change in gambling. Exploring how gamblers perceive and normalize their behaviour helps to better identify changes and adjust interventions accordingly.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 126078 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Acceptability of Cartier Equine Assisted Learning Among Trauma-Exposed Public Safety Personnel: A Qualitative Study

Main Presenting Author: Penta, Stephanie M.

Additional Authors: Millman, Heather ; Brown, Andrea; Ritchie, Kim; Chrysler, Christina; Narikuzhy, Sandhya; Williams, Ashley; McKinnon, Margaret C.

Abstract: *Background: Public safety personnel (PSP) are at increased risk for trauma exposure and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Experiential therapies that target arousal-related PTSD symptoms, including Cartier Equine Assisted Learning (C-EAL), represent promising interventions. This study examined the acceptability of C-EAL among trauma-exposed PSP.Method: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 15 trauma-exposed PSP and 4 program facilitators in Saskatchewan after sixteen 90-minute C-EAL sessions over 8 weeks. Interviews explored their experiences, perceived benefits, and perceived barriers to engagement. Data were qualitatively analyzed using framework analysis.Results: Overall, participants reported that C-EAL was engaging, emotionally meaningful, and relevant to their clinical needs. Facilitators described similar observations. Main themes included (1) positive overall experiences in C-EAL, (2) perceived impacts on mental health and functioning, (3)*

key success factors of the program, and (4) suggestions for improvement.Conclusions: Overall, both PSP participants and facilitators described C-EAL as a highly acceptable intervention. Participants described improvements in present-mindedness, emotion regulation, work and home functioning, and peer connection, with horses, facilitators, and teamwork identified as the key drivers of change.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125778 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Effects of Different Acoustic Stimuli on Stress Reactivity: A Pilot Study

Main Presenting Author: Marshall, Max J.

Additional Author: Fiocco, Alexandra J.

Abstract: *Despite anecdotal accounts of music's benefits for stress reduction, research findings are largely mixed. Mixed findings may be due to type of acoustic exposure and timing of acoustic listening. To address these gaps, this experimental study explored how different forms of acoustic listening, including classical music, self-selected music, binaural beats, and nature sounds, differentially affect physiological stress reactivity before and after exposure to a laboratory stressor. It was hypothesized that acoustic listening would promote greater stress inoculation and recovery than a silent control; no hypotheses were generated with respect to relative effects of each acoustic condition. A total of 151 younger adults (Mage= 20.83, 82% female) were randomized to one of the four acoustic listening conditions or a silent control. Acoustic listening occurred before and after stress induction. Electrodermal activity (EDA), heart rate variability (HRV), and momentary affect were measured throughout the protocol. Analyses revealed no significant time x condition interactions for EDA, HRV, or distress (p-range= .232 to .957). Taken together, results did not support an effect of acoustic listening on stress inoculation or recovery. Future directions will consider timing of acoustic exposure and the role of intentionality in music listening as a stress management tool.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124468 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Effects of Subjective and Objective Dimensions of Isolation on Disordered Eating Attitudes and Behaviours Among Young Adults

Main Presenting Author: Rizkalla, Kristin M

Additional Author: Sauer, Ann

Abstract: *Background: Creating meaningful and intimate relationships with others is a key developmental milestone for young adults according to Erik Erikson's conceptualization of young adulthood. If young adults cannot successfully attain intimacy with others, feelings of isolation can contribute to a decreased quality of life and different forms of psychopathology. Some forms of psychopathology that have been found to be associated with isolation among young adults, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, are eating disorders and disordered eating attitudes and behaviors. Despite the recorded association between isolation and disordered eating, research rarely separates isolation into its similar, yet distinct constructs (i.e.: social isolation and loneliness). Additionally,*

there has been no research study to date that explores this association in a non-clinical sample of young adults as characterized by Erikson. Therefore, the purpose of this survey study was to fill certain gaps in the literature by investigating the relationship between social isolation, loneliness, and disordered eating attitudes and behaviors in a non-clinical sample of young adults between the ages of 20-40 (measured by the Berkman-Syme Social Network Index, UCLA Loneliness Scale, and Eating Attitudes Test-26, respectively). Methods: A stepwise regression analysis was used to analyze whether social isolation and loneliness arose as significant predictors of disordered eating attitudes and behaviors, and whether loneliness moderated the relationship between social isolation and disordered eating.Results: The results demonstrated that social isolation did not arise as a significant predictor of disordered eating attitudes and behaviors; however, loneliness significantly predicted change in the outcome variable as well as moderated the relationship between social isolation and disordered eating attitudes and behaviors. Conclusions: Young adults' eating patterns may fare worse when one's social isolation is also associated with feelings of loneliness. Impact: Results from this research study may inform prevention and intervention strategies for young adults who are experiencing isolation and disordered eating patterns, and key clinical implications are discussed.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123526 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Protective Effect of Sleep, Screen Time, and Physical Activity on ADHD Symptoms: A Longitudinal Study

Main Presenting Author: Balabuch Bezerra, Renata

Additional Authors: Berg, Lindsay ; McArthur, Brae Anne

Abstract: *Lifestyle factors, or modifiable daily behaviours or habits, such as sleep, screen time, and physical activity, are key environmental contributors to the severity and development of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Previous research has found that shorter sleep duration and higher screen use are linked to later ADHD symptoms, whereas physical exercise can reduce symptoms (Scott et al., 2013; Sun et al., 2022; Thorell et al., 2024). However, few studies have taken a holistic approach by examining these factors together or exploring whether they may have a protective influence on later symptom presentation. Thus, the current study aimed to address this gap by exploring whether lifestyle factors have a prospective protective effect on ADHD symptoms in early adolescence. Participants were 1,449 youth from the All Our Families cohort in Calgary, Alberta. Lifestyle factors (sleep duration, screen time, and physical activity frequency) were measured at age 11 through maternal and youth reports, and ADHD symptoms (inattention and hyperactivity) were measured at age 13 using validated measures. Data collection is complete, and data analyses are currently underway. Results will provide critical information to parents and caregivers on where to focus their resources to best support their child's development.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125303 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Protective Role of Self-Compassion in the Relationship Between Weight Stigma and Drunkorexia in a Community Sample of Women

Main Presenting Author: Thai, Michella M

Additional Authors: Barbeau-Julien, Kheana ; Russell-Mayhew, Shelly

Abstract: *Drunkorexia, the engagement in dietary restrictions to offset caloric intake from alcohol, is a health risk behaviour with associated consequences such as unintentional injury and memory loss. While some risk factors and motivators have been explored, weight stigma had not been investigated as a risk factor for drunkorexia, despite being associated with negative body image, and eating and drinking behaviours. A lack of research on protective factors for drunkorexia was also identified. Self-compassion, a positive way of relating to oneself when perceiving inadequacies, had been identified as a protective factor for negative body image and substance use, but had not been explored in the context of drunkorexia. Studies had also mainly focused on post-secondary students, potentially due to convenience. In this study, a sample of 450 women in North America, aged 18-34, completed an online survey on Prolific to examine the cross-sectional relationship between weight stigma and drunkorexia, and the potential moderating role of self-compassion. Findings suggest that weight stigma is associated with a higher engagement in drunkorexia behaviours and that self-compassion did not buffer this effect, nor did it partly explain the relationship between weight stigma and drunkorexia. Findings may inform institutional policymaking and counselling practices to address systemic weight stigma.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124570 - Printed Poster

Exploring the relationship between adult Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and sexual dysfunction

Main Presenting Author: Sag, Nurulhuda Candice

Additional Author: Jiang, Yuanyuan

Abstract: *Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) may be more likely to have challenges with sexual function in addition to mental health difficulties and impairments in other areas of functioning. More research is needed to understand more specifically how ADHD is associated with sexual dysfunctions in context of such co-occurring mental health and functional challenges. This study uses a quantitative design to examine the associations between ADHD symptoms, anxiety and mood challenges, associated impairments, and sexual dysfunction. Participants aged 19 and older with both ADHD and sexual dysfunction complete online self-report questionnaires on ADHD and mental health symptoms, functional impairment in life areas such as with family and work, and sexual dysfunction such as in feelings and responses. Data collection has begun, with fully analyzed results to be presented at the time of the conference. Preliminary findings show variability in ADHD symptoms, in problems experienced in different life areas, in challenges with mood and anxiety, and in sexual functioning. Overall, findings may help address a need in the literature on better understanding the interconnections between ADHD, mental health, and sexual health in adults with ADHD, with the potential to not only contribute meaningfully to emerging research on adult ADHD but also to enhance therapeutic practices.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125197 - Printed Poster

Exploring Young Adults' Climate Emotions in Alberta, Canada

Main Presenting Author: Teppan, Jamie M

Additional Author: Hudson Breen, Rebecca E.

Abstract: *Rationale: Climate change negatively impacts mental health, particularly for those who experience marginalization. Young adults stand to be disproportionately affected by climate change and report a variety of distressing emotions including fear, helplessness, and anxiety which negatively impacts their mental health. This qualitative study is designed to address current gaps in literature by situating young adults' climate emotions within their identities and the Alberta context to illuminate how intersectionality, and contextual factors impact their climate emotions.Methods: Participants were recruited from a large public university in Alberta, Canada through email listservs. The investigator conducted semi-structured interviews with eight participants. Reflexive thematic analysis as described by Braun and Clarke (2006, 2019) is underway. Preliminary analysis identifies themes of powerlessness, overwhelming emotional responses, efforts to secure safety and control, and frustration with polarization.Implications: The findings will inform mental health professionals to better support young adults' mental health amidst the climate crisis. The investigator will discuss the potential utility of intersectional feminist therapy for climate distress given the pervasiveness of powerlessness in the interviews.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125553 - Printed Poster

Facteurs associés à la santé mentale positive des adolescents issus de diversités culturelles en milieu scolaire : revue rapide de la littérature

Main Presenting Author: Lahaye, Bianca

Additional Author: Garneau, Mathilde

Abstract: *Les élèves immigrants sont confrontés à un double défi : celui lié à l'adolescence et celui lié à l'intégration sociale. Afin de mieux comprendre les besoins de ces jeunes, une revue rapide de la littérature a été menée pour répondre à la question : quels sont les facteurs qui contribuent à la santé mentale positive des adolescents issus de diversités culturelles en milieu scolaire ? Cinq banques de données ont été consultées en utilisant les trois concepts suivants : « santé mentale positive », « adolescence » et « diversité culturelle ». Les résultats ont été interprétés à l'aide d'un modèle intégratif pour l'adaptation des jeunes issus de l'immigration qui combine des cadres écologiques, de risque et de résilience. Au niveau individuel, plusieurs facteurs ont émergé, tels que le développement des compétences sociales, le sentiment d'appartenance ainsi que la résilience. Au niveau du microsystème, le sentiment de sécurité, le soutien à l'intégration culturelle et le soutien psychologique ont été identifiés comme importants dans l'intégration sociale de ces jeunes. Au niveau politique et social, le multiculturalisme scolaire est associé à un bien-être plus élevé. Cette revue offre des pistes intéressantes aux professionnels afin de mieux soutenir le bien-être des jeunes issus de cultures différentes, en milieu scolaire.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126075 - Printed Poster

Fear of Cancer Recurrence in Parents of Childhood Cancer Survivors: A Qualitative Examination

Main Presenting Author: Voyatzis, Evmorphia

Additional Authors: Pizzo, Alex ; Mazzocca, Kelly; Hashemi, Elham; Nathan, Paul C; Jibb, Lindsay; Alberts, Nicole M

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Fear of cancer recurrence (FCR) impacts 48-68% of parents of childhood cancer survivors and is associated with reduced quality of life. Yet, few studies have examined the occurrence and lived experiences of FCR in parents of young (≤18 years old) childhood cancer survivors. Methods: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with Canadian parents of young childhood cancer survivors (N=25, median[range] age=41[30-55] years, time since child's diagnosis=5[3-25] years). Content analysis was used to examine FCR occurrence, while thematic content analysis was used to examine the nature of FCR experiences.Results: Nearly all parents (96%, n=24) reported experiencing FCR to some extent. Four themes were derived: (1) Diverging trajectories of FCR, (2) Uncertainty surrounding the survivor's future, (3) Hypervigilance towards the survivor's symptoms and (4) Catastrophizing of the survivor's symptoms.Conclusions: Several years after their child's cancer diagnosis, most parents experience some amount of FCR, marked by feelings of uncertainty and heightened focus on their child's symptoms. Diverging FCR trajectories were described - with FCR gradually subsiding for some but persisting for others.Action/Impact: Findings provide insight into the nature of FCR among parents of childhood cancer survivors and lay out a foundation for future studies of parental FCR.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125406 - Printed Poster

From Child Maltreatment to Romantic Satisfaction: The Mediating Roles of Physical Domestic Violence Revictimization and Psychological Distress in Postparental Mothers

Main Presenting Author: Pirro, Teresa

Additional Authors: Mazzarello, Olivia ; Bigras, Noémie; Langevin, Rachel

Abstract: *Context. Although the postparental period is marked by numerous life transitions, including the redefinition of family/professional roles, this period remains understudied. Research indicates that middle-aged women, particularly those with histories of child maltreatment (CM), may face greater relational challenges. Drawing on Karney and Bradbury's (1995) vulnerability-stress-adaptation model, CM can shape an individual's vulnerabilities, roles, and relationships, influencing their adaptation, and psychological well-being throughout the lifespan. This makes it especially relevant to examine how CM affects women's romantic functioning during the postparental period. This study aims to examine the mediating role of physical revictimization in intimate relationships and psychological distress in the association between CM and romantic satisfaction among postparental mothers. Methods. The sample included 253 partnered mothers (Mage = 50.5 years, SD = 6.3) of 18-25 year old children who completed validated questionnaires. A sequential mediation model was tested using SPSS PROCESS. Results. Mothers' CM was associated with lower romantic satisfaction through physical revictimization in their intimate relationships. Specifically, mothers with a history of CM reported more physical domestic violence revictimization, which was associated with greater psychological distress. In turn, psychological distress was associated with lower romantic satisfaction. Conclusion. This study highlights potential mechanisms linking CM to romantic functioning in a unique sample of postparental women. Impact. The findings underscore the importance of preventing physical revictimization in intimate relationships to support these women's psychological and relational well-being.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 122922 - Printed Poster

From Emotional Past to Relational Present: Associations Between Childhood Emotional Abuse, Relationship Satisfaction and Couple Conflict Among Couples Coping with Sexual Interest/Arousal Disorder

Main Presenting Author: Codjia, Olivia Fêmi

Additional Authors: Rosen, Natalie ; Popova, Nevena; Roy, Arianne; Hamel, Catherine; Bergeron, Sophie

Abstract: *Sexual interest/arousal disorder (SIAD) is the most common sexual dysfunction among women, with significant repercussions on relationship satisfaction and couple conflict. However, distal factors associated with these relationship challenges have not been identified. One such factor is childhood emotional abuse, which is associated with greater relationship dissatisfaction and conflict in community couples. Past experiences of abuse could contribute to relational challenges among couples with SIAD, making it more difficult to adapt to the sexual problem. The present study examined dyadic associations between childhood emotional abuse, relationship satisfaction and conflict among 193 couples in which self-identified women or female-bodied people were diagnosed with SIAD. Couples completed online self-reported questionnaires. Cross-sectional dyadic analyses revealed that greater emotional abuse among individuals with SIAD was associated with their own lower relationship satisfaction. Among partners, greater emotional abuse was associated with their own greater reported conflict. Findings highlight the importance of considering distal factors such as emotional abuse among couples coping with SIAD, in order to better guide interventions aimed at improving both partners' relational well-being.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123857 - Printed Poster

Generalizability of Self-Reported and Parent-Rated Trait Emotional Intelligence: A study of Canadian and Kazakh Children

Main Presenting Author: Autalipova, Yelnura N
Co-Presenting Author: van Rens, Samantha M

Additional Authors: Akhtayeva, Nadiya ; Parker, James D. A

Abstract: *Emotional intelligence (EI) is widely understood as an important predictor of prosocial behaviour, particularly relevant in educational contexts. Yet the literature regarding how EI may manifest differently in children of diverse cultural backgrounds is virtually nonexistent. The present study examined the generalizability of a widely used model of trait emotional intelligence (TEI) in Canadian and Kazakh participants. The comparison of Canadian and Kazakh families offer insight as these countries traditionally differ in emotional socialization practices and contexts. Kazakhstan, a central Asian culture, emphasizes social interdependence whereas in Canada, emotional self-sufficiency and independence are emphasized. A sample of 400 families (approximately 200 children and parents from Kazakhstan and Canada) completed self-report and parent-report measures of trait EI (EQi:Youth Version). Significant differences in TEI were observed between Kazakh and Canadian children, but these differences varied by TEI-related dimension and rater (self-report versus parent).*

Canadian children demonstrated greater skill in identifying others' emotions, while Kazakh children showed a stronger ability to recognize and understand their own emotional experiences. Findings are discussed with reference to cross-cultural generalizability and implications for teaching TEI-related competencies in school-aged populations.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124457 - Printed Poster

Global Estimates of Childhood Maltreatment, Neglect, and Household Dysfunction Among Children: Meta-Analyses Using the Adverse Childhood Experiences Questionnaire

Main Presenting Author: Ligertwood, Alexa

Additional Authors: Thiemann, Raela ; Madigan, Sheri; Lunney, Carole; Ly, Anh; Sin, Glorianna; Berlinguette, Katilin

Abstract: *The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) questionnaire is a report of exposure to 10 items related to childhood abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction. ACEs are associated with many deleterious developmental and health outcomes. A recent meta-analysis on the global prevalence of ACEs found that 68% of children report exposure to ≥1 ACE. However, research has yet to comprehensively synthesize prevalence estimates for each unique ACE category within samples of youth. Thus, we are conducting ten meta-analyses to estimate the pooled prevalence of each ACE item-abuse (physical, emotional, sexual), neglect (physical, emotional), and household dysfunction (parental divorce, mental illness, substance use, incarceration, domestic violence). Demographic moderators will illustrate how prevalence rates differ across populations. Included studies must have participants ≤ 18 years of age and report individual prevalence rates for ≥6 of the 10 traditional ACEs. We screened 4,075 studies for eligibility, and data extraction is underway for 159 included articles. Data analysis and interpretation will be completed by January 2026. Our findings will establish necessary global prevalence benchmarks for ACEs in child populations, clarify the distribution of specific ACE types across populations, and identify evidence gaps to guide research, policy, and services targeting childhood adversity.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125225 - Printed Poster

Global Prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Adults: A Series of Meta-Analyses

Main Presenting Author: Sin, Glorianna

Additional Authors: Lunney, Carole A; Ly, Anh; Kaser, Alanna; Salama, Haneen; Neville, Ross R; Madigan, Sheri

Abstract: *Background: Approximately 1 in 5 children have experienced at least three adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), which include child maltreatment, neglect, and household dysfunction. The current literature lacks a comprehensive synthesis of the global prevalence of individual types of ACEs. Aims: The objectives of this study were to conduct a series of meta-analyses to estimate the prevalence of individual ACEs in samples of general population adults (emotional abuse, physical*

abuse, sexual abuse, emotional neglect, physical neglect, witnessing domestic violence, parental mental illness, parental substance use, parental incarceration, and parental separation/divorce). Methods: Four databases were systematically searched for articles published in English and reported the prevalence of 6 or more ACEs in adults. Results: Two hundred and ten articles met the inclusion criteria. The highest pooled prevalence estimates were for emotional abuse (26.6%; 95% CI 20.7-32.7) and parental divorce/separation (23.2%; 95% CI 18.3, 28.3). Moderation analyses showed that the prevalence of individual ACEs differed by gender and race and ethnicity. Conclusion: Results from this study reveal that the prevalence of individual ACEs are not uniform across demographic groups and there is a need to implement trauma-informed strategies to reduce the harm of ACEs and support resilience and well-being.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 124705 - Printed Poster

Goal sharing decisions and beliefs: When and why do people disclose personal goals?

Main Presenting Author: Vitiritti, Laila

Additional Author: Buehler, Roger

Abstract: *Although research suggests that disclosing a personal goal to another person can increase goal pursuit effort and achievement, people sometimes choose to keep their goals private. However, little is known about either the prevalence of goal sharing or the factors that influence goal sharing decisions. When and why do people choose to tell their goals to others? To address these questions, we surveyed 262 university students on their goal sharing decisions and beliefs. Participants first identified a goal they were currently pursuing, indicated whether they had told anyone about it, and listed reasons for the decision. We also asked participants to report their thoughts and beliefs in general about sharing goals and assessed several individual differences that might predict goal disclosure. Preliminary analyses revealed that most participants shared their current goal with another person (86%) rather than keeping it to themselves (14%). Also, participants tended to agree (M = 3.75 on a 5-point scale) that it is generally a good idea to share and discuss personal goals with others. Further analyses are underway to identify possible predictors of these goal sharing decisions and beliefs, including personality, culture, and beliefs about consequences of goal sharing. The study contributes to our understanding of when and why people are likely to talk about their personal goals.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125818 - Printed Poster

Happy Minds, Healthy Hearts? Emotional vitality, flourishing, and blood pressure in Early Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Mondragon, Pamela

Additional Authors: Trudel-Fitzgerald, Claudia ; Sylvestre, Marie-Pierre; Doré, Isabelle; O'Loughlin, Jennifer

Abstract: *Rationale: While psychosocial well-being (e.g., optimism) relates to hypertension risk in older adults, this relation is understudied in early adulthood. Psychosocial resources (e.g., self-*

esteem) may also modify this link.This study examined the associations of two psychosocial well-being indicators (i.e., emotional vitality, flourishing) with blood pressure (BP) in young adults, overall and by levels of self-esteem and coping strategies use. Methods: Participants (n=799; age≈24 in 2011-12) of the longitudinal Nicotine Dependence in Teens Study completed items to derive the emotional vitality score in 2011-12, a validated flourishing scale in 2017-20, and self-esteem/coping strategies in 2011-12. At both assessments, covariates were self-reported and trained technicians measured systolic and diastolic BP. Linear regressions modeled the associations of well-being indicators with BP. Coping strategies and self-esteem were tested as potential moderators. Results: Both well-being indicators were not clearly related to BP (e.g., in the fully-adjusted model: higher vs lower emotional vitality, β=-0.37, 95%CI=-2.12, 1.38). Psychosocial resources did not modify the associations. Conclusion: In Canadian young adults, emotional vitality and flourishing were not clearly related to BP. Other psychosocial well-being indicators (e.g., optimism, mastery) should be considered in future work.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126013 - Printed Poster

Hope in Transition: The Lived Experience of Hope in Emerging Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Arsenault, Chelsea L.

Additional Author: Larsen, Denise J

Abstract: *Emerging adulthood (ages 18-25) is a distinct and demanding life period characterized by profound change and uncertainty. Successfully navigating this transition is critical for future well-being, highlighting the need to identify key protective factors. Hope, a core construct in positive psychology, is widely considered vital during this time. However, the specific, subjective experience of hope, including how emerging adults live and make sense of it during their journey into adulthood, remains largely unexplored.Using interpretive phenomenological analysis (IPA), the current study asked the question: What is the lived experience of hope for emerging adults? Eight participants between the ages of 20 to 25 took part in semi-structures, in-depth interviews focused on their experiences of hope during the transition into adulthood. From these interviews, 5 super-ordinate themes emerged: (a) hope orients towards a desirable future, (b) hope promotes coping in times of difficulty, (c) the impact of hope on the self, (d) the complex nature of hope, and (e) the origins and promoters of hope. The findings from this study position hope as a critical psychological resource during the transition into adulthood and offer crucial insights for supporting the well- being of young people navigating this pivotal life stage.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125301 - Printed Poster

Hope-focused Career Development in Substance Use Recovery: Post-Treatment Outcomes from a Randomized Controlled Trial of Career Interventions

Main Presenting Author: Maynes, Teresa
Co-Presenting Author: Bedi, Robinder P

Additional Authors: Domene, Jose F; Amundson, Norman E; Niles, G. Spencer

Abstract: *Employment instability is a well-established relapse risk factor for individuals with problematic substance use (PSU), yet addiction services rarely target the career-related psychological capacities that support long-term recovery. Strengthening hope, adaptability, and future-oriented career behavior may interrupt the cycle between PSU and work dysfunction. In a randomized controlled trial, 104 adults with a history of PSU completed an 8-week online Hope-Action Theory (HAT) group intervention or a standard employment skills (SES) group intervention. Pre- and post-assessment outcomes included employment status, employment-seeking behaviors, hope-action competencies, job search clarity, work engagement, hopeful career state, career optimism, career adaptability, task performance, turnover intention, and job satisfaction. Compared to the SES group, the HAT group demonstrated significantly greater improvements in job search clarity ($\eta p^2 = 0.07$), work engagement ($\eta p^2 = 0.08$), hopeful career state ($W = 0.28$), career optimism ($\eta p^2 = 0.05$), and career adaptability ($\eta p^2 = 0.04$). No between-group differences were found for employment status, employment-seeking behaviors, hope-action competencies, task performance, turnover intention, or job satisfaction. These findings indicate that HAT interventions may be more effective than SES interventions at improving cognitive states associated with a future career orientation. As hope is a recognized mechanism for supporting recovery, integrating hope-focused career counselling into addiction services may support resilience in long-term recovery and reduce the risk of relapse post-treatment.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124549 - Printed Poster

Hormonal Contraceptive Side Effects: Emotional Blunting is Associated with Discontinuation but Inconsistently Associated with Future Use Intentions

Main Presenting Author: Day, Madison

Additional Authors: Yaraskavitch, Regan ; Boboc, Bianca; Etienne-Power, Kaleigh; Oinonen, Kirsten

Abstract: *Emotional side effects are commonly reported with hormonal contraception, but the influence on discontinuation is poorly understood. Emotional blunting or dulling has been overlooked, even though users often report lower emotional responsiveness. This study examined lifetime prevalence, whether emotional dulling was associated with stopping hormonal contraception due to side effects, and whether it predicted future intentions to use hormonal contraceptives. Participants ($N = 468$) completed an online contraceptive health survey. Logistic and linear regressions examined whether emotional dulling predicted hormonal contraceptive discontinuation and future use intentions. Emotional dulling was reported by 28% of hormonal contraception users and it significantly predicted discontinuation ($p < .001$). Emotional dulling did not predict reduced intentions for future use in the full or pregnancy-capable samples with age as a covariate, although small significant associations emerged in samples under age 45 and under age 25. The consistent association between emotional dulling and discontinuation, but not future use intentions, may suggest differences between short-term contraceptive decisions and long-term attitudes. The findings contribute to understanding how emotional side effects may influence contraceptive use, and the need to address emotional experiences within contraceptive care.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125905 - Printed Poster

I called my fetus at the time 'the alien': Body Image and Functionality During Transition to Motherhood.

Main Presenting Author: Fahey, Erin M

Additional Authors: Nutter , Sarah ; Weiler, Anelyse

Abstract: *Pregnancy is one of the only times in a woman's life when gaining weight is socially accepted, yet women still experience judgment and negative comments about gestational weight gain. Factors protecting against body dissatisfaction during pregnancy have not been widely examined. Body functionality is the appreciation of what a body is capable of physically, sensationally, creatively, and cognitively, and is an important component of positive body image. This qualitative pilot study examined new mothers' experience with body functionality, including their experiences of societal reactions to their changing body, connection to body function, and their relationship to their body before and after pregnancy. Participants (n=4) completed semi-structured interviews online, and thematic analysis was used to understand the nuances of these women's experiences. Findings suggest that pregnancy increases focus on the functional utility and meaning of one's body, providing purpose outside of the objectification of women's bodies. Pregnancy seems to be a unique time for women to redefine the relationship they have with their bodies. This research illuminates how a focus on functional appreciation can have a positive impact on women's body image. Further research is needed to understand how functional appreciation can be understood and applied in pregnancy.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125638 - Printed Poster

Implementation Research in Female Reproductive Pain: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Thorsteinson, Venezya H
Co-Presenting Author: Melnyk, Carissa

Additional Authors: Gagnon, Michelle M; Gallant, Natasha L; Gordon, L Jennifer

Abstract: *Background: Pain associated with female reproductive organs is often dismissed and normalized. Despite increasing research investigating evidence-based interventions for female-related pain conditions, little is known about implementation efforts resulting from this research. We reviewed and synthesized existing implementation research in this context. Methods: Employing the Joanna Briggs Institute's methodology, three databases (psycINFO, Webs of Science, and CINAHL) were searched. Articles were included if peer-reviewed, published in English, included an assessment of female reproductive pain, and used an implementation intervention or outcome. Abstracts and full-text articles were screened by two independent reviewers and data were extracted. Results: After review, 14 articles were included. Most studies focused on polycystic ovary syndrome (35.7%), had a mixed-methods design (50%), utilized inpatient (21.05%) or online settings (21.05%), and reported provider and system level implementation outcomes (42.86%). Fifteen implementation interventions (i.e., 10 frameworks, 4 models, and 1 theory) were used across 12 studies, with the RE-AIM framework used most frequently. Discussion/Impact: Limited implementation research has occurred in this area. There is opportunity to expand implementation science in female reproductive pain to improve research impact and inform priorities.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125009 - Printed Poster

Implications of Self-efficacy and Helplessness for Adolescent Emotional Reactivity and Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Jerome , Emily

Additional Authors: Rappaport, Lance M; Menna, Rosanne

Abstract: *Self-efficacy develops during adolecence and may enhance well-being and lower vulnerability to internalizing disorders. Conversely, helplessness is associated with lower psychosocial well-being. Research is needed to clarify how self-efficacy and helplessness may moderate the affective impact of daily stress. The present study examined associations of self-efficacy and helplessness with well-being and reactivity of positive or negative affect to daily stress. Adolescents (N=149; 14-17 years old) from Southwestern Ontario reported on self-efficacy and helplessness, life satisfaction, general distress, anxiety symptoms, and depressive symptoms then completed a 35-day ecological momentary assessment protocol, during which they reported on positive and negative affect and stressful experiences twice daily. Helplessness and low self-efficacy were correlated with elevated anxiety symptoms, depressive symptoms, and general distress, and lower life satisfaction. Low self-efficacy was associated with mean stress, positive affect and negative affect over time. Helplessness was associated with elevated mean and variability in negative affect and stress. Neither self-efficacy nor helplessness were associated with altered reactivity to stress over time. Findings may encourage the promotion of self-efficacy and reduced helplessness for youth to successfully manage stress during adolescence.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124678 - Printed Poster

Improving School Reintegration for Pediatric Cancer Survivors: Insights on System-Level Supports

Main Presenting Author: Mogan, Dhanae

Additional Authors: Hysniu, Besart ; Stokoe, Mehak; Wilcox, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Over 86% of Canadian school-aged children with cancer survive; however, many face socioemotional, cognitive, and physical difficulties which worsen academic outcomes. Limited collaboration between healthcare and education systems remains a barrier to successful school re-entry. Few studies examine common barriers and facilitators across these systems. This study aims to identify common barriers and facilitators for healthcare and educational systems that impact school re-entry for pediatric cancer survivors in grades K-12.We conducted a PRISMA scoping review using the Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome framework to search EBSCO, Embase, Medline, and PsycINFO. This study included 15 articles focused on K-12 students' returning to school after cancer-related hospitalization. Eligible studies addressed gaps in school or care supports reported by parents, teachers, health providers, or students. Data are being analyzed using descriptive and thematic synthesis.Preliminary analysis indicates barriers such as poor communication, unclear roles, and limited teacher readiness, while facilitators include school-hospital collaboration, reintegration planning, psychosocial support, and flexible instruction.These findings contribute foundational information for developing standardized guidelines and policies to improve academic outcomes in pediatric cancer survivors.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124741 - Printed Poster

Interpersonal Consequences of Childhood Sexual Abuse

Main Presenting Author: Fujita, Elizabeth

Additional Authors: Kambari, Yasaman ; Mandatori, Antonietta; Rodrigo, Achala

Abstract: *Childhood sexual abuse (CSA) has been linked to enduring deleterious consequences in adulthood, particularly in the domain of interpersonal functioning. As such, gaining insights into its relationship with other forms of maltreatment and delineating its impact on interpersonal difficulties would be essential for optimizing clinical assessment and intervention. Therefore, the present study sought to explore how CSA may co-occur with other types of abuse or neglect, and how it may be associated with specific aspects of interpersonal dysfunction. Specifically, a sample of 68 participants who self-reported a history of CSA completed a brief online survey consisting of the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire and the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems - Short Circumplex (IIP-SC). Results revealed that the severity of CSA was positively correlated with severity of emotional abuse, physical abuse, and physical neglect, but not with emotional neglect. Controlling for other aspects of childhood maltreatment, severity of CSA was only associated with the severity of the IIP-SC Intrusive subscale, indicating interpersonal dysfunction that may be characterized primarily by problems such as overstepping boundaries and controlling behaviour. These preliminary results will be discussed in the context of considerations for improving the wellbeing of survivors of CSA.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 126048 - Printed Poster

Interventionists' Attitudes towards Trauma-Informed Care before and after an e-Training

Main Presenting Author: Cuffaro, Chelsea

Additional Authors: Gagné, Marie-Emma ; Collin-Vézina , Delphine; Langevin, Rachel

Abstract: *Teen mothers face layered vulnerabilities, including poverty, trauma histories, and elevated mental health risks, which increase developmental risks for their children, underscoring the need for trauma-informed care (TIC) within organizations serving this population. In partnership with a Montreal-based community organization supporting young mothers and their preschool-aged children, we co-developed six 45-minute interactive e-learning TIC modules. Each module combined didactic content with interactive activities and pre- and post-questions, addressing key topics such as trauma manifestations, trauma-sensitive approaches, organizational practices, and vicarious trauma. Employees from the organization (n = 20) and partnering organizations (n = 93) completed the training. Participants' TIC attitudes were assessed using the ARTIC-30 at pre-training, post-training, and 1-month follow-up. Preliminary latent growth curve analyses revealed a significant positive change in TIC attitudes over time (mean slope = .18, $p < .001$), with meaningful individual differences in both baseline TIC attitudes (intercept var = .19) and rates of improvement (slope var = .19). These results suggest that brief e-learning modules are effective at strengthening TIC attitudes and practices. However, further research is needed to determine the impact of these on service delivery and client outcomes.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123405 - Printed Poster

Investigating How Cultural Background and Aspirations Affects Well-Being Among Student Sojourners

Main Presenting Author: Ferraro, Bianca-Maria
Co-Presenting Authors: Donciu, Loredana; Friedenberg, Valerie

Additional Author: Sumpf, Charlotte Luisa

Abstract: *Setting personal goals provides individuals with a roadmap that gives them purpose and ambition. Research shows that intrinsic goals focused on personal growth, relationships, and community are positively associated with subjective well-being (SWB), whereas extrinsic goals focused on fame, money, and appearance are negatively or neutrally associated with well-being. Despite an increasingly interconnected world, in which students move in pursuit of education, their cultural background continues to exert an important influence on many aspects of their lives as temporary residents, named sojourners. We investigated how cultural background and aspiration type predicted student sojourners' SWB using a linear regression model. Sojourners (n =494) SWB and aspiration type were measured using self-report questionnaires. Initial analyses showed that intrinsic aspirations were positively related to SWB, and that European students tended to have a higher SWB compared to Asian students, elucidating the relationship between culture, aspirations, and SWB. These results highlight the benefits of intrinsic aspirations suggesting that setting goals for personal growth, community, and relationships may improve SWB and should be prioritized. Further analysis will explore if aspiration type moderates the relationship between culture and SWB.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123978 - Printed Poster

Investigating momentary associations between negative mood and pain intensity in a sample of individuals living with chronic low back pain

Main Presenting Author: Lamoureux, Elisabeth

Additional Authors: Ghoussoub, Karen ; Develay, Élise; Lupien, Sonia; Rainville, Pierre; Roy, Mathieu; Vachon-Presseau, Étienne; Pagé, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Background: The relationship between chronic pain and negative affect has often been explored, yet little is known about its dynamic nature. This study aimed to evaluate the intra- and inter-individual associations between momentary negative mood and pain among adults with chronic low back pain (cLBP), and to assess the moderating roles of gender and depressive symptoms. Methods: Participants (N=197, age=48.7±12.4 years, 57.9% woman) were recruited from a provincial cohort of adults with cLBP and advertisements across medical-related clinics in Quebec. Participants completed a baseline questionnaire assessing pain and psychological distress, followed by a 7-day electronic diary to track their mood and pain intensity 3 times per day. Results: Multilevel analyses indicated that those who reported lower mood on average tended to report significantly higher pain intensity (b=0.515, p<.001). Moreover, when a participant's mood was worse than their usual levels, their pain also tended to be higher (b≈0.32, p<.001). Gender and emotional distress did not moderate these relationships. Conclusions: Findings underscore the relevance of considering the*

role of mood on cLBP experience. Impact: Improvements in daily mood is a central treatment target in this population considering the association between pain and negative mood, even among those with overall little psychological distress.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125187 - Printed Poster

Investigating risk and protective factors for perinatal mood and anxiety symptoms in new parent dyads using ecological momentary assessment

Main Presenting Author: Tessier, Eric D

Additional Author: Asmundson, Gordon J. G.

Abstract: *New parents encounter many stressors postpartum, with perinatal depression and anxiety posing health risks for women and families. Despite this, research examining the interrelationship between maternal and paternal mental health is limited. The purpose of the study is to determine whether risk and protective factors in a non-primary partner (e.g., sleep, social support, stress) are relevant to the mental health of their partner. A proposed sample of dyads (n = 40) will be recruited through various methods. Pre-screening will be conducted using validated measures, followed by a 7-day ecological momentary assessment (EMA). During the EMA period, participants will receive six survey prompts daily pertaining to risk and protective factors and current anxiety and depression ratings. Hypothesis testing will use structural equation modelling to test the direct and indirect associations with dyadic mental health outcomes cross-sectionally. Then, longitudinal relationships among predictors and current anxiety and depression ratings will be examined using network modelling, allowing estimation of contemporaneous and temporal relationships between predictors and outcomes within and between partners during the EMA period. Results may clarify how individual and relational factors contribute to perinatal anxiety and depression, supporting the development of dyad-specific interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124955 - Printed Poster

Investigating sleep and marital conflict in pregnancy in relation to maternal perceived stress from pregnancy to 36 months postpartum

Main Presenting Author: Oates-Johnson, Mollie

Additional Authors: Pattison, Mackenna ; Atkinson, Leslie ; Gonzalez, Andrea; Khoury, Jennifer E.

Abstract: *Prior research shows that poor sleep quality and marital conflict are independently associated with higher psychological distress in pregnancy and postpartum (Alipour et al., 2023; Okun et al., 2018; Zhou et al., 2020). It is unclear whether sleep and marital conflict interact to exacerbate risk for experiencing perinatal stress. Participants (n=304) completed the Marital Conflict Questionnaire, Insomnia Severity Scale and Perceived Stress Scale from pregnancy to 36-months postpartum. Linear regression and moderation analyses were conducted in R, to investigate the effects of sleep, marital conflict and their interaction during pregnancy on maternal perceived stress in pregnancy and postpartum. Results indicate that higher marital conflict and insomnia in pregnancy predicted more perceived stress across all postpartum time points (β=.14-.45, p<.05). The interaction*

between insomnia and marital conflict significantly predicted perceived stress in pregnancy (β=-.11, p<.05) and at 15 months postpartum (β=-.18, p<.01). Findings suggest that marital conflict and poor sleep quality in pregnancy elevate maternal perceived stress across the perinatal period, and their interaction heightens this risk in the early postpartum. Targeting both sleep and marital conflict during perinatal care may help reduce maternal perceived stress, thus impacting maternal and infant wellbeing.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125136 - Printed Poster

It's the little things that matter: Comparing the steps in compulsive vs. normative handwashing

Main Presenting Author: Eschenwecker, Tyler

Additional Author: Purdon, Christine

Abstract: *Although the compulsions performed by those with Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) are highly impairing, there have been few studies of their phenomenology. Eilam et al.1 examined the specific acts comprising a compulsion, comparing people with OCD to matched pairs without OCD performing the same task as their pair. The OCD group had more frequent shared acts (e.g., insert key) and unique acts (e.g., flick lock), anomalies that were more likely to occur at the tail end while deciding when to stop. However, it is possible that perceived stakes of doing the task improperly accounted for group differences. The current study examined handwashing in people with handwashing compulsions (N=15) and paired nonanxious controls under controlled conditions. Participants rubbed their hands with soil and then washed them while being videotaped, knowing that afterwards they would be preparing gift bags for toddlers. Coding as per Eilam et al. is currently underway, and groups will be compared on the frequency and linear trend of unique and repeated steps. We expect that the OCD group will perform more unique acts and repeat shared acts more often, and that these acts will increase toward the end of the handwash. These findings will refine our understanding of where compulsions go awry and could help people with OCD target unneeded steps in treatment to reduce their compulsions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125788 - Printed Poster

Keeping Connected: updating, translating, and validating the Berkman Syme Social Network Index to improve social isolation assessment in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Stassen, Tegan M
Co-Presenting Author: Vandervoort, Marième

Additional Author: Dewar, Michelle

Abstract: *Social isolation is recognized as a major risk factor for mental and physical health issues. Yet, few validated tools exist in both official languages to measure social isolation. While the widely used Berkman-Syme Social Network Index (BSSNI) accounts for non-static measures of social isolation, it does not account for digital connection. The objective of this study is thus to provide a psychometrically sound, validated, updated BSSNI in both French and English. This revised version*

aims to be brief, more culturally relevant, and suitable for use in clinical and population-based research. The BSSNI has been updated though a literature and expert review then translated according to Vallerand (1993)'s procedure. The validation study is now underway with 330 participants to date. Participants have filled out an online survey that includes the revised-BSSNI along with a number of validated measures (e.g. UCLA Loneliness Scale, PHQ-9) as well as a two-week follow-up survey with the same questionnaires. In this presentation, the process of validation will be presented as well as the psychometric properties of internal consistency, test-retest reliability, and more. Group comparisons will assess measurement equivalence across English and French versions. The resulting revised-BSSNI will enable more precise, comparable, and equitable research for social isolation across Canada.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122363 - Printed Poster

La double exceptionnalité chez les jeunes Québécois : enjeux psychosociaux et vulnérabilités associées

Main Presenting Author: Fortin, Sabrina

Additional Authors: Nadeau, Pascale ; Pilon, Mathieu

Abstract: *La double exceptionnalité (2E), soit l'association d'un haut potentiel intellectuel (HPI) et d'un trouble neurodéveloppemental (TN), demeure peu documentée, notamment quant à l'adaptation psychosociale des jeunes concernés. Ceux-ci ont des capacités cognitives élevées tout en faisant face à des défis liés à l'attention, l'apprentissage ou au comportement, créant des profils complexes et parfois difficiles à reconnaître en contexte scolaire et clinique. Cette étude compare l'adaptation psychosociale de jeunes 2E à celle de jeunes ayant uniquement un HPI, un TN ou aucune condition particulière. Au total, 339 parents de jeunes de 8 à 17 ans ont répondu à un questionnaire en ligne. Les résultats montrent que les jeunes 2E se distinguent significativement du groupe contrôle et parfois des jeunes HPI seuls. Un constat majeur est l'absence de différence significative entre les jeunes 2E et ceux avec un TN seul, indiquant des vulnérabilités comparables attribuables surtout au trouble neurodéveloppemental. L'analyse discriminante révèle que l'hyperactivité/l'inattention et les comportements d'extériorisation distinguent principalement les groupes TN et 2E des groupes HPI et contrôle. Ces constats soulignent l'importance d'un accompagnement adapté, tout en invitant les milieux scolaires et cliniques à mettre en place des pratiques d'intervention mieux ciblées pour soutenir ces jeunes.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124789 - Printed Poster

La motivation de parents ayant des difficultés liées à l'usage de substances à changer leurs pratiques parentales : quels facteurs individuels et environnementaux y sont associés?

Main Presenting Author: Desgagné, Éliza

Additional Authors: Garneau, Mathilde ; Letarte, Marie-Josée; Laventure, Myriam

Abstract: *Présenter des difficultés liées à l'usage de substances (DUS) accroît le risque d'utiliser des pratiques parentales lacunaires, lesquelles peuvent avoir des effets délétères sur l'adaptation psychosociale des enfants. Soutenir ces parents dans leurs pratiques parentales est essentiel, mais leur engagement dans les services sera influencé par leur motivation au changement. Afin de mieux cerner les besoins des parents présentant des DUS en termes de motivation, cette étude examine les associations entre divers facteurs individuels et environnementaux (p. ex. détresse psychologique, sentiment d'auto-efficacité parentale [SAEP], pratiques et attitudes parentales, fonctionnement familial, ressources perçues) et la motivation à changer ses pratiques parentales chez 135 parents recevant des services en dépendance. Les résultats préliminaires d'analyses par régression linéaire multiple suggèrent que le SAEP, la discipline inconstante et le fonctionnement familial seraient particulièrement associés à la motivation des parents, mais semblent insuffisants pour l'expliquer entièrement. Ces résultats, comme ceux d'études antérieures, invitent à approfondir les recherches. Les personnes intervenantes pourraient avoir avantage à amener les parents à reconnaître leurs difficultés parentales et familiales afin de favoriser leur motivation à changer leurs pratiques parentales.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 126313 - Printed Poster

Le rôle de divers facteurs de protection pour soutenir le bien-être psychologique chez les étudiants ayant vécu des expériences adverses à l'enfance

Main Presenting Author: Beaulieu, Laurence

Additional Authors: Gariépy, Mahée ; Racine, Nicole; Deneault, Audrey-Ann

Abstract: *Les expériences adverses à l'enfance (ACEs; maltraitance, négligence, dysfonction familiale) sont prévalentes et associées à des conséquences durables sur la santé mentale. Il est ainsi important d'identifier des facteurs de protection qui pourraient atténuer leurs effets sur la santé mentale. Cette étude visait : (1) examiner si le soutien social, l'autocompassion et les expériences bienveillantes à l'enfance modèrent le lien entre les ACEs et les symptômes dépressifs et anxieux et (2) déterminer si ces effets varient selon le genre, l'ethnicité et le statut socioéconomique. 2470 étudiants universitaires (18-25 ans) ont complété un questionnaire en ligne évaluant ces variables. Des analyses de modélisation par équation structurelle, de modération et des comparaisons multigroupes montrent que les ACEs sont associées à plus de symptômes anxieux et dépressifs, tandis que les facteurs de protection étaient associés à moins de symptômes. Cependant, aucun facteur ne modérait le lien entre les ACEs et la santé mentale. Aucune différence entre les groupes n'a été observée. Ces résultats suggèrent que ces facteurs de protection ne suffisent pas à réduire l'effet des ACEs. Cette étude confirme le besoin urgent d'efforts de prévention afin de réduire les ACEs au sein de la population générale.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 124143 - Printed Poster

Le stress chronique et les difficultés d'adaptation comportementales chez les jeunes fugueurs hébergés en centre de réadaptation: quel est le rôle de la recherche de sensations fortes?

Main Presenting Author: Bourgeois, Alyanne
Co-Presenting Authors: Vallée, Noémie; Roy, Marie-Sophie

Additional Authors: Ouellet-Morin, Isabelle ; Couture, Sophie

Abstract: *Près de la moitié des personnes adolescentes hébergées en centre de réadaptation (CR) déclarent avoir fugué. Ces fugues les exposent à plusieurs situations stressantes qui s'ajoutent aux expériences adverses antérieures et au stress du placement, pouvant ainsi entraîner un stress chronique. Pour réguler ce stress, certains jeunes vont rechercher des sensations fortes en adoptant des comportements extériorisés et intériorisés. Pour améliorer notre compréhension des difficultés d'adaptation comportementale des jeunes fugueurs en CR, la présente étude vise à examiner les associations entre le niveau de stress chronique et les comportements extériorisés et intériorisés, en considérant le rôle médiateur de la recherche de sensations fortes. Pour ce faire, 39 personnes adolescentes ayant fugué (M =15,26 ans; 31 % garçons) ont répondu aux questionnaires Youth Self Report et Sensation Seeking Scale ainsi qu'autorisé le prélèvement de cortisol capillaire. Les analyses préliminaires montrent une corrélation positive entre le stress chronique et les comportements extériorisés. Cette association s'explique complètement par la désinhibition et la sensibilité à l'ennui. Ces résultats préliminaires suggèrent que plus le stress chronique est élevé, plus les personnes tendent à être désinhibées et sensibles à l'ennui, ce qui pourrait expliquer l'adoption de comportements extériorisés.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125031 - Printed Poster

Learning Emotion Focused Therapy for Youth: Clinician Experiences Across A Two-Day Training

Main Presenting Author: Zucchetti, Amy

Additional Author: Foroughe, Mirisse

Abstract: *Emotion Focused Therapy for Youth (EFT-Y) is gaining popularity worldwide. As more clinicians seek EFT-Y training opportunities, it becomes increasingly important to understand how they experience training in EFT-Y as a new intervention and their readiness to implement it with clients. While therapists' experiences with learning adult and couple EFT have been studied, experiences learning EFT-Y have not. Participants (N = 9) attended a two-day virtual EFT-Y Level 2 training workshop. One day before and after the training, they self-reported their perceived EFT-Y knowledge, competence, model fit, helpful learning factors, comfort, and takeaways. Paired samples t-tests were conducted to assess within-person change across timepoints. Immediately after the training, participants felt more knowledgeable and competent in and comfortable with specific EFT-Y interventions, reported a strong increase in the expected training takeaways, and felt the model fit their clinical stance slightly better. Their perceptions of which factors were helpful for learning EFT-Y did not change across timepoints. In conclusion, EFT-Y training prepares clinicians to implement EFT-Y by improving their knowledge, skills, and comfort with the modality. This study was the first to*

empirically examine EFT-Y training experiences and the insights gained from this work will guide future EFT-Y training programs.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124944 - Printed Poster

Les déterminants psychosociaux des attitudes et comportements alimentaires problématiques : une étude chez les enfants

Main Presenting Author: Dufour, Claudia

Additional Authors: Thibault, Isabelle ; Tougas, Anne-Marie; Pesant, Caroline

Abstract: *Jusqu'à 30 % des enfants âgés de 9 à 12 ans présentent des attitudes et comportements alimentaires problématiques (ACAP). Les ACAP sont liés à de multiples problématiques psychologiques (ex. dépression, faible estime de soi) et physique (ex. obésité) et il s'agit de précurseurs des troubles des conduites alimentaires (ex. anorexie mentale). Bien que les spécialistes considèrent que les ACAP s'expliquent par la combinaison de multiples déterminants psychosociaux, les plus significatifs demeurent méconnus. Cette étude s'attarde à cette limite des études antérieures. L'échantillon comprend 171 enfants âgés de 9 à 12 ans (50,3 % de filles). Tous les enfants ont complété une série de questionnaires pour évaluer de multiples déterminants psychosociaux (ex. : Eating Disorders Inventory-3, Garner, 2004). Une régression logistique hiérarchique a été réalisée et l'indice de masse corporelle (IMC) a été inclus à titre de variable de contrôle. Les résultats montrent que l'IMC expliquait 9 % de la variance totale et n'est pas aussi déterminant que les déterminants psychologiques. À ce propos, les variables psychologiques expliquent 46% de la variance ajoutée et le surcontrôle (ex. perfectionnisme, ascétisme) est le meilleur prédicteur de la présence d'ACAP chez les enfants. Ces résultats soulignent des pistes d'intervention à considérer pour la pratique clinique.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123509 - Printed Poster

Lifetime Discrimination and Nocturnal Blood Pressure in American Indian and Alaska Native Adults: Examining Parasympathetic Pathways

Main Presenting Author: Kubwimana, Sandrine

Additional Authors: Danyluck, Chad ; Blair, Irene V.; Daugherty, L. Stacie; Brondolo, Elizabeth; Manson, Spero M.

Abstract: *Discrimination is a pervasive and chronic stressor that contributes to well-documented racial and ethnic health disparities. Chronic stress, such as repeated exposure to discrimination, can disrupt parasympathetic nervous system (PNS) functioning, thereby impairing the body's recovery from acute stressors, both in the immediate aftermath of exposure and during later-day recovery processes such as sleep. Despite growing evidence that discrimination affects the PNS, the link between exposure to discrimination and dysregulated recovery processes remains understudied. Using a sample of American Indian and Alaska Native adults (N=302) experiencing a high degree of sociocultural stress rooted in discrimination and colonization, this study will examine whether parasympathetic dysregulation displayed during a discrimination-related stressor mediates the relationship between lifetime discrimination exposure and nocturnal blood pressure, a marker of sleep*

impairment, with implications for broader cardiovascular health. Analyses are currently underway, and preliminary findings suggest that parasympathetic dysregulation is associated with elevated blood pressure. This study will clarify the role of discrimination in undermining recovery processes, with implications for sleep quality, health, and well-being in highly racialized communities, with a specific impact on the indigenous community

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124747 - Printed Poster

Linear and Curvilinear relationships between Pre- and Peri-Migration Trauma and Positive Affect Among Immigrants and Refugees

Main Presenting Author: Vitale, Mathew

Additional Authors: Nguyen, Tina ; Jin, Ling

Abstract: *Background: Immigrants/refugees experience trauma before and during migration, namely pre-migration trauma (e.g., political persecution, threats to life) and peri-migration trauma (e.g., trafficking, detention). Trauma exposure may influence positive affect (PA), emotions such as joy, energy, and interest. It remains unclear whether the association between trauma counts and PA follows a linear or curvilinear pattern. We examined both linear and nonlinear relationships between trauma counts and PA among immigrants/refugees. Methods: A total of 184 immigrants/refugees in Canada completed self-report questionnaires. Results: Curve estimation regression analyses showed that pre-migration trauma counts were not significantly associated with PA (ps > .05). In contrast, peri-migration trauma counts showed a significant curvilinear pattern with PA ($R^2 = .146$, $p < .001$). Conclusion: Numbers of pre-migration trauma were not associated with PA. However, immigrants/refugees with moderate numbers of peri-migration trauma experienced higher PA, whereas those with greater numbers of trauma reported diminished PA, including lower interest, joy, and energy. Impact: Trauma-informed intervention should be tailored to impacts of pre-migration vs. peri-migration trauma to understand how varying levels of trauma exposure may differentially shape emotional functioning.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125059 - Printed Poster

Long-term Stability of DBT Skills and Their Effects on BPD Symptoms and Psychosocial Functioning

Main Presenting Author: Lam, Robyn

Additional Authors: Sheppard, Michael ; Sepehry, Amir A

Abstract: *Background: Research on long-term Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) skills and their impact on adult borderline personality disorder (BPD) recovery has been limited. This exploratory study examined skill use over time and its relationship to BPD symptoms and psychosocial functioning among completers of standard DBT program. Primary questions were whether: (1) time out of treatment (TOT) predicted DBT skills use, and (2) DBT skills use predicted symptomatic remission and psychosocial functioning. Method: Participants (n=14; M = 78 mths TOT) completed an online survey of validated measures assessing DBT skills, BPD symptoms, emotion dysregulation, life-*

threatening behaviours, and quality of life (QOL). Results: Skills use declined significantly with TOT. Greater DBT skills use significantly predicted higher QOL and psychosocial functioning, but not BPD symptoms or emotion dysregulation. Conclusion: Despite declining skills over time, and the absence of significant symptom remission, participants showed psychosocial health, emotion dysregulation, and rates of suicide attempts and hospitalizations comparable to or better than relevant clinical groups (e.g., BPD, treated or untreated). Impact: Findings highlighted the importance of long-term skill reinforcement. The results also suggested that standard DBT may yield sustained recovery outcomes beyond direct skills practice.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124088 - Printed Poster

Mapping and Advancing Indigenous Suicide Prevention Tools in Canada: A Scoping Review and Prototype Clinical Interview Guide

Main Presenting Author: Willman, Thomas

Additional Author: Ansloos, Jeffrey

Abstract: *Background: Suicide rates among First Nations, Inuit, and Métis (FNIM) in Canada are disproportionately higher than the general population. Despite these inequities, no standardized, culturally appropriate suicide risk screening measure is widely used in clinical settings. The extent to which existing tools have been developed, adapted, evaluated, or normed among FNIM also remains unclear. Objective: This PRISMA-ScR aims to map standardized suicide risk assessment and screening tools used with FNIM in Canada to inform development of a prototype culturally responsive interview guide. Methods: Using a Population-Concept-Context framework, we included studies involving FNIM individuals, standardized suicide risk or screening tools, in Canadian clinical or community contexts. Seven databases were searched (1974-2025). Two reviewers are independently screening records, with the first 50 double-screened to establish interrater reliability ($\kappa > 0.70$). Data will be charted and synthesized descriptively. Results: The Search identified 1,231 records, 699 duplicates were removed, leaving 532 articles to be screened, which is ongoing. Conclusions: This review will map existing FNIM-specific suicide risk assessment tools and identify gaps. Action/Impact: Findings will guide development of a prototype clinical interview tool to support improved suicide risk assessment for FNIM populations.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126329 - Printed Poster

Mapping Sexual Beliefs Over Time: Destiny, Growth, and Their Effects on Satisfaction and Commitment in Emerging Relationships

Main Presenting Author: Caferri, Jessica

Additional Authors: Uppot, Akshita ; Muise, Amy

Abstract: *Relationship and sexual satisfaction often decline as couples transition out of the honeymoon phase, making it important to identify factors that help partners maintain relationship quality. Sexual growth and destiny beliefs are lay beliefs about whether a satisfying sexual relationship develops through effort or depends on compatibility. These beliefs may meaningfully*

shape couples' experiences, yet little work has examined them in early relationships or how these beliefs shape trajectories of satisfaction. Using data from 198 new couples followed over 18 months across seven waves, we tested whether both partners' sexual beliefs predicted trajectories of sexual and relationship satisfaction using dyadic multilevel growth-curve models. Relationship satisfaction showed a small decline over time, whereas sexual satisfaction remained relatively stable. Sexual growth beliefs slightly declined over time, and although higher growth beliefs were linked to greater sexual and relationship satisfaction, they did not predict trajectories. In contrast, sexual destiny beliefs appeared relatively stable over time, and moderation analyses are currently in progress to examine whether destiny beliefs interact with time to predict satisfaction trajectories. Implications include promoting growth-oriented sexual beliefs in early relationship interventions to enhance satisfaction.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123846 - Printed Poster

Maternal Psychopathology and Child Executive Functioning: Comparing Objective and Parent-Reported Outcomes Across Time

Main Presenting Author: Aliferis, Alexandra

Additional Author: Hai, Tasmia

Abstract: *Executive functions (EF) are higher-order cognitive skills (e.g., working memory, inhibition) important for academic success and well-being. Maternal psychopathology (e.g., depression, anxiety, attention problems) has been linked to poorer child EF, yet less is known about how symptoms relate to objective and parent-reported EF over time. Using the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study, we examined (1) associations between baseline maternal symptoms and baseline objective EF; (2) whether symptoms predict objective EF three years later; (3) whether symptoms predict parent-reported EF three years later. The sample included 7,472 children (M age = 9.95 years, SD = 0.63) and their mothers. Objective EF was assessed with the NIH Toolbox and Emotional Stroop Task; parent-reported EF with the Barkley Deficits in Executive Functioning Scale. Only maternal anxiety symptoms predicted lower baseline objective EF scores (β = -.054, $p < .001$). Maternal symptoms did not predict objective EF scores three years later. In contrast, maternal depression (β = -0.171, $p < .001$) and ADHD symptoms (β = -0.218, $p < .001$) predicted poorer parent-reported EF scores at three years. Findings suggest maternal symptoms affect perceptions of EF more than objective scores and may exert effects at different time points, highlighting the importance of screening and supporting maternal mental health.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126099 - Printed Poster

Mediating Role of Positive Reframing on Positive Action During COVID-19

Main Presenting Author: Azam, Ishrethnaz

Additional Author: Greenglass, Esther

Abstract: *Public health crises can increase stress and impair one's ability to self-regulate. To identify adaptive responses in highly dynamic public-health contexts that protect individuals from contracting the virus, the present study examined positive reframing as a mediating cognitive mechanism in the*

association between active coping and positive action during COVID-19. Active coping proactively manages stressors. Positive actions lower risk of infection. Adult participants (N = 730) from five countries completed an online questionnaire in the first two weeks of the pandemic. Regressions were used to analyze the data. Mediation analysis showed partial mediation. Positive reframing significantly mediated the association between active coping and positive action. When positive reframing and active coping were entered as predictors of positive action, positive reframing significantly predicted to positive action (B=0.212; p<.001), and active coping significantly predicted to positive action, while controlling for positive reframing (B=0.285; p<.001). Positively reframing thoughts strengthened the association between active coping and positive actions, and protected against the corona virus. Designing programs that teach positive reframing outside of clinical settings can enhance healthy coping and facilitate adaptive behaviour across contexts, provided they are culturally sensitive.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125834 - Printed Poster

Mediators of aging related differences in well-being and psychological distress

Main Presenting Author: Ward, Robyn A

Additional Authors: Murphy, Dallas J; Mackenzie, Corey S

Abstract: *Background/rationale: As we age, our well-being tends to improve and psychological distress tends to decrease. However, more research is needed to understand why this is the case. This study evaluated several variables as explanations for age differences in mental health. Methods: We used a survey of 5,712 adults (18 to 101-years-old) to investigate whether age predicted levels of basic psychological needs, loneliness, perceived control, mindfulness, optimism, and neuroticism. Next, we probed whether these variables mediated age's relationship with well-being and distress in parallel mediation models. Results: Greater age predicted higher levels of basic psychological needs, optimism, perceived control, and mindfulness, and lower levels of loneliness and neuroticism. Mediation analyses revealed that age's positive impact on well-being was primarily mediated by basic psychological needs, followed by optimism, loneliness, perceived control, and neuroticism, explaining 65% of the variance in well-being. Age's negative impact on distress was primarily mediated by loneliness, followed by neuroticism, basic psychological needs, mindfulness, optimism, and perceived control, explaining 60% of the variance in distress. Conclusions: These results help us understand why mental health improves with age and supports the dual continuum of mental health, as the variables that explained increases in well-being and decreases in distress were similar, but varied in importance. Actions/Impact: This research points to potential targets of intervention to improve the mental health of older adults.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 123272 - Printed Poster

Medically Directed Cannabis as an Adjunct Harm Reduction Strategy: A Naturalistic Observational Pilot Study

Main Presenting Author: Nelson, Christopher

Additional Authors: Walsh, Zach ; Fehr, Florriann

Abstract: *Canada's ongoing toxic drug poisoning crisis underscores the urgent need for novel harm reduction approaches to address overdoses and substance use disorders. Emerging evidence suggests that cannabis may serve as a viable harm reduction strategy by replacing or reducing reliance on more harmful substances. However, the integration of medically directed cannabis use within a comprehensive recovery framework has not yet been formally evaluated. This study examined medically directed cannabis as an adjunct harm reduction strategy in a community-based substance use recovery program in British Columbia. Using a naturalistic observational design, qualitative interviews were conducted with 14 clients and seven staff, and outcome data were collected at baseline and 1-, 3-, and 6-month follow-up. Findings suggest that medically directed cannabis as an adjunct harm reduction strategy may support multidimensional symptom management, functional improvement, and better perceived quality of life among participants. The project was well accepted by clients and staff, demonstrating promising feasibility and acceptability in this setting. These preliminary results highlight the potential for integrating medically directed cannabis into substance use treatment and provide early insights to inform future cannabis-related policy and program development.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 126344 - Printed Poster

MINOR-IA: Vers un système avancé d'évaluation de la santé mentale dans les langues minoritaires

Main Presenting Author: Chamsine, Chirine Chirine

Additional Authors: Guidere, Mathieu Mathieu; Jehel, Louis; Salvadori, Lidwine Lidwine

Abstract: *L'évaluation de la santé mentale chez les réfugiés syriens présente des défis linguistiques et culturels majeurs. Cette étude menée en France et en Suisse, en collaboration avec l'ONG MIM, examine comment la langue influence la reconnaissance et la prise en charge des psychotraumatismes. La méthodologie repose sur des entretiens cliniques et des évaluations psychométriques réalisées dans la langue maternelle des participants, avec médiation interculturelle. L'analyse comparative entre évaluations menées en arabe et en français met en évidence des variations significatives dans l'expression des symptômes et la compréhension des récits traumatiques. Les résultats montrent que l'usage de la langue d'origine améliore la précision diagnostique et renforce la confiance thérapeutique. Les conclusions soulignent la nécessité d'intégrer des médiateurs linguistiques dans les dispositifs de santé mentale pour réfugiés. Cette étude a conduit à la mise en place de protocoles bilingues et à la formation de soignants à la médiation interculturelle, favorisant une prise en charge plus équitable et adaptée.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 122687 - Printed Poster

Modifiable Prenatal Psychosocial Predictors of Paternal Postpartum Depression

Main Presenting Author: Lundy, Luce-Elda

Additional Authors: Burcar, Andrew ; Da Costa, Deborah; Vaillancourt, Monica

Abstract: *Background: Paternal perinatal depression is a significant health concern due to its negative effects on fathers, partners and child development. While risk factors such as a history of*

mental illness and low levels of education are known, modifiable prenatal psychosocial risk factors remain less understood. This study investigates the role of psychosocial factors collected during the partner's pregnancy in predicting symptoms of postpartum depression in new fathers.Methods: A total of 117 expectant fathers (Mean age = 33.2, SD = 4.4) were recruited during their partner's second trimester. Participants completed online self-report questionnaires during their partner's second trimester of pregnancy, assessing psychosocial factors including pregnancy-related anxiety, generalized anxiety, prenatal depression, general health status and social support. A multiple regression was conducted using data collected early in the partner's pregnancy to predict depression in fathers at 2 months postpartum.Results: Prenatal depressive symptoms (β = .708, p < .001) showed a strong positive association with paternal postpartum depression while social support showed a moderate protective effect (β = -.170, p = .023). Conclusion: Interventions to address prenatal depression in fathers are important for the reduction of postpartum depression and promotion of paternal mental health postnatally.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125091 - Printed Poster

More Than a Shoulder to Cry On: The Mediating Role of Social Support in Interpersonal Emotion Regulation and Internalizing Disorders

Main Presenting Author: Harris-Lane, Laura

Additional Authors: Bakken, Kaja ; Lee, Kate; Onorato, Paolina; Rawana, Jennine

Abstract: *Emerging adults have higher rates of internalizing disorders relative to other age cohorts. It is vital to understand factors, such as emotion regulation and social support, that protect or exacerbate internalizing symptoms during this period. Current research suggests that difficulties with intrapersonal emotion regulation negatively impact social relationships, which, in turn, exacerbates internalizing symptoms. However, the influence of interpersonal emotion regulation (IER) strategies is unknown. Thus, our study investigated if perceived social support mediates the relationship between IER strategy use and internalizing symptoms. Participants completed measures of depression and anxiety, the Multidimensional Support Scale (assesses availability and adequacy of social support from close confidants, peers, and authority figures), and the Interpersonal Emotion Regulation Questionnaire (measures tendency of 4 IER strategies). Results of bootstrapped mediation analyses indicated that social support significantly mediated relationships between IER strategies and internalizing symptoms. Findings suggest that increased support availability dampened the negative impact of each IER strategy on internalizing symptoms. In contrast, adequacy only mediated relationships between soothing and internalizing symptoms. Clinical implications and future directions will be discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125414 - Printed Poster

Mothers' Perspectives on the Protective Mother-Child Relationship Following Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence

Main Presenting Author: Zangari, Maria J

Abstract: *In Canada, 44% of women have experienced intimate partner violence (IPV), underscoring its impact on mothers and their children. This qualitative study explored 30 mothers with IPV histories' perspectives on how the mother-child relationship acts as a protective factor supporting children's resilience. Interview transcripts were analyzed using reflexive thematic analysis, grounded in a socioecological framework. Mothers identified the mother-child relationship as the core source of emotional grounding, stability, and safety for their children. They emphasized providing individualized responsive care, physical closeness, emotional validation, consistent routines, open communication, and shared activities to meet each child's developmental and emotional needs. Mothers noted that after leaving the abusive relationship, they became more emotionally available, nurturing, and attuned, enabling greater co-regulation and psychological security. Mothers framed resilience not as an inherent trait of the child but as a relational process emerging through their ongoing advocacy, emotional warmth, and deliberate efforts to create a safe environment. Collectively, mothers' accounts illustrate how the quality of the protective mother-child relationship plays a central buffering role in children's ability to thrive and highlight the importance of supporting caregivers in the aftermath of IPV.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 126341 - Printed Poster

Motivations for Counselling Among Clients Experiencing Low Income: A Group Concept Mapping Study

Main Presenting Author: Rakkar, Jasleen K

Additional Authors: Finnigan, Charlotte ; Jay, Melissa; Lengyell, Marguerite; Brown, Jason

Abstract: *Individuals experiencing low-income continue to face many barriers to counselling, yet most research examining access to counselling services focuses on the perspective of service providers or utilization rates rather than exploring clients' own reasons for seeking support. This study addressed this gap by examining the motivations that low-income clients identify as influencing their decision to participate in counselling using group concept mapping. Clients completed interviews about their experiences with counselling (n= 66). A set of unique statements from these interviews was extracted and sorted by participants. The sorted data was then analyzed using the GroupWisdom software to generate visual concept maps illustrating dominant themes and how consistently statements co-occur across participant groupings. All remaining analyses and results will be completed prior to presentation. Findings will deepen understanding of how clients make sense of their decision to seek counselling and reveal social, emotional, and structural factors shaping help-seeking among low-income populations. Results will inform recommendations to improve accessibility, outreach, and client-centered responsiveness within counselling services.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126105 - Printed Poster

Multilevel associations between identity-based bullying and mental health among Canadian adolescents

Main Presenting Author: MacGillivray, Anna

Additional Authors: Lambe, Laura ; Craig, Wendy; King, Nathan

Abstract: *Background: Bullying negatively affects youth mental health, and identity-based bullying (i.e., targeting race, sexual orientation, gender identity, etc.) may be particularly harmful. Understanding how both individual experiences and school-level prevalence of identity-based bullying relate to mental health is critical for prevention and intervention efforts.Methods: Data from the 2022 Health Behaviour in School-aged Children study were used, consisting of a national sample of Canadian youth in grades 6-10 (n = 23,764 from 217 schools). Multivariable log-Poisson regression models were used to estimate relative risks between identity-based bullying (individual victimization and school-level prevalence) and four mental health outcomes. Results: Results indicated that both individual and school-level identity-based bullying were significantly associated with poorer mental health. For example, gender/sex-based victimization was associated with a 38% increase in frequent loneliness, and a 5% increase in school-level prevalence of identity-based bullying was associated with a 6% higher risk of loneliness. Conclusion and impact: Identity-based bullying is negatively associated with youth mental health, both for youth who are directly victimized and for youth who are exposed in their school environments. Efforts to reduce identity-based bullying may improve well-being for all youth.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123377 - Printed Poster

Navigating the healthcare system: Experiences of family care partners of persons with dementia

Main Presenting Author: Vieira, Tamara

Additional Authors: MacDonald, Ceilagh ; Schifano, Alexandra; Korner, Annett

Abstract: *Background: Family care partners frequently absorb much of the responsibilities related to navigating the healthcare system on behalf of their loved one. The current study of care partners of persons with dementia aims to understand how this population copes with the stress associated with navigating the healthcare system.Methods: Nine individuals (Age range = 27-75 years, 67% female) who were currently or recently had been family care partners of persons with dementia were recruited using convenience sampling. Participants were recruited via the Alzheimer's Society Research Portal, where the study was advertised. Semi-structured interviews took place and were recorded via Microsoft Teams. Transcripts will be analyzed utilizing thematic analysis.Preliminary findings: Care partners vary greatly in terms of their interactions with the healthcare system. However, a key shared experience is the necessity of navigating the healthcare system independently, including seeking out services, support, and research to aid their family member and themselves as care partners.Impact: The findings from this study will provide valuable information on the ways in which care partners can be supported in their roles.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125154 - Printed Poster

Negotiating Self-Diagnosis: Clinician Experiences with Social-Media-Informed Labels

Main Presenting Author: Vargas Suarez , Wilfredo J

Additional Authors: Desjarlais, Malinda ; Park, Joanne

Abstract: *Much online mental health content is misleading; although clinicians are informally reporting that clients increasingly present to therapy with self-diagnoses derived from social media (SM) material. To examine how SM-informed self-diagnosis may shape the therapeutic relationship and diagnostic process, we examined clinicians' accounts of how these presentations are navigated in practice. Licensed mental health professionals completed an online mixed-methods questionnaire focused on clients who explicitly linked their self-diagnosis to SM content. Likert-scale and open-ended items assessed the prevalence of SM-informed self-diagnosis, the extent to which it hindered or facilitated relational and diagnostic work, and clinicians' perceived advantages and challenges in these encounters. Descriptive and inferential analyses of closed-ended items will be integrated with thematic coding of open-ended responses to map common patterns in clinicians' experiences and approaches. It is anticipated that exposure to misleading information and attachment to labels can create challenges, whereas increased preparedness and help-seeking may facilitate the therapeutic process. These analyses will integrate clinician perspectives on negotiation, relationship dynamics, and practice implications to identify points of friction and opportunity and to inform future research priorities.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125664 - Printed Poster

Neurocognitive and Psychological Effects of Red Dye-40 on Adolescents: Implications for Eating Disorders and Behavioural Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Qadri, Anum

Abstract: *Allura Red AC (Red Dye-40), a synthetic food dye and a visual appearance ingredient often used in processed foods, has repeatedly been associated with behavioural and neurocognitive disruptions in adolescent populations. A systematic search of PubMed, Scopus, and PsycINFO-restricted to experimental and observational studies published between 1980 and 2023 and focused on adolescents or developmentally comparable animal models-yielded seven eligible studies. All seven human and animal studies linked Red Dye-40 to cognitive, emotional, and behavioural outcomes in adolescent populations through increased hyperactivity, impulsivity, and attention difficulties, especially among individuals with ADHD. Animal studies involving Red Dye-40 made alterations in the prefrontal cortex, serotonergic systems, and heightened neuroinflammatory markers, which led to anxiety and learning impairments. Red Dye-40 is presented as a modifiable environmental risk factor for youth mental health, and its outcomes present symptoms that exploit reward pathways, impulse control, and emotional reactivity, heavily influencing disordered eating behaviours and activity anorexia. There is limited research on these topics, and there is a lack of public health guidance on synthetic food dyes.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125821 - Printed Poster

No Pic No Chat: Exploring the Prevalence and Severity of Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence Within the Online Sexual Activities of Sexual Minority Men

Main Presenting Author: Pallottini, Alexander

Additional Authors: Savoni, Giancarlo ; Daros, Alexander R

Abstract: *Background: Sexual victimization permeates online spaces in the form of technology-facilitated sexual violence (TFSV). Sexual minority men (SMM) are disproportionately affected by both traditional and digital forms of sexual victimization. Despite rising prevalence and severe health implications (e.g., suicide), research addressing TFSV victimization within SMM remains limited, highlighting a critical need for exploration.Aims: Our goal was to examine the incidence, co-occurrence, and perceived severity in a sample of SMM. Methods: In the current study, SMM were recruited from across Ontario (n=112) and completed a survey indicating whether they were victim to 21 different TFSV experiences and then rated the perceived severity for those that had occurred, a novel extension of the literature. Results: SMM reported high lifetime prevalence of TFSV (94.7%) with an average of 6.79 behaviours reported. Using linear mixed-effects modelling, cyber-excessive pursuit was rated highest in terms of perceived severity, and there were significant differences in severity between behaviours.Conclusions: This study captures the high extent of TFSV victimization within SMM and the perceived severity of TFSV victimization. Findings will help to identify TFSV's distinct impacts on SMM and ultimately inform future research and intervention strategies to address this pressing public health issue.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 124220 - Printed Poster

Obstacles and Facilitators to Healthy Dietary Habits in Individuals with a Psychotic Disorder: A Systematic Review

Main Presenting Author: Thériault, Lorilou

Additional Authors: Lecomte, Tania ; Kik, Anne-Marie; Carrier, Kathya; Romain, Ahmed Jérôme

Abstract: *Background: Individuals with psychotic disorders have reduced life expectancy, mainly due to cardiovascular diseases worsened by lifestyle habits and antipsychotic side effects. Poor diet quality, with low fruit and vegetable intake and high discretionary food consumption, also contributes. Limited information exists on factors influencing healthy dietary habits in this population. Objective: This systematic review analyzed qualitative and quantitative data from the past 20 years on obstacles and facilitators to healthy dietary habits among individuals with psychotic disorders. Methods: PsycINFO, PubMed, and Google Scholar searches included peer-reviewed articles with adult participants, ≥30% with a psychotic disorder, focusing on obstacles, facilitators, or interventions. Results: Among 21 articles, 14 addressed obstacles, 11 facilitators, and 12 interventions. Conclusions: Eight key obstacles (cost/accessibility, taste, emotional role of food, social environment, time/planning, habit changes, symptoms, antipsychotics) and four facilitators (social support, health motivation, improved self-perception, targeted interventions) were identified. Some factors acted as both obstacles and facilitators depending on context. Effective interventions, including educational resources and peer/group programs, are discussed.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123609 - Printed Poster

Parents' lived experiences of emotions in relation to oneself and one's child: A qualitative analysis among parents of children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Main Presenting Author: Cho , Carrie
Co-Presenting Authors: Cassolato, Mikaela; Jiang, Yuanyuan

Additional Authors: Murray, Nicole ; Asif, Samrah; Harley, Jason ; Rogers, Maria; Climie, Emma; Mah, Janet ; Li, Emily

Abstract: *Parents of children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are more likely to experience stressful family interactions and routines, compared to parents of children without ADHD. This qualitative study examined the daily emotional experiences of parents of children with ADHD. Parents of 8- to 12-year-old children with ADHD completed questionnaires that asked about family demographics, parenting stress, child and parent ADHD, child and parent mental health challenges, negative and positive parenting practices, the home environment, and the parent-child relationship. Parents completed daily phone interviews for seven consecutive days to report on the emotions that they experienced each day. Thematic analysis was used to better understand the emotional experiences of participants. Findings showed varying emotions of both positive and negative valence and high and low intensity. Many parental emotions appeared to be related to views of oneself and one's child. Themes include parental guilt regarding one's own parenting as well as anger related to child non-compliance. In addition to negative emotions, the positive impact of peaceful and joyful moments with children was reported. Overall, results will inform our understanding of the lived experiences of parents of children with ADHD, with potential recommendations for clinical interventions for parents and children.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125939 - Printed Poster

Partner Perspectives on Receiving Mindfulness Interventions Alongside Mother with Postpartum Mood Disorder: A Thematic Analysis

Main Presenting Author: McGregor, Maya

Additional Authors: Parinas, Mark ; Wang, Sophia; Hippman, Catriona; Shulman, Barbara ; Ryan, Deirdre; Stewart, Evelyn ; Tabi, Katarina

Abstract: *Background: Postpartum depression and anxiety (PPDA) affects up to 20% of families in the first year. Mindfulness-Based Interventions (MBI's) are effective in treating PPDA. Relationships are highly influential in this population, yet MBI's are typically delivered only to the mother. As a novel approach, we delivered MBI's to mothers with PPDA and their partners and explored partners' perspectives on their experiences in the program. Methods: Standardized 8-week MBI groups were delivered to mothers with PPDA and their partners. Post-intervention, partners completed 40-60-minute semi-structured interviews regarding their experiences in the program. Key themes among partner responses were identified using thematic analysis. Results: Partners reported personal benefits of the program, including improved mental health, as well as interpersonal benefits, including increased awareness of their partner's emotions and more open communication. Conclusion: Delivering MBIs to both mothers with PPDA and their partners may improve well-being and*

relationships. Impact: These findings can inform the design of future clinical trials exploring the impact of interpersonal mindfulness on mental health and relationships in the postpartum period.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123196 - Printed Poster

Patient Experiences with a Multidisciplinary Opioid Education and Tapering Program for Chronic Pain: A Qualitative Study

Main Presenting Author: Rapaport, Li-elle

Additional Authors: Reynolds, Kristin ; Sabourin, Brigitte; Turcotte, Dana; Tkachuk, Gregg

Abstract: *Multidisciplinary care during opioid tapering has been linked to minimized risk of overdose and emotional distress. Prior research identifies provider-patient communication, social support, perceptions of non-opioid alternatives, and emotional factors as impacting tapering outcomes. This study explores participant experiences in a novel patient-centered, multidisciplinary opioid tapering program (MTP) that included a one-day Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) patient education workshop. This study aimed to: (1) assess the feasibility and acceptability of the MTP, (2) document opioid tapering experiences, and (3) explore how participants interacted with ACT principles and their influence on tapering and pain management. Findings from seven semi-structured interviews were analyzed using reflexive thematic analysis to produce two related frameworks for (a) Barriers, and (b) Facilitators to Opioid Tapering. Each model presents three overarching themes of Contextual, Program, and Individual Patient Factors, with unique sub-themes. Barriers included negative healthcare experiences, stigma, and lack of autonomy. Facilitators included resilience, trust in supportive pharmacists, and a collaborative, personalized, flexible tapering approach. Findings highlight the importance of patient-centered tapering programs that address each factor to meaningfully support patient outcomes.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123696 - Printed Poster

Patient Reported Outcome Predictors of Contextual Burden in Multiple Sclerosis

Main Presenting Author: Xin, Yijia

Additional Authors: Berard, Jason ; Islam, Tamanna ; Walker, Lisa

Abstract: *Background: Secondary disease characteristics of multiple sclerosis (MS) negatively impact quality of life and may make it more challenging to manage life demands. To date, the MS literature has not addressed what factors may influence the impact of contextual burdens that may be encountered. Burdens may include, family and social responsibilities, as well as environmental and task demands. We addressed this gap by developing the Contextual Burden Scale (CBS). Objective: The present aim was to determine which factors predicted levels of contextual burden in people with MS (PwMS). Methods: One hundred PwMS completed questionnaires assessing secondary disease characteristics of MS and CBS. Correlations examined the relationships between secondary disease characteristics and CBS. Significant variables were subsequently entered into a regression model with contextual burden as the dependent variable. An additional regression examined which variables predicted group membership (i.e., high vs. low contextual burden). Results: Significant correlations*

with contextual burden included: perceived cognitive impairment, mood, fatigue, physical and mental fatigability. These variables statistically significantly predicted contextual burden (F (5, 88) = 38.47, p <.001, R2 = .69). Regression results revealed 69% of the variance in contextual burden was explained by these variables. Of those entered in the model, perceived cognitive impairment (B = .47, p = .007), and fatigue (B = .30, p <.001) significantly predicted contextual burden. Subsequently, 42% of the variance in group membership was explained by these variables, with perceived cognitive impairment being the only significant predictor (B = .03, p = .011). Conclusion: PwMS with greater perceived cognitive impairment and higher levels of fatigue are more likely to be overburdened by contextual factors. Interventions targeting cognition and fatigue may improve PwMS's ability to cope with demands they may encounter in their life.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 123890 - Printed Poster

Perfectionism and Body Image Among Young Women Athletes: A Preventative Intervention

Main Presenting Author: Talbot, Karine

Additional Author: Arpin-Cribbie, Chantal

Abstract: *During adolescence, young women athletes may be uniquely vulnerable to body image concernsand maladaptive compensatory behaviours due to the performance and appearance concernsinherent in sports. These risks are often exacerbated by high levels of perfectionism commonlynoted among young athletes. The present study investigated how perfectionism influences theeffectiveness of a 4-week virtual group intervention designed to increase social connectedness and decrease negative body talk among young women athletes. Participants (ages 16-21) were recruited from sports organizations across Ontario and completed measures of perfectionism and body image concerns prior to participating in the preventative program. Given the small sample size and a lack of control group, the results should be interpreted with caution. Paired sample t-tests indicated there were improvements in body image outcomes post-intervention. A series of simple linear regressions found that certain perfectionism traits were associated with greater improvements in body image outcomes, suggesting that dimensions of perfectionism may influence the effectiveness of psychoeducational interventions in different ways. The findings provide preliminary evidence for the complex role of perfectionism in shaping how young athletes respond to body image interventions, with implications for tailoring prevention efforts.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122774 - Printed Poster

Perfectionistic Self-presentation and Shame on Social Anxiety and Social Phobia in Undergraduate Students in China and Canada: The Role of Self-construal.

Main Presenting Author: Su, Chang

Additional Authors: Hewitt, Paul L.; Flett, Gordon L.; Guo, Lianrong

Abstract: *Background: Past research found that perfectionistic self-presentation (needs to appear perfect in the eyes of others and not display/disclosure imperfections in public) correlated with many*

psychopathologies and seldom linked it with various emotions such as shame, social anxiety, and social phobia cross-culturally. This study examined the relationships among these variables in undergraduate students from collectivist society China and individualistic society Canada, and to explore the cultural differences among these variables.Methods:126 Chinese undergraduate students were recruited in North University in China (MC: 63 males; 63 females) and 132 European Canadians were born in Canada were recruited in Toronto of Canada (EC: 70 males; 62 females). All of the European Canadian students completed online questionnaires in English. Chinese participants answered the questionnaires in Mandarin, including Perfectionistic Self-presentation Scale, The Experience of Shame Scale, Social Interaction Anxiety Scale (SIAS) and Social Phobia Scale, Self Construal Scale, and Demographic information. Results: The results showed perfectionistic self-promotion, nondisplay and nondisclosure imperfections were positively associated with shame, social anxiety and social phobia. Interdependent self-construal increased nondisplay imperfections and social phobia, independent self-construal decreased nondisclosure imperfections and social anxiety. All men endorsed more nondisclosure imperfections than did women. Chinese participants are more likely to engaged in more perfectionistic self-promotion, interdependent self-construal and less nondisclosure imperfections and less social bodily shame than European Canadians. Nondiscolsure of imperfections, bodily shame and overall shame in Chinese participants were negatively correlated with independent self-construal. Conclusions: In general, undergraduate students from mainland China reported higher perfectionistic self-promotion and interdependent self-construal; and less nondisclosure, and bodily shame than EC. The gender effect on nondisclosure imperfections was significant, women reported less than men. Correlation analyses indicated that perfectionistic self-promotion, nondisplay and nondisclosure imperfections were positively associated with shame, social anxiety and social phobia. Impacts: Therefore, cultural norms, and personality (e.g., interdependent self-construal) still play an important role in these various variables including perfectionistic self-presentations, experience of shame, and social anxiety and social phobia.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125666 - Printed Poster

Personality Traits and Emotional Intelligence as Predictors of Resilience Among Students Emerging Adults' Group in Sri Lanka

Main Presenting Author: Abeykoonge, Kasuni Maheeshi

Additional Author: Li, Johnson

Abstract: *Background: Personality development and self-determination theories suggest that emotionally stable, extraverted individuals use more adaptive coping, while Emotional Intelligence (EI) models, such as Mayer-Salovey model (published in 1990), empathize emotion regulation as a pathway to resilience. Resilience is crucial for emerging adults facing academic, financial, and interpersonal stress. Despite international evidence, this association remains unstudied in Sri Lanka. Purpose: To examine the impact of personality traits and EI on resilience in Sri Lankan students. Methods: A cross-sectional survey was conducted with 200 students (18-25 years; 100 males, 100 females), recruited via convenience sampling. Measures were Wong and Law EI Scale, Brief Resilience Scale, and the Big Five Inventory. Results: The Multiple regression model was significant, $F (6, 193) = 22.703$, $p < .001$, explaining 39.6% of the variance in resilience. Extraversion ($B = .145$, $p < .026$), neuroticism ($B = -.479$, $p < .001$), and EI ($\beta = .192$, $p < .011$) were significant predictors.Conclusion and Implications: Students with higher EI and extraversion, and lower neuroticism, are more resilient during emerging adulthood. These results highlight the importance of*

psychological skills and emotional-regulation training to promote resilience among Sri Lankan young adults.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125110 - Printed Poster

Polysubstance Use, Gaming Motives, and Internet Gaming Disorder: An Exploratory Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Vasquez Castro, Doug J

Additional Authors: Farrelly, Kyra N; Keough, Matthew T; Bravo, J Adrian; Wardell, Jeffrey D

Abstract: *Polysubstance use has been linked to internet gaming disorder (IGD). Gaming motives are also risk factors for IGD. Research suggests a link between polysubstance use and gaming motives, but limited research has explored this connection. The present study examined survey data from 5,201 university students (39.9% male) across seven countries to explore polysubstance use's relationship with IGD and gaming motives. The number of different substances used was negatively associated with IGD (R2=.083, p<.001). Only alcohol use (p=.002) and prescription/illicit drug use (p<.001) were independently associated with IGD. All gaming motives, except violent reward or recreation, differed significantly across levels of alcohol use (ps<.05), with heavy drinkers typically scoring lowest. For coping motives, there was an interaction between alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco use (p=.005), such that non-drinkers who used tobacco but not cannabis scored higher than light drinkers. Our finding that fewer substances used correlated with higher IGD risk may imply a substitution effect for gaming and substance use. Further, the interaction between cannabis, alcohol, and tobacco on coping motives suggests that there are complex mechanisms underlying the relationship between polysubstance use and specific gaming motives. Future research is needed to explore these mechanisms.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 123626 - Printed Poster

Positive Social Memory Self-Processing: A Brief Intervention to Improve Self-Concept and Enhance Social Resilience in Social Anxiety

Main Presenting Author: Kudryk, Sophie

Additional Authors: Paz, Rotem ; Cho, Terry; Mackey, Robert; Ho, Jolie; Moscovitch, David

Abstract: *Socially anxious people may be able to strengthen resilience to negative social events using positive social memory processing (PMSP), a novel imagery-based intervention that focuses on the self-relevant meaning of positive social experiences (Moscovitch et al., 2024). Here, 314 participants were randomized into one of three brief imagery-based online interventions: PMSP, imagery rescripting (IR), or a neutral image control condition. After learning condition-specific strategies, participants were socially excluded in a virtual ball-tossing game and then applied their strategies to cope with the exclusion. Measures of positive self-schemas (BCSS) and affect (PANAS) were administered throughout the study, and trait-like symptoms of social anxiety (SA) were measured at baseline (SPIN). Results demonstrated that across all levels of SA, when using the intervention processing strategies during recovery from exclusion, positive self-schemas increased relative to post-*

exclusion only for those in PMSP (B = 1.63, p < .001), but not for those in the other two conditions (ps > .250). Decreases in negative affect were associated with improvements in positive self-schemas, suggesting a possible affective mechanism of change in PMSP related to memory models of self-concept updating (Moscovitch et al., 2023). These findings suggest PMSP may enhance self-schema resilience following exclusion.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126300 - Printed Poster

Practice Guidelines for Youth Depression: A Systematic Review and Appraisal with a Focus on Psychoeducation

Main Presenting Author: Salama, Haneen

Additional Authors: Madigan, Sheri ; Ly, Anh

Abstract: *Youth depression is a leading cause of disease burden and premature death. High-quality clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) can provide a critical foundation for evidence-based healthcare delivery. The purpose of the current study was to review and appraise CPGs for youth depression systematically and to provide a content analysis of similar and divergent themes across the five highest-scoring CPGs, with a specific focus on psychoeducation content. A systematic search was conducted to identify CPGs addressing youth depression. CPGs limited to pharmacotherapy, screening, or broader mental health conditions were excluded. The Appraisal of Guidelines for Research and Evaluation (AGREE II) tool was used to assess the quality of the guidelines. Based on AGREE II scores, the top five CPGs were selected for detailed examination of content. Thirteen CPGs met eligibility criteria, of which five achieved minimum quality standards, and only one reached high-quality criteria. Among the five highest-scoring CPGs, only one included a dedicated section on psychoeducation. Notably, no CPGs reported involvement of youth. This review highlights both the availability of clinically valid practice guidelines and a critical gap in their content. Given evidence that the provision of psychoeducation can improve treatment outcomes, developers of new CPGs should explicitly integrate psychoeducation to strengthen mental health service delivery.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123209 - Printed Poster

Predicting parental emotional moments from physiological data to improve parenting for children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Main Presenting Author: Jiang, Yuanyuan
Co-Presenting Authors: Asif, Samrah ; Cassolato, Mikaela

Additional Authors: Li, Emily ; Harley, Jason; Rogers, Maria; Climie, Emma; Mah, Janet ; Robaey, Philippe ; Cho, Carrie

Abstract: *Parents of children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) often experience high stress in parent-child interactions. They are also more likely to have negative and less hopeful cognitions about themselves and their children, compared to parents of children without ADHD. Given that such cognitions are related to parenting, improving in-the-moment self-awareness of emotional states may help promote more positive cognitions and more effective parenting. This study*

examines the ability of physiological data to detect emotional moments among parents of 8- to 12-year-old children with ADHD. Parents wore a medical-grade smartwatch at home for seven days, with heart rate, skin conductance, skin temperature, and movement data collected. Parents also provided text and audio data during moments of emotional activation, and completed daily questionnaires and individual interviews regarding these moments. Among 150 emotional events, Random Forest (RF) modelling was compared to Neural Network (NN) analysis in predicting these events. Initial results indicate higher predictive performance using RF compared to NN modelling, R2 = 0.74 and RMSE = 1.15 for RF, R2 = 0.44 and RMSE = 1.68 for NN. Findings inform research on parental emotions and responses, with potential to contribute to adjunctive components to psychosocial interventions to enhance parenting for children with ADHD.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124391 - Printed Poster

Predictors and Barriers to Behaviour Change Following a Global Knowledge Translation Intervention on Children's Environmental Health

Main Presenting Author: Bellman, Charlie S

Additional Authors: Goodman, Carly V; Green, Rivka R; Till, Christine

Abstract: *Background: Toxic chemicals are prevalent in everyday products and can harm children's brain development, underscoring the need for guidance on reducing exposure. This study examined demographic and psychosocial predictors of behaviour change in reducing toxic chemicals after watching a knowledge translation video in a large international sample of adults of childbearing age. Methods: 2,123 participants from Canada, the USA, the UK, India, and Australia completed a baseline survey, watched the video, and completed follow-up questions immediately following the video, and six weeks later. Behaviour change was assessed across four exposure categories (plastics, food, household products, personal care items) and combined into a composite measure. We used multinomial logistic regression to determine whether age, gender, education, pregnancy and parental status, country, knowledge, and baseline intention to reduce exposure predicted change score. Results: Intention, higher education, younger age, and lower baseline knowledge predicted greater odds of behaviour change. Compared to the US, participants in India had greater odds of behaviour change, while pregnancy, parental status, and gender were not significant predictors.Conclusion/Impact: These results can inform communication strategies to support individuals in reducing toxic chemical risks.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124768 - Printed Poster

Predictors, functions, and emotional impacts of reassurance seeking in social anxiety: Results from a 14-day naturalistic diary study

Main Presenting Author: Bui, Van

Additional Authors: Zeng, Carolyn ; Wang, Yiqiu; Moscovitch, David

Abstract: *Excessive reassurance seeking (RS) is considered a maladaptive coping strategy across emotional disorders, yet its role in social anxiety remains understudied. Building on prior findings*

linking self-doubt and post-event processing with RS, this mixed-methods daily diary study examined quantitative predictors and qualitative experiences of RS in 200 undergraduates who responded to daily prompts over 14 days. Multilevel modelling supported preregistered hypotheses that higher social anxiety, self-doubt, and post-event processing were linked to stronger same-day RS urges across time, with perceived reassurance quality emerging as a key moderator between daily self-doubt and RS urges, and post-event processing and RS urges. Qualitative analyses using deductive and inductive coding strategies revealed several overlapping perceived functions of RS, including easing doubt, reducing uncertainty and distress, and gaining emotional comfort. Finally, qualitative descriptions of the emotional impact of RS ranged from highly negative (e.g., increased shame, uncertainty) to more positive (e.g., relief). These varied data provide a nuanced view of RS predictors and consequences that highlight the need for individually-tailored interventions that consider RS function and impact while helping clients foster internal coping and tolerance for uncertainty over dependence on external reassurance.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126284 - Printed Poster

Preliminary portrait of couples' sexuality aged 60+: Pleasure, frequency, motivations and behaviors

Main Presenting Author: Boucher, Suezy-Ann

Additional Authors: Bigras, Noémie ; Berthelot, Rose ; Štulhofer, Aleksandar

Abstract: *Most studies on older adults' sexuality have focused on sexual difficulties, including sexual dysfunctions and reduced sexual activity (Bell et al., 2017; Træen et al., 2016). This negative lens tends to reinforce ageist beliefs suggesting that sexuality fades over time (Bigras et al., 2024). Yet, satisfying sexual life remains important in individuals' health and well-being (Waldering & Schultz, 2023). To improve knowledge on older adults' sexual well-being, this preliminary study presents descriptive data from 179 partnered individuals aged 60 years and older (Mage = 67, SD = 5.35). Self-reported questionnaires revealed that participants, on average, engaged in sexual activities once a week, which the majority described as very (36%) or extremely (49%) pleasurable. Most reached orgasm during their last sexual activity (81%), which most often included mutual manual genital stimulation, cuddling and kissing. These interactions were mainly motivated by pleasure, enjoyment and sense of fulfillment. Given rapid population aging, such findings support the possibility of genuine sexual fulfillment despite age-related challenges. Results also align with recent theoretical studies adopting a positive perspective on older adults' sexuality (Štulhofer et al., 2025). Ultimately these findings may challenge stereotypes and support interventions promoting sexual well-being in older adults.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125995 - Printed Poster

Preschooler favorite content and duration of screen use and later problematic media use: A prospective longitudinal study of Canadian children

Main Presenting Author: Gilbert, Nicolas

Additional Authors: Binet, Marie-Andrée ; Pugh Solis, Isidora; Couture, Mélanie; Fitzpatrick, Caroline

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Preschool children have unprecedented access to screen-based devices, a trend that has intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic. Early engagement with digital media has been linked to addiction-like behaviors. This study examined whether media use at age 4.5, including duration and content, predicted problematic media use, defined as excessive or maladaptive screen use that interferes with healthy functioning, by age 5.5.METHOD: Data from 265 children and their families were analyzed. Parents reported children's screen time and preferred programs/movies at age 4.5, and problematic media use at age 5.5. Linear regression models were adjusted for relevant parent and child factors.RESULTS: Screen time and preference for content high in consumerism predicted higher problematic media use scores (β = 0.154, p = .016; β = 0.169, p = .035). Among boys, consumerist content predicted higher problematic media use (β = 0.201, p = .028), whereas educational content predicted lower scores (β = -0.203, p = .049). Among girls, only screen time predicted problematic media use (β = 0.320, p = .007).IMPACT: The amount and nature of media exposure contribute to early problematic media use and play different roles for boys and girls. Developing harm-reduction recommendations may support parents' decisions about media quantity and quality.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125701 - Printed Poster

Prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences Among Justice-Involved Populations: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Berlinguette, Katilin

Additional Authors: Zhu, Jenney ; Madigan, Sheri; Ligertwood, Alexa; Lunney, Carole; Sin, Glorianna; Ly, Anh

Abstract: *Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) include exposure to abuse (physical, emotional, sexual), neglect (emotional, physical), and household dysfunction (parental divorce/separation, parental mental illness, parental substance use, parental incarceration, and witness to domestic violence) before the age of 18. Previous research demonstrates that ACEs are associated with adverse developmental and psychosocial outcomes that act as risk factors for justice involvement. This systematic review and meta-analysis seek to synthesize prevalence estimates for the original 10 ACEs in justice-involved populations across all published literature. Specifically, this study will investigate estimates across geographic regions, age, and sex, in justice samples. For this study, adult and youth criminal justice samples are eligible for inclusion if individuals are currently incarcerated, on probation, on parole, held in a forensic psychiatric institution/hospital, or held in a juvenile detention facility. Data collection is underway, and the findings of this study will be available in February 2026. Investigating individual prevalence of the types of ACEs may highlight the specific impact of these experiences and their implications for justice involvement. Additionally, this investigation can lead to informed policy, procedure, and treatment options to better support this vulnerable population.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125231 - Printed Poster

Prevalence of mental health concerns in women with chronic pelvic pain: A systematic review

Main Presenting Author: Johnson, Hilary

Additional Authors: Petty, Sara ; Bilevicius, Elena; Pankratz, Lily; Lau, Wein-An; Gopinah, Georgia; Banka, Margaret; Evans, Devon; Kredenster, Maria

Abstract: *Background: Chronic pelvic pain (CPP) is a pervasive condition that disproportionately affects women and is associated with negative physical, psychological and economic sequelae. Not surprisingly, many women with CPP experience comorbid mental health concerns. While extant literature exists exploring the co-occurrence of some mental health conditions and CPP among women, many studies lack comprehensive definitions of CPP and mental health concerns. Methods: In this systematic review, a comprehensive search was developed, and 5 databases were searched. Two reviewers are screening articles based on eligibility criteria, and extracting relevant articles. Results: To date, 381 articles have been reviewed (total for review n = 8,717) and 8 met criteria for extraction. Symptoms of depression, anxiety, somatic complaints and sleep difficulties have been identified, and rates of mental health concerns are higher among women with CPP than control groups. Conclusion: Mental health conditions are prevalent in women with CPP and occur at higher rates than women without CPP. Impact: Results will deepen our understanding of the common mental health comorbidities experienced by women with CPP and ultimately inform targeted screening and interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125616 - Printed Poster

Psychological Factors Related to Perceived Need for Mental Health Service Use in Later Life

Main Presenting Author: Kaur, Jagpreet

Additional Authors: Mailey, Malissa ; Mackenzie, Corey

Abstract: *Older adults are the least likely age group to seek mental health services, and lack of perceived need for help is a key barrier. However, less is known about psychological factors that impact perceived need. The current study therefore examined psychological predictors of older adults' perceived need for help, and explored whether these same psychological factors moderate the influence of perceived need on help-seeking in the past five years. Secondary data from 2,745 Canadians including measures of psychological constructs and mental health service use were analysed using stepwise logistic regression and moderation analysis. Results indicated that perceived need was greater among individuals with higher levels of distress (OR = 7.52), neuroticism (OR = 2.17), mental health literacy (OR = 2.42), and lower levels of perceived control (OR = .50). Further, moderation analyses revealed that perceived need's impact on use of mental health services within the past five years was most strongly affected by help-seeking attitudes; older individuals were more than three times more likely to seek help if they both perceived the need for help and had positive help-seeking attitudes. These findings suggest that interventions designed to increase help-seeking among older adults might target modifiable factors such as mental health literacy, perceived need, and attitudes toward seeking help.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 123739 - Printed Poster

Psychological Interventions for Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Post DSM-5 Inclusion

Main Presenting Author: Georgescu, Alyssa

Additional Authors: Frey, Benicio N.; Green, Sheryl; Babiy, Zoryana; Mundle, Kshitija

Abstract: *Premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) is a severe cyclical mood disorder with limited non-pharmacological treatment guidance despite its first formal recognition in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Psychiatric Disorders, 5th Edition in 2013. This systematic review aimed to synthesize evidence on psychological interventions for PMDD and evaluate their effectiveness. Following gold standard guidelines, databases were searched from 2013 to August 2025. Five studies met inclusion criteria, including four randomized controlled trials and one pilot study. Interventions included emotion-focused therapy, mindfulness-based stress reduction, internet-based cognitive-behavioural therapy, and mind-body approaches and were conducted in Iran, Germany, USA, and Turkey. Across studies, improvements were observed in global PMDD severity, mood symptoms, emotion regulation, self-compassion, and pain outcomes. However, substantial heterogeneity in intervention design, outcome measures, and reporting prevented an intended meta-analysis. Overall, preliminary findings suggest psychological interventions may be beneficial for PMDD, but the scarcity and methodological limitations of existing studies highlight the urgent need for well-powered, standardized trials to inform evidence-based clinical guidelines for individuals with PMDD.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122467 - Printed Poster

Psychometric evaluation of the Cannabis Assessment Reliability and Validity Evaluation (CARVE) Tool using factor analysis, item response theory modelling, and differential item functioning

Main Presenting Author: Deprez, Reese E.R.
Co-Presenting Author: Kornman, Paul T

Additional Authors: Pichette, Nique ; Li, Johnson; Pearlson, Godfrey

Abstract: *Cannabis use disorder (CUD) is a psychiatric diagnosis described by the American Psychiatric Association as a "problematic pattern of cannabis use within a 12-month period" causing impairment and distress. Since the release of the Cannabis Use Disorder Identification Test Revised Edition (CUDIT-R), major legal shifts in medicinal and recreational cannabis use have highlighted the need for a new measure to distinguish appropriate use from misuse or abuse to reduce diagnostic bias. This study introduces the Cannabis Assessment Reliability and Validity Evaluation (CARVE) tool, completed by participants (n = 308) recruited from the Olin Neuropsychiatry Research Center. Analyses will include exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses to determine whether the CARVE tool reliably separates appropriate cannabis use from misuse or abuse via inter-item and test-retest reliability, and construct validity. The CARVE Tool should also determine if cannabis is being "used primarily for a defined medical indication" or "employed primarily for recreational use." Structural equation and item response theory modelling, and differential item functioning, will be used to assess*

whether this tool provides an unbiased assessment of CUD. The resulting psychometric evaluation should clarify when cannabis use reflects medical treatment rather than harmful use, thereby improving diagnostic accuracy.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 124058 - Printed Poster

Psychosocial and Work-Related Factors Associated with Elevated Parenting Stress in Fathers During Early Parenthood

Main Presenting Author: Burcar, Andrew

Additional Authors: Vaillancourt, Monica ; Da Costa, Deborah ; Korner, Annett

Abstract: *Background: Parenting stress in fathers during the early postpartum period is linked to poorer mental health, reduced father-infant engagement, and challenges in overall family functioning. Although both psychosocial and workplace contexts are thought to shape fathers' stress levels, their combined influence is not well understood. This study examines correlates of elevated parenting stress during early fatherhood.Methods: A total of 136 fathers (M= 34.6, SD = 4.80) completed online self-report standardized questionnaires 2 months postpartum to assess psychosocial (stress, depression, social support, parental social roles) and work-related (financial stress, family-to-work conflict, organizational support) factors. A multiple linear regression was computed to determine correlates of elevated parental stress.Results: A multiple linear regression predicting parental stress was significant. Higher perceived stress (β = .23, p = .027), traditionally gendered parenting roles (β = .25, p = .001), lower social support (β = -.15, p = .048), and higher family-to-work conflict (β = .27, p = .026) predicted greater father parenting stress.Conclusion: Perceived stress, traditional parental roles, limited social support, and family-to-work conflict predicted higher stress in fathers, underscoring how personal, relational, and workplace pressures shape early fatherhood and inform targeted interventions.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124706 - Printed Poster

Psychosocial factors associated with disordered eating in birthing persons living with pregestational diabetes during the perinatal period

Main Presenting Author: Khoshnafas, Donya

Additional Authors: Schifano, Alexandra ; Deville-Stoetzel, Nadia; Körner, Annett; Da Costa, Deborah

Abstract: *Diabetes requires daily diet, lifestyle and glucose management, which is more rigorous for women living with pregestational diabetes (PGD) during the perinatal period due to a high risk of complications during pregnancy and childbirth. Many women with PGD have a history of disordered eating behavior (DEB) including purging, bingeing, restriction and insulin misuse. The perinatal period is associated with a higher risk of emergence or worsening of DEB in women living with PGD but research is limited on our understanding of related factors. This study aims to identify psychosocial factors associated with DEB in birthing persons with PGD during the perinatal period. 117 women with type 1 or 2 diabetes (mean age=32.6, SD=4.6) who were pregnancy planning,*

pregnant or had given birth in the past two years were recruited from across Canada and completed on-line questionnaires including demographics and self-report measures. A multiple regression was run to predict DEB with income, perinatal situation, diabetes type, diabetes distress and depression in the model. Higher scores on depressive symptoms (p=.01) and diabetes distress (p<.001) and living with type 2 diabetes (p=.04) contributed significantly to DEB, explaining 34% of the variance. These findings have the potential to aid in informing prevention care and early interventions on treating DEB in this patient population.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123975 - Printed Poster

Psychosocial Mediators of Cognition in Parkinsonism and Mobility Disability: Results from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging

Main Presenting Author: Chung, Alison F

Additional Author: Paterson, Theone S.E.

Abstract: *Cognition declines as parkinsonism severity progresses. The cognitive reserve theory suggests that protective psychosocial factors (e.g., leisure activities) may mitigate these declines. The synergistic effects of psychosocial factors on cognition in individuals with mobility disability associated with parkinsonism are thus far relatively unexplored in the literature. Based on our recent exploration of Rush Memory and Aging project data, we hypothesize that similar relationships within Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging data will reveal that reduced anxiety and depression and increased social participation and support will benefit individuals with more severe mobility disabilities across cognitive domains. Results will be presented exploring relationships between mobility disability associated with parkinsonism, psychological wellbeing (e.g., depression), social wellbeing (e.g., social participation), and impacts on cognition across domains (e.g., processing speed). Multiple mediation models will be fit for each cognitive domain in RStudio with psychological and social wellbeing covaried together. Demographic variables (e.g., age, sex) will be accounted for in all models. Model fit will be represented via the CFI, RMSEA, and SRMR and modification indices. Study outcomes aim to inform psychosocial interventions and community infrastructure for older adults.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125288 - Printed Poster

Publicly Available Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Mobile Apps: Systematic Search and Assessment

Main Presenting Author: Quesada, Daniela
Co-Presenting Author: Thapar, Serena

Additional Author: Knäuper, Bärbel

Abstract: *Mobile applications based on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) are available on major app stores. While clinicians and clients increasingly view apps as a promising tool, no systematic evaluation of ACT apps currently exists. This study systematically assessed the features, theoretical fidelity, and data privacy practices of publicly available ACT apps for independent or*

adjunctive use. Apps in the Canadian Apple and Google Play stores were identified through a systematic search and assessed with a custom 49-item framework examining app characteristics, ACT fidelity, and technical quality. Usability was rated with the Mobile App Rating Scale (MARS). Two independent reviewers completed data extraction and ratings. Findings were summarized using descriptive statistics. 17 apps met inclusion criteria; all targeted at least one ACT process, with acceptance, present-moment awareness, and committed action addressed most consistently. The mean MARS score was 3.63, with engagement rated lowest. Most apps relied on text-based psychoeducation; none were evaluated in peer-reviewed studies. While ACT apps show promise, many lack structured skill support or interactive features to enhance experiential learning. The study highlights the need to design apps using evidence-based principles for learning and engagement and provides a preliminary framework for assessing future ACT apps.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123903 - Printed Poster

Reducing Diabetes Risk by StayingActive+: A Behavioural Activation Group for Adults Living with Psychosis

Main Presenting Author: Arora, Disha
Co-Presenting Author: Scharf, Deborah

Abstract: *Background: Adults living with psychosis experience increased diabetes and premature mortality. StayingActive+ is a behavioral activation program targeting these disparities by improving food security, diet, social support, and physical activity. Through a hospital-city partnership, the program provides 12-weekly patient co-designed experiential learning sessions held in community spaces. Methods: Our evaluation of StayingActive+ includes biometric data, well-being, step count, and qualitative exit interviews for up to n=48 participants. Photovoice provides insights grounded in participants' lived experience. Results: Preliminary data shows high participant engagement and retention, and evidence of improved eating habits, physical activity, and social connectedness. Biometric data will be presented. Conclusions: StayingActive+ engaged a high-priority, equity-denied population in health and well-being activities. It's focus on practical skills, financial support for groceries, and facilitated community integration may be a useful approach to health promotion in community-dwelling adults living with psychosis.Action/Impact: StayingActive+ provides a model for hospitals and cities to collaboratively mitigate chronic disease risk in high-need populations. Arts-based methods (e.g., photovoice, cookbook co-creation) support community engagement, program feedback and refinement.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126444 - Printed Poster

Reducing Harsh Parenting Through the Building Regulation in Dual Generations (BRIDGE) Intervention: A Randomized Control Trial

Main Presenting Author: Leurquin, Kayley Eileen

Additional Author: Roos, Leslie E

Abstract: *Harsh parenting strategies (e.g., shouting or spanking) are widely used practices that exacerbate internalizing and externalizing problems in children, emphasizing the need to address*

these harmful parenting practices. Exposure to parental mental health challenges early in life further compounds these risks of child behavior problems. The present study assesses whether the Building Regulation in Dual Generations (BRIDGE) Therapy Program can decrease rates of harsh parenting for mothers with depression. 197 mothers were randomized to participate in either BRIDGE (n = 68), DBT-Only (n = 62), or standard care (n = 62). Paired samples t-tests will compare maternal mental health and harsh parenting at pre-intervention (T1) and post-intervention (T2) and follow-up (T3) timepoints) A generalized liner regression model will assess whether changes in harsh parenting are associated with improvements in child behavior and positive parenting.Preliminary analyses found that compared to standard care, BRIDGE reduces depression (b = -2.18, SE = 0.49, t = -4.43, p < .001) and anxiety (b = -2.03, SE = 0.50, t = -4.05, p < .001) across T1-T3. Indicating that BRIDGE therapy is effective in improving maternal mental health.Due to the success BRIDGE therapy program thus far, further implementations of BRIDGE have implemented across Canada, treating families in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and BC.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123809 - Printed Poster

Relationship between childhood sexual abuse, personality traits, social support and symptom severity in a transdiagnostic psychiatric sample

Main Presenting Author: Dominguez De Leon , Paula E.
Co-Presenting Author: Mastrangelo , Valeria

Additional Authors: Richer, Florence ; Blais-Michaud, Sophie; Almey , Anne; Ducharme, Simon

Abstract: *Background: Childhood trauma, personality traits, and social support are associated with clinical outcomes across a broad range of psychiatric disorders, but their combined and interactive effects across diagnoses remain unclear. This study examined these factors in a transdiagnostic framework. Methods: Data was obtained from the CPPQ Spark biobank including 190 participants with mood, anxiety, psychotic, substance-use, or personality disorders. Correlations and regression models were conducted using CEVQ, TIPI, OARS, CGI-S, and BPRS scores. Results: Sexual abuse was associated with lower social support, higher neuroticism, and greater symptom severity. Neuroticism was higher in patients with mood, anxiety, and personality disorders relative to psychosis-spectrum and correlated strongly with severity. Neuroticism and social support predicted symptom severity. Sexual abuse did not directly predict severity, but mediation analyses showed an indirect effect on severity through neuroticism. Conclusions: Across diagnoses, neuroticism, social support, and childhood trauma each contributed to symptom severity, with neuroticism emerging as the strongest predictor. Impact: Findings confirm the importance of integrating trauma history, personality profiling, and social support assessment into routine psychiatric evaluations to understand factors underlying disease severity.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124937 - Printed Poster

Relationship Functioning and Satisfaction in Couples Navigating Symptoms of Depression

Main Presenting Author: Jaworski, Arthur A

Additional Authors: Skillen, Sophie ; Fairley, Daylia S; Cho, Jessica; Schaik, Nikki V; Hanjrah, Avneet; Jayaweera, Mika I; Van Blyderveen, Sherry

Abstract: *Background: Depression has been associated with lower relationship satisfaction, more conflict, reduced intimacy, and greater risk of relationship breakdown. This study examined how self-reported and partner-perceived depression relate to core components of relationship functioning, including conflict (CTS-SF), intimacy (PAIR), communication (CPQ), and respect (RPCS). Methods: Young adults (N = 725) in romantic relationships completed an online survey assessing mental health symptoms in themselves and their partners. The PHQ-9 was used to determine whether depressive symptoms were in the clinical range for both self-reported and partner-perceived depression. Results: Self-reported depressive symptoms were associated with less emotional and intellectual intimacy and higher conflict. When individuals perceived their partner as experiencing depressive symptoms, additional relational domains were affected: emotional, sexual, and intellectual intimacy was lower, verbal and physical conflict was greater, negative interactional cycles were more common, and . They also had less overall respect for their partners, respect for differences, respectful responses, willingness to review, and willingness to release. Conclusions: Depression is associated with respect, reduced intimacy, elevated conflict and poor communication. Impact: These findings extend our understanding of depression and r*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126407 - Printed Poster

Resentment Mediates the Relationship Between Perceived Injustice and Depression Among Stroke Spousal Caregivers

Main Presenting Author: Wandinger, Erik

Additional Authors: Coady, Alanna ; Libben, Maya; Piercy, Jamie; Miller, Harry

Abstract: *Over 12.2 million new strokes occur annually, and most survivors return home to spousal care. Both survivors and caregivers are at elevated risk for depression. Research suggests that perceptions of injustice and feelings of resentment are common among caregivers. Although perceived injustice and resentment have been linked to depression in other populations, their combined role has not been examined in stroke caregivers. This study tested whether resentment mediates the relationship between perceived injustice and depression. Participants (N = 40) were caregivers who completed validated self-report measures three months after their spouse with stroke returned home from hospital. Mediation analyses revealed greater perceived injustice was associated with higher resentment (B = 1.03, SE = 0.15, p < .001), which was, in turn, associated with higher depression (B = 0.39, SE = 0.12, p = .003). The direct effect of perceived injustice on depression became non-significant when resentment was included in the model (B = 0.10, SE = 0.16, p = .53), while the indirect effect was significant (B = 0.40, CI [0.12, 0.78]). Findings indicate that resentment mediates the link between perceived injustice and depression, underscoring the central role of appraisal and emotional processes in caregiver mental health and highlighting potential treatment targets for supporting stroke caregivers.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 123189 - Printed Poster

Rumination Augments the Association Between Body Dissatisfaction and Depression

Main Presenting Author: Forward, Mallory R

Additional Author: Jarry , Josée L

Abstract: *Background: Body dissatisfaction is a robust predictor of depression, yet the strength of this association varies due to individual differences. The goal of this study was to explore the moderating roles of rumination and maladaptive appearance investment in the association between body dissatisfaction and depression. We predicted that the relationship between body dissatisfaction and depression would be stronger for those who ruminate and are maladaptively invested in their appearance, since these traits likely enhance the salience of body dissatisfaction. Methods: Participants (N = 498) completed online self-report measures of depression, body dissatisfaction, rumination, and maladaptive appearance investment. Data was analyzed using multiple regression analyses. Results: Body dissatisfaction and rumination, but not maladaptive appearance investment, significantly predicted depression. The association between body dissatisfaction and depression was more pronounced for those high, rather than low, in ruminative thoughts. Maladaptive appearance investment was not a significant moderator. Conclusions: These results suggest that the association between body dissatisfaction and depression is particularly pronounced for those with a tendency to ruminate. Action: Targeting both rumination and body dissatisfaction may be a useful adjunct in depression treatment and prevention.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124930 - Printed Poster

School Mental Health Service Access for African Nova Scotian Youth

Main Presenting Author: Skeete, Jaylynn

Additional Author: Menna, Rosanne

Abstract: *Black Canadians face significant race-related stressors (e.g., Cénat et al., 2021; Okoye et al., 2023) and barriers to accessing mental health care (e.g., Fante-Coleman et al., 2022). However, there is a lack of research on the mental health help-seeking of Black youth in Canada, especially within schools. To address this gap, we examined school staff and mental health service providers' perceptions of school-based mental health help-seeking among African Nova Scotian (ANS) youth. Thirteen school staff and mental health service providers (4 males, 8 females, 1 gender fluid) aged 26 to 58 years (M=40.46, SD=11.95) participated in semi-structured interviews, which were analyzed using thematic analysis. Identified themes highlight the main challenges and factors influencing ANS youths' school-based access to mental health care. The findings address existing gaps in the literature, provide directions for future research, and offer practical implications for those working with ANS youth.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124609 - Printed Poster

Scrolling Your Way Through Stress: Examining the Impact of Social Media Use After Acute Stress Induction on Self-Reported and Cardiac Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Conway, Alexandra

Additional Authors: Roos, Leslie ; Giuliano, Ryan

Abstract: *Young adulthood is a critical stage marked by heightened stress and mental health challenges (Floriou-Servou et al., 2021; MacLeod & Brownlie, 2014). Social media is often used as a coping strategy (Bae, 2023), potentially offering social buffering and distraction during stress recovery (Gunnar, 2017; Mansell et al., 2020). This study examined whether brief social media use aids recovery from an acute stressor and whether ADHD symptomology moderates this effect. Individuals with ADHD may experience greater stress and difficulty managing it (Barra et al., 2021; Combs et al., 2015). Exploratory analyses assessed whether content themes predict subjective and physiological recovery, given links between high-arousal content and stress (Bucci et al., 2019; Competiello et al., 2023; Naslund et al., 2020; Zhao & Zhou, 2020). Participants (n = 102) completed an online Trier Social Stress Test, then were randomly assigned to 5 minutes of social media use (n = 49) or control (n = 53). Recovery was measured via self-report and heart rate. Results showed social media did not improve recovery, and ADHD symptomology did not moderate effects. Gender differences emerged, with women reporting higher emotional reactivity. Findings underscore the need to examine content type, engagement quality, and individual differences in digital stress interventions.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 121961 - Printed Poster

Seeing Me, Seeing You: How Social Anxiety Shapes Visual Attention during Videoconferencing

Main Presenting Author: Barg, Samantha

Additional Author: Libben, Maya

Abstract: *Videoconferencing (VC) platforms are now central to social, educational, and professional life, yet design features such as self-view may exacerbate social anxiety (SA) by reinforcing self-focused attention, a core mechanism in its maintenance. Despite evidence of SA-related attentional biases in face-to-face settings, little research has explored these processes in live VC interactions. The current study employs eye-tracking technology to examine whether SA predicts distinct attentional patterns during real-time VC interactions and whether social context (neutral vs. evaluative) moderates these effects. Sixty-five female participants engage in three Zoom-based social tasks with a female confederate while eye movements are tracked to measure attention to self-view, confederate-view, and non-social areas of the screen. Self-report measures assess SA, Zoom familiarity, depression, and self-esteem. Data analysis is ongoing. Analyses include repeated-measures ANOVAs and multiple regressions to assess the effects of SA on gaze allocation across tasks. Findings aim to clarify how SA shapes attention in digital spaces and identify mechanisms by which VC design features sustain maladaptive attention. Ultimately, the results may inform evidence-based recommendations for VC platform design and implementation across educational and clinical settings.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125833 - Printed Poster

Self-Objectification, Body Compassion, and Exercise Motivation in Women

Main Presenting Author: Chaudhry, Warda

Additional Author: Calogero, Rachel M.

Abstract: *The global gender gap in exercise participation reveals less engagement by women and warrants more scientific scrutiny and attention. Self-objectification, a view of oneself as an object in the eyes of others and valuing appearance over other self attributes, is consistently linked to less intrinsically motivated exercise and more negative body image in women. Drawing on psychological models of self-compassion and self-determination, we examined whether less body compassion explains the negative association between self-objectification and intrinsic exercise motivation. Data were collected from a community sample of women living in Canada (N = 519) using an online battery of measures to assess self-objectification, three facets of body compassion, and exercise motivation. Mediation analyses revealed a direct negative effect of self-objectification on intrinsic exercise motivation, and an indirect effect through less body defusion and body acceptance. The results suggest that self-objectification may impede the ability to detach from body-related criticism and accept oneself without judgment, which further undermines women's motivation to exercise for reasons that would sustain engagement. These findings have implications for theory-building and refining psychosocial models of exercise to consider how specific facets of self-concept converge to impact women's exercise motivation.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124667 - Printed Poster

Self-reported depression among adults who microdose psilocybin while taking serotonergic antidepressants.

Main Presenting Author: Teichroeb, Cody

Additional Authors: St.Pierre, Michelle ; Cates, Jordyn; Walsh, Zach

Abstract: *Public practices of microdosing psychedelics has outpaced research examining associated health benefits and risks. Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRI) as well as Serotonin and Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitors (SNRI) are among the most commonly prescribed antidepressants. Researchers have identified that these popular antidepressant drugs work using the same primary neurotransmitter as psilocybin mushrooms. This study investigated interactions of SSRI/SNRI antidepressant medications and microdosing psilocybin on depression as measured on the Depression Anxiety Stress Scale (DASS-21). Respondents were drawn from the UBC-led Microdose.me study. The sample included participants who identified having depression, anxiety, panic attacks, or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (n = 831) and identified microdosing (n = 409) or not microdosing (n = 422). A hierarchical regression model was fit to examine the main effects of microdosing and antidepressant use, along with an interaction term. Our findings suggest that there was a main effect of microdosing, no effect of serotonergic antidepressant use, and no interaction for level of depression. As microdosing continues to gain popularity, the findings of this study will inform future research and empower individuals to make more informed decisions about microdosing.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 123872 - Printed Poster

Sex Differences in Relationship Quality (RQ) and Caregiver Burden (CB) Among Caregivers of Patients with Heart Disease.

Main Presenting Author: Aubin, Marie-Eve

Additional Authors: Maukel, Lisa-Marie ; Tulloch, Heather; Greenman, Samuel Paul

Abstract: *Background: Caring for a person with a chronic illness such as heart disease can entail substantial caregiver burden (CB), affecting psychological, social, and overall wellbeing. High relationship quality (RQ) may buffer this burden and enhance couples' satisfaction. Although women and men may experience CB differently, sex differences in cardiac caregiving remain understudied. This study aims to: 1) examine sex differences in RQ and CB; 2) assess the association between RQ and CB; and 3) test whether sex moderates this association.Method: Baseline data from the Healing Hearts Together trial (N=596) will be analyzed, including 296 caregivers (76% female). Caregivers completed measures of RQ (Dyadic Adjustment Scale) and CB (Zarit Burden Interview). Sex differences in RQ and CB will be examined using t-tests. Associations between RQ and CB will be assessed using Pearson correlations and regression analyses, and moderation by sex will be tested via an RQ × sex interaction term. Expected results: Female caregivers are expected to report higher CB and lower RQ. Higher RQ is anticipated to be linked to lower CB, with this association being stronger among women.Implications: This study will clarify how RQ relates to CB in cardiac caregivers, highlighting sex differences and informing interventions designed to support caregivers.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125255 - Printed Poster

Sexe, santé et technologie : une revue de la portée explorant les enjeux de la santé sexuelle à travers les interactions sexuelles numériques

Main Presenting Author: Pierre-Louis, Annelaure

Additional Authors: Noorishad, Pari-Gole ; Khoshzad, Mehri ; Diaz Torres, Mauricio Andres ; Shaughnessy, Krystelle

Abstract: *La sexualité se réinvente à l'ère numérique et transforme les interactions sexuelles au quotidien. Les interactions sexuelles par l'intermédiaire de la technologie (ISIT), très répandues, incluent l'échange de contenu sexuel auto-créé, tel que le sextage, et semblent être liées au plaisir et au fonctionnement sexuel, tout en étant associées à certains risques, dont la dysfonction et des formes de coercition. Selon l'OMS, la santé sexuelle comprend le plaisir, l'absence de dysfonction et de coercition. Cette revue analyse comment les ISIT s'inscrivent dans ces dimensions. La méthodologie comportait cinq étapes : création d'une base de données sur Covidence, analyse des résumés, examen des textes intégraux, extraction des données et analyse thématique préliminaire. Nous avons inclus des articles évalués par les pairs, publiés après 2017, portant sur les ISIT et la santé sexuelle, et exclu ceux abordant le travail du sexe ou la pornographie. Sur 24 848 résumés et 157 textes intégraux, 48 ont été retenus à ce jour et intégrés à l'analyse préliminaire. Celle-ci montre peu d'études sur le plaisir et le fonctionnement sexuel, mais une association positive entre ISIT et coercition. Ces résultats*

soulignent la nécessité de poursuivre l'étude des ISIT afin d'orienter des recommandations adaptées aux pratiques sexuelles médiatisées par la technologie et combler les lacunes actuelles.

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 125461 - Printed Poster

Shadows of the Past: Nostalgia Mediates the Link Between Addiction-Related Identity and the Recovery Process

Main Presenting Author: Gaudett, Gray

Additional Authors: Tabri, Nassim ; Stefaniak, Anna; Wohl, Michael

Abstract: *According to the social identity approach to health, successful recovery from addiction involves transforming one's social identity-from "addict" to "recovering person." However, many individuals continue to identify with their addiction even after achieving abstinence. The present research introduces addiction-related nostalgia (ARN)-sentimental longing for one's addicted past-as a mechanism that may link lingering addiction-related identity to poorer recovery outcomes. Across two studies involving individuals recovering from a gambling disorder, we tested whether ARN mediates the association between addiction-related identity and recovery outcomes. In Study 1 (cross-sectional; N=451), ARN mediated the relation between addiction-related identity and concern about relapse, but not intention to remain in recovery. In Study 2 (three-wave longitudinal; N=580), addiction-related identity at Time 1 predicted ARN at Time 2, which in turn predicted greater relapse concern and reduced intention to remain in recovery at Time 3. These findings identify ARN as a psychological process that may pull recovering individuals toward their addictive past, offering insight into identity-based vulnerabilities in recovery.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 123194 - Printed Poster

Shame as an Elusive Emotion: Evidence from Comparative Emotional Reflections

Main Presenting Author: Erb, Bailea

Additional Author: Rehman, Uzma

Abstract: *Shame is an aversive state that is difficult to tolerate, leading individuals to avoid acknowledging it. This avoidance makes shame challenging to study, despite its relevance to psychological disorders and clinical intervention. To develop rigorous methods for studying shame, we must determine whether recalling shame differs from recalling other emotional states. If shame memories are uniquely challenging to access, new approaches to assessing shame may be needed. In this study, participants reflected on six emotions (shame, happiness, sadness, anxiety, anger, guilt). For each, they described a recent memory and rated recall ease, emotional clarity, confidence, and how frequently they experienced the emotion. Shame memories differed from other emotional states in several ways: (1) they were harder to recall, (2) they were described with lower emotional clarity, (3) participants reported less confidence that the memory genuinely reflected shame, and (4) participants reported experiencing shame less frequently overall. Memories of shame were elusive, limiting individuals' ability to gain insight from their experiences relative to other emotions. The study underscores the methodological challenges of studying shame in empirical research. Findings suggest*

current shame self-report tools may be insufficient and highlight the need for measures that capture shame's aversive nature.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123161 - Printed Poster

Shame, Social Anxiety, and Emotion Regulation Strategy Choice:Performance Based Emotion Regulation Strategy Selection for Socially Anxious Individuals Experiencing Shame

Main Presenting Author: Pimentel, Jordan R

Additional Author: Fredborg, Bev

Abstract: *Background: Emotion regulation (ER) refers to the strategies people use to modify one or more elements of an emotional response. People who experience social anxiety (SA) tend to use maladaptive ER strategies to manage their social fears, leading to distress and impairment. However, less is known on the specific ER strategies SA individuals choose to regulate their emotions when they are feeling shame, which is a common experience for individuals with SA. Methods: At timepoint 1, undergraduate participants (N = 800) completed measures on SA and shame. Participants with a high (n = 30) or low level of SA (n = 30) were invited to complete an established forced-choice performance-based measure of ER strategy choice following an adapted written and auditory shame induction measure. During the task, participants chose between using two specific ER strategies, distraction or cognitive reappraisal, when viewing low and high intensity negative images. Results: Data analysis will be completed in March 2026. We expect that those with high levels of SA will choose distraction more frequently regardless of the emotional intensity they experience as compared to those low in SA. Impact: This research elucidates how individuals high in SA regulate their emotions, thus providing empirical support underlying efforts to improve emotion regulation skills in this population.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125619 - Printed Poster

Single-Session Psychotherapy for Young Kids through Patient Engagement Techniques (SPYKids): A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial

Main Presenting Author: Tongol, Nicole C

Additional Authors: Roos, Leslie ; Cameron, Emily; Wiens, Kyla; Cheung, Kristene; Reynolds, Kristin; Katz, Laurence; Hanlon-Dearman, Ana

Abstract: *Neurodevelopmental disorders are the leading cause of disability in childhood (Miller et al., 2016). Yet, long waitlists can result in significant delays in service delivery (Austin et al., 2016; Brian et al., 2019; Harpaz-Rotem et al., 2004). Single-session interventions (SSIs) have the potential to provide timely support, be scalable and accessible, and use minimal resources (Schleider & Weisz, 2017). The present study piloted a randomized controlled trial for the SPYKids Program, which addresses a high-priority child problem through behaviour management and solution-focused therapy. There were two main research aims: (Q1) determine acceptability and feasibility, and (Q2) assess potential to improve parent self-efficacy, child behaviour, and quality of life. 29 participants were*

recruited. Eight parents ultimately completed the SSI online. The program was found to be feasible and acceptable. For parent anxiety, scores did not change significantly from Time 1 (two weeks post) to Time 2 (three months post). The same was found for parenting stress. For parent depressive symptoms, the program seemed to provide some immediate comfort, but parents still need more comprehensive services for support. Challenging interactions with children improved slightly. Lastly, a significant portion of parents no longer reported clinical levels of child behavioural challenges after the program.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126252 - Printed Poster

Sleep disturbance in Neurofibromatosis 1: association with pain, anxiety and mood symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Zelman, Diane C.

Additional Authors: Truong, Amy ; Gore, L. Robert

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Neurofibromatosis 1 (NF1) is a genetic disorder (1/3000 people) of the protein neurofibromin, causing nerve tumors, skin and skeletal abnormalities, learning difficulties, and pain. Given its multisystem impact, identifying factors that influence quality of life, such as sleep, is critical. NF1 research has documented disrupted sleep in children, and animal models show evidence of altered circadian rhythm, but less is known about sleep health in adults. Method: This study investigated prevalence and correlates of sleep concerns among 304 adults with NF1 (71.4% female; 82.6% White, age M=42.11) from the Children's Tumor Foundation NF1 Registry who completed the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI), GAD-7, PHQ-9, and the Brief Pain Inventory. Results: 78.2% exceeded the PSQI cutoff for poor sleep quality, with 61.5%, 46.7%, and 61.9% meeting criteria for short sleep duration, high sleep latency, and reduced sleep efficiency. Sleep complaints occurring ≥3 times per week included middle of night/early morning waking (53.8%) and pain (34.4%). Pain, GAD-7, and PHQ-9 independently predicted sleep quality. Conclusion: Sleep disruption is extensive in individuals with NF1 and bidirectionally associated with considerable symptom impact. Action/Impact: Results are discussed with respect to need for integrated care for people with NF1 and other genetic disorders.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 122949 - Printed Poster

Sleep Quality Among Indigenous Populations in Canada: A Meta-Analysis - Part 2

Main Presenting Author: Birkinshaw, Kiana H

Additional Authors: Sepehry, Amir A; Zelman, Diane; Lee, K.S. Felicia

Abstract: *Background: Sleep quality is an experience broadly defined as self-satisfaction with sleep - including perception of restful sleep, non-fragmented sleep and ease of falling and staying asleep. This can include daytime sleepiness and can be objectively examined. Sleep quality contributes to both physical and mental health. In Canada, 39% of the population (adults aged 18-64) reported having low sleep quality (Statistics Canada, 2022). However, limited data on sleep quality among Indigenous populations in Canada are available and are reported heterogeneously. Aim/Method: This meta-analysis aimed to examine the prevalence rate of sleep quality among Indigenous populations in*

Canada from published papers, following the PRISMA guidelines, and to examine the impact of select moderating factors. Results: Of 788 reviewed abstracts, 8 studies met selection criteria, but only a few reported original data. The aggregate prevalence (range: 7.8% to 65%) from the original studies was heterogeneously evaluated (objective vs. subjective measures) over time and included different Indigenous peoples. Conclusion/Impact: Findings highlight significant variability in reported outcomes among Indigenous peoples. Understanding these patterns may help clarify existing health disparities and identify areas where greater support is needed to improve sleep health within Indigenous communities.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 122952 - Printed Poster

Social Anxiety and Shame: Benefits of Inducing Self-Compassion for Distress, Fears of Compassion, and Post-Event Processing

Main Presenting Author: Burnham, Cortney

Additional Authors: Milmine, Joshua ; Kocovski, Nancy

Abstract: *Those with social anxiety struggle with feelings of shame, engage in high levels of post-event processing and report high fear of self-compassion and fear of receiving compassion from others. The purpose of the present study was to examine how a self-compassion exercise impacts feelings of shame, post-event processing and fears of compassion related to social situations involving shame. In this online study, participants (N = 300 students) were asked to recall a past social-evaluative situation in which they experienced shame. Next, participants were randomly assigned to a self-compassion (n = 151) or a control (n = 149) writing condition. Then, participants completed measures assessing how much shame and distress they currently felt. Lastly, they were asked to anticipate levels of fear of compassion and post-event processing if a similar situation occurred again. Those in the self-compassion condition reported significantly lower levels of shame ($p < .001$) and distress ($p < .001$) in the moment, and lower fear of self-compassion ($p = .036$), fear of receiving compassion ($p = .014$) and post-event processing ($p = .014$) if a similar situation were to occur again. Overall, the study highlights the benefits of inducing self-compassion for social-evaluative situations involving shame.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125743 - Printed Poster

Social Media and Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence: Effects of Social Media Type on Mental Health Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Annala, Jamilla N

Additional Authors: Desrosiers, Isabelle ; O'Neill, Melanie ; Snaychuk, A. Lindsey

Abstract: *Digital harassment (DH), particularly in the form of technology-facilitated sexual violence (TFSV), can lead to adverse effects, including lowered self-esteem and the onset of depressive sequelae (Snaychuk & O'Neill, 2020). Previous research demonstrates relationships between the prevalence of sexual harassment through dating apps and the incidence of TFSV through social media (Gewirtz-Meydan et al., 2024; Lyttle Storrod, 2024). Due to limited research on this topic the present*

study analyzed if the social media type used during TFSV experiences could predict post-traumatic symptomology. In a sample of (N = 85) Canadian adults, a multiple regression was conducted to determine whether social media type used during TFSV experiences would influence post-traumatic sequelae. The overall model was significant F(5, 79) = 6.84, p = <.001, R2 = .30, indicating that Facebook (β= 16.89, t = 3.82, p = <.001) was a significant predictor of increased PCL-5 sores, however, Tinder, Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter were not. Future research should investigate further distinctions between social media types and TFSV to further clarify the relationship and reduce post-traumatic sequelae.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125474 - Printed Poster

Stakeholders' perspectives on mental illness stigma in a Canadian postsecondary context

Main Presenting Author: Neudorf, Vyenna

Additional Authors: Klooster, Andrea ; Glory, Ovie; Brosseau, Danielle

Abstract: *Mental illness stigma amplifies the challenges of living with mental illness. Most of the available research on stigma in postsecondary contexts has used quantitative methods to provide information about the extent, type, and impacts of mental illness stigma among postsecondary student populations. Less is known about other campus stakeholders' views on stigma and students' experiential knowledge of mental illness stigma in the campus environment. The aim of this research study was to explore campus stakeholders' perspectives on the contributors and consequences of mental illness stigma in a postsecondary context. Qualitative data was collected using online interviews and drawn from a larger sequential mixed-method study examining campus mental health. Participants (N = 29) represented three groups of stakeholders (students, staff, and faculty) at a small undergraduate university in Canada. Reflexive thematic analysis was used to identify four influences on the presence of stigma (investment in campus relationships, beliefs about mental illness, institutional culture, and communication) and five impacts resulting from stigma (fear, isolation, silencing, hindering support-seeking, diminished performance, and questioning). Identified by campus stakeholders themselves, these results enable the identification of new targets for destigmatization efforts on postsecondary campuses.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125654 - Printed Poster

Stress and Strength: Flexible Coping Predicted Better Sleep and Physical Activity During COVID-19

Main Presenting Author: Trudel-Fitzgerald, Claudia

Additional Authors: Smith, Scott G.; Kubzansky, Laura D.

Abstract: *Background: Coping responses to stress-like active engagement or denial-predict long-term health. Yet, the behavioral pathways linking coping to health outcomes remain unclear. Understanding these pathways is especially relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic, when behaviors shifted dramatically.Methods: 17,687 disease-free women in the Nurses' Health Study II COVID-19*

substudy (May 2020-April 2021) reported their use of 6 adaptive and 4 maladaptive coping strategies via validated scales. We also created a coping variability score reflecting the extent to which individuals flexibly tailor strategies to situational demands. Physical activity and sleep were binarized using disease prevention guidelines. Poisson regression models examined linkages between coping in 2020 and health behaviors in 2021, adjusting for relevant covariates.Results: Most adaptive strategies predicted a higher likelihood of healthy physical activity and sleep, whereas maladaptive strategies showed mixed associations. Greater coping variability was consistently-and more strongly-linked to healthier behaviors.Conclusions: Women's stress-management approaches during the pandemic were associated with meaningful differences in their subsequent health behaviors.Impact: Coping flexibility may represent a promising, modifiable psychological target for promoting healthier lifestyle habits during periods of stress.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124750 - Printed Poster

Stress Experienced During Psychiatric Hospitalization: Identity-Related, Contextual, and Clinical Determinants

Main Presenting Author: Bureau, Coralie
Co-Presenting Authors: Nicole, Jeanne; Grondin, Pierre-Yves

Additional Authors: Raucher-Chéné, Delphine ; Thibaudeau, Élisabeth; Hazel, Lori; Dupont, Logan; Lepage, Martin; Mercier, Novembre

Abstract: *Psychiatric hospitalization often generates significant stress, yet few studies have examined factors influencing stress in this context. This exploratory study investigated how identity-related, contextual, and clinical variables contribute to perceived stress during hospitalization among 46 adults in a psychiatric unit. Stress was measured using the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS), while age, sex, cultural identity, living situation, employment status, diagnosis, and length of stay were collected through questionnaires and inpatient files. Three multiple linear regressions were performed to identify which variables within each dimension predicted perceived stress. The identity-related model, which included sex, age, and ethnicity, was significant (p = .012), explaining 24.2% of variance, with women reporting higher PSS scores. The contextual model, including employment status and living situation, was not significant. The clinical model, including diagnosis and length of stay, was significant (p = .009), explaining 33.1% of variance. Personality disorder diagnosis (p = .047) and longer hospitalization (p = .049) were associated with higher perceived stress. These findings contribute to a multidimensional understanding of stress during psychiatric hospitalization and highlight the importance of tailored care practices.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125493 - Printed Poster

Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Ketamine's Effects on Craving in Substance Use Disorders

Main Presenting Author: Elkrief, Kellie

Additional Authors: Lavin, Paola ; Sharafi, Heidar; Sepehry, A Amir; McAnulty, Christina; Jutras-Aswad, Didier; Garel, Nicolas

Abstract: *Background: Substance use disorders (SUDs) affect ~2% of the global population, yet treatment responses often remain suboptimal. Craving-an intense urge to use a substance-is a key treatment target and predictor of relapse. Ketamine, an N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor antagonist, has shown potential to reduce craving, though findings are mixed. This meta-analysis will evaluate ketamine's effects on craving in SUDs. Methods: Following PRISMA guidelines (PROSPERO ID: CRD42024570786), eight databases including trial registries were searched for randomized controlled trials of ketamine for SUDs reporting craving outcomes. Analyses are currently underway, with standardized mean differences to be pooled using random-effects models and subgroup analyses planned by substance, psychotherapy adjunct, craving type, and dosing frequency. Results: Of 3,275 records, 11 studies met the inclusion criteria. Six examined alcohol, three cocaine, one tobacco, and one opioid use disorder. Ketamine, compared to control interventions, significantly reduced craving in five trials, while two showed within-group improvements only, and four reported no effect. Conclusions: Ketamine appears to reduce craving, particularly in cocaine dependence, suggesting possible substance-specific effects. Impact: Findings will guide evidence-based ketamine interventions and future research on mechanistic action.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 122769 - Printed Poster

The Believability of Anxious Thoughts and Feelings as a Mediator Between Internet Addiction and Sleep Quality

Main Presenting Author: Pashang, Zahra Sadat

Abstract: *Excessive and maladaptive internet use has become an emerging psychological concern, with growing evidence linking it to disrupted sleep patterns and emotional dysregulation. The present study investigated the relationship between internet addiction and sleep quality, with a particular focus on the mediating role of the believability of anxious thoughts and feelings. A descriptive correlational design was employed, involving 300 Iranian participants (aged 13-60) residing in District 3 of Tehran, recruited through convenience sampling from local health centers. Data were collected using Young's Internet Addiction Test (1998), the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (1989), and the Believability of Anxious Thoughts and Feelings Questionnaire (Herzberg et al., 2012). Results demonstrated significant positive correlations among internet addiction, poorer sleep quality, and the believability of anxious thoughts and feelings ($p < .001$). Mediation analysis revealed a significant direct effect of internet addiction on sleep quality ($p < .001$) as well as an indirect effect mediated by believability ($p < .05$), with the mediator accounting for approximately 32.3% of the association. These findings underscore the role of cognitive-emotional processes in the link between problematic internet use and sleep disturbances and highlight the need for interventions focused on cognitive restructuring, anxiety-related belief change, and healthier digital habits to improve sleep hygiene.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 123919 - Printed Poster

The Concept of Loss in Addiction: A Review of Theories and Implications for Gambling

Main Presenting Author: Bergeron, Alex-Anne

Additional Authors: Monson, Eva ; Morvannou, Adèle; Gaudreault, Karine; Scheurich, Rebecca; Lehmann, Katerine

Abstract: *Experiences of loss, including the loss of money, control, and social connections, are pervasive in the trajectories of individuals with a gambling disorder. With the rise of online gambling, the consequences associated with gambling problems have intensified and reshaped the experience of loss, creating new challenges for prevention and treatment. This rapid review of the literature aims to identify and analyze frameworks addressing loss in addiction and their applicability to gambling. Following the recommendations of Garritty et al. (2024), a search of key concepts (loss, addiction, and conceptual frameworks) was conducted across 10 databases, identifying 197 publications. Five were retained, though none specifically addressed gambling disorders. Loss was described from two perspectives: the individual's social circle and the individual themselves. Two studies used grief theories to deepen the understanding of loss experiences. The discussion highlights the importance of broadening our understanding of loss in addiction to include gambling. Notably, integrating grief theories could offer a framework for better understanding the difficulties encountered during recovery such as isolation and loss of control, and for adapting intervention strategies to the realities of people who gamble.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125272 - Printed Poster

The Development and Pilot Evaluation of Perinatal Anxiety Peer Support

Main Presenting Author: Arora, Bhavya

Additional Authors: Uchechukwu, Light ; Meilleur, Melissa; Alcolado, Gillian; Furer, Patricia; Reynolds, Kristin

Abstract: *Pregnancy and postpartum (perinatal period) involve significant hormonal, emotional, and physical changes, which can lead to a new onset or worsening of anxiety. Overcoming Perinatal Anxiety (OPA) is a six-week online e-health self-directed CBT program designed to provide timely support to perinatal women with mild to moderate anxiety. Our lab previously examined the efficacy of the OPA program and found a reduction in anxiety symptoms among perinatal women; however, participants also voiced a need for connection. The present study pilot tested the addition of a peer support component to the OPA program, called OPA Peers +. The study examined participants' levels of anxiety (Perinatal Anxiety Screening Scale), depression (Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale), perceived social support (PROMIS Emotional Support), and self-efficacy (Maternal Self-Efficacy scale) pre- and post-intervention. Data from two cohorts of OPA Peers+ (n = 10) have been collected, and two more cohorts are scheduled to begin in Winter and Spring 2026, with the aim of including approximately n = 20 participants. Early findings indicate a reduction in anxiety (MD = 18.388) and depressive symptoms (MD = 4.374), and improvement in perceived emotional support (MD = -3.50) and maternal self-efficacy (MD = -10.55). Findings will highlight the value of peer support programs in perinatal treatment services.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126340 - Printed Poster

The disconnect between sexting education and knowledge about sexting

Main Presenting Author: Holmes, Emma J

Additional Authors: Laurienzo, Maritza ; Davidson, Myles; Babchishin, M Kelly

Abstract: *Sexting is a relatively new technology-facilitated sexual behaviour, which involves the exchange of intimate materials. Consensual sexting is common among young adults; as many as 80% of 18-30-year-olds have sent a sext. Given both its prevalence and emerging status within sexual education, it is important to understand the content and accuracy of sext education in schools. This study analysed data from an anonymous online survey of 290 undergraduate students from Ontario (M age = 20), 61% of whom had ever sent a consensual sext. About half of the participants (55%) had received sext education while in high school. Of those who had received sext education in high school, about half (55%) were satisfied with the amount of information they had learned about sexting. The content reported was narrow: half had been taught that sexting was illegal (54%), and very few had been taught about safe sexting practices (11%). In terms of their knowledge of sexting, participants generally estimated the prevalence of sexting accurately but were less knowledgeable about the legal ramifications associated with sexting and about safe sexting practices. These findings highlight a need for sexual education curricula to provide accurate legal information and integrate evidence-based guidance on safe sexting practices. Clear education gaps remain that could be addressed via sex-positive programming.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123179 - Printed Poster

The Doom Scroll Effect: Differing Multilevel Associations Between Objective Social Media Use and Affect

Main Presenting Author: Sihoe, Christopher Emmett

Additional Authors: Buckler, E. Jean ; Liu, Sam; MacDonald, Stuart; Ames, Megan E.

Abstract: *The impact of social media use on adolescent mental health continues to be debated. Within the literature, the need for intensive longitudinal studies and the use of objectively measured screen time remains apparent. Extant research using intensive longitudinal designs suggest daily, or within-person, social media use may be negatively associated with both positive and negative affect. However, others have found positive associations between screen time and mood or no associations at all. Given the vulnerability of adolescents during this important developmental period, further exploration of this within-person association is needed. Presently, we compare the within- and between- person associations between objectively measured screen time and affect among adolescents (ages 13-17) as part of the Adolescents' Daily Lives project (Ames et al., 2024). Multilevel modelling will be used to examine these associations, controlling for time, gender, and prior affect. Data will be derived from 182 anticipated participants by January 2026, with 142 participants having completed the study (Mage=14.99 years, Female=69.2%, Gender diverse=7%) to date. This research will address the literature's over-reliance on self-reported digital media use and lack of intensive longitudinal data. Results may provide more nuanced understanding of how daily social media use differs from long terms usage.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125330 - Printed Poster

The effect of a brief mindfulness-based intervention on the experience of mental effort

Main Presenting Author: Ueberholz, Rhiannon

Additional Authors: Wagner, Danika ; Eastwood, John

Abstract: *Engaging in and persisting with tasks that require mental effort is critical for academic and occupational success, and general well-being. Yet, mental effort is often considered aversive and can be especially burdensome for those with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, anxiety, and depression. It has also been shown to correlate with negative affect, yet there are no interventions to reduce the unpleasantness of this experience. The present study examines the impact of a brief mindfulness-based intervention on the experience of mental effort and discomfort during a continuous performance task (CPT). Participants (N = 185) were randomized to a control (audiobook) or intervention (brief mindfulness) condition and completed a 20-minute CPT with self-reported measures of mental effort and discomfort taken at three time points. After controlling for trait mindfulness and prior experience with mindfulness practice, latent growth curve modelling indicated that the mindfulness intervention had a significant positive effect on the initial level of effort during the task, reflecting the extent to which individuals perceive the task as engaging their mental resources. This suggests that mindfulness may reduce mind-wandering early in the CPT. Recommendations for future studies and the potential use of brief mindfulness interventions in managing mental effort will be discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125140 - Printed Poster

The effect of adverse childhood experiences on posttraumatic stress disorder: The role of emotion dysregulation among immigrants and refugees in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Nguyen, Tina

Additional Authors: Vitale, Mathew ; Jin, Ling

Abstract: *Background: Research has shown that adverse childhood events (ACEs) are associated with the development and maintenance of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) severity. Children who grew up in unpredictable, threatening, and invalidating households are more likely to develop maladaptive emotion regulation strategies. ACEs may contribute to emotion dysregulation, such as difficulties regulating trauma-associated fear, anger, shame, or distress, which may increase the susceptibility to PTSD symptoms. Unfortunately, immigrants and refugees report more ACEs due to acculturative stress. It remains unknown whether negative emotion dysregulation mediates the relationship between ACEs and PTSD among immigrants/refugees. Method: A total of 184 Canadian immigrants and refugees (Mage = 30.89; 51.6% male) completed research questionnaires. Results: The result of PROCESS model 4 indicated that emotion dysregulation significantly explained the relationship between ACEs and PTSD (B = -.60, CI [-1.30, -.12]). The model accounted for 8.35% of the variance in PTSD (p < .001). Discussion: Immigrants and refugees with more childhood trauma report more emotion dysregulation, leading to more severe PTSD symptoms. Culturally congruent trauma intervention should target emotion regulation in ways that are sensitive to the cultural and migratory experiences of immigrants/refugees who exhibit elevated PTSD stemming from childhood trauma.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123596 - Printed Poster

The Efficacy and Durability of Combined SMT and CBT-I for Cardiac Rehabilitation Patients During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Main Presenting Author: Salehi, Paniz

Additional Authors: Saffaran, Pouria ; Fathi, Arian; Xanthios, konstantinos; Razaghi, Raha; Oh, Paul; Reitav, Jaan

Abstract: *Traditional Stress Management Training (SMT) has been successful in reducing psychological distress and stress-related psychopathology in cardiac rehabilitation (CR) patients. However, these programs often fail to address co-occurring sleep disturbances. To bridge this gap, a novel intervention combining SMT with Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Insomnia (CBTi) was implemented at the University Health Network - Toronto Rehabilitation Institute. The program demonstrated high patient acceptability and led to improvements in stress levels, anxiety, depression, and sleep quality (Saffaran et al., 2022). The current follow-up study examined whether skills acquired through SMT/CBTi remain effective under a major chronic stressor such as the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as its perceived efficacy during the pandemic. Survey data were collected from 66 CR patients, as well as 12 patients who participated in focus group sessions. Results showed significant sustained improvements in depression and anxiety measures despite the one-year gap since the last intervention and pandemic stressors. This study provides preliminary evidence that SMT/CBTI improves psychological and sleep-related outcomes, and sustains these benefits during periods of significant stress, offering a framework for enhancing psychological resilience and mitigating the impact of future crises on vulnerable population.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126282 - Printed Poster

The Impact of Home vs. Centre-based Cardiac Rehabilitation on Program Completion and Long-Term (2-year) Clinical and Psychological Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Zaman, Tahir

Additional Authors: Rouleau, Codie ; Campbell, Tavis; Aggarwal, Sandeep; Arena, Ross; Williamson, Tamara

Abstract: *Background: Cardiac rehabilitation (CR) programs reduce mortality and morbidity following acute coronary syndrome (ACS), yet programs remain underutilized. Home-based CR (HBCR) improves accessibility and has comparable outcomes to centre-based CR (CBCR), but little is known about sustained benefits beyond one year, particularly in ACS patients. Method: This retrospective longitudinal study will analyze an existing, large clinical dataset of ACS patients who attended TotalCardiology™ CR in Calgary, Alberta from 2009-2019. HBCR and CBCR patients will be compared in terms of program completion, cardiorespiratory fitness (CRF), and psychological symptoms (depression/anxiety) from baseline through 2 years. Logistic regression will assess differences in completion rates. Linear mixed-effects models will evaluate CRF and depression/anxiety symptom trajectories over time, controlling for relevant covariates. Results: It is predicted that CR completion rates and short-term (12-week) CRF improvements will be similar between groups, with*

greater CRF maintenance at 2-year follow-up in HBCR patients. All data are collected, and analyses will be completed by Spring 2026.Impact: Findings will address a major evidence gap by elucidating differences in outcomes from HBCR vs. CBCR, and inform accessible, sustainable HBCR models to improve CR participation and guide clinical decision-making.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126021 - Printed Poster

The Impact of Partner Schemas and Partner-Specific Attachment Styles on Longitudinal Relationship Outcomes in Dyads

Main Presenting Author: Carrier, Nicole M

Additional Authors: Dozois, David J. A.; Hicks, Owen

Abstract: *Romantic relationship functioning is shaped by both affective and cognitive representations, yet partner-specific attachment styles and partner schema structures have rarely been examined together or longitudinally. This study tests whether partner-specific romantic attachment and partner schema structures predict relationship quality two years later. Baseline data were previously collected from 253 couples, and two-year follow-up data collection is now complete. Attachment (Experience in Close Relationships Scale - Short Form), partner schemas (Psychological Distance Scaling Task), and relationship quality (Perceived Relationship Quality Components Scale) were measured at both waves. Planned analyses include multilevel actor-partner interdependence models and longitudinal regressions testing whether baseline attachment and partner-schema structures predict two-year relationship outcomes while controlling for initial relationship quality. Dyadic and cross-partner effects will also be examined. We anticipate that higher attachment insecurity and more negative partner-schema structures will predict lower relationship quality over time. Findings will clarify the relative cognitive and affective mechanisms underlying long-term relational functioning and may inform interventions targeting both attachment-based and schema-based processes in couples.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124166 - Printed Poster

The Impact of Self-Reported and Partner-Perceived Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) on Romantic Relationship Functioning

Main Presenting Author: Skillen, Sophie

Additional Authors: Van Schaik, Nikki ; Jayaweera, Mika I; Fairley, S Daylia; Cho, Jessica; Hanjrah, Avneet; Van Blyderveen, Sherry; Cox, Amanda

Abstract: *Background: Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) typically emerges in early childhood with symptoms persisting across the lifespan. Correlates of ADHD, including executive functioning and emotion regulation, often impact interpersonal functioning and present unique challenges in romantic relationships. As romantic relationship exploration increases in emerging adulthood, individuals with ADHD may be at particular risk for negative relationship outcomes during this developmental stage. Methods: Undergraduate students (N = 725) currently in a romantic relationship completed an anonymous online survey related to their mental health, perceptions of their partner's mental health, and their relationship experiences. The ASRS was used to categorize*

participants and their partners according to the presence of symptoms of ADHD. Results: Individuals with ADHD were more likely to be in a relationship with someone who also presented with ADHD and who experienced emotion regulation and executive functioning difficulties. Participants with partner-perceived ADHD reported significantly more verbal conflict, less constructive communication, and engagement in pursue/withdraw interactional cycles. Conclusions: Relationship functioning is most impacted when ADHD is perceived in one's partner. Impact: These findings serve to inform specific treatment targets for couples navigating ADHD.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124934 - Printed Poster

The Impact of Weight Training on Youth with Depression, Anxiety, and ADHD: A Synthesis of Current Evidence

Main Presenting Author: Saadeddin, Abdullah
Co-Presenting Author: Jackart , Laine

Additional Author: Ford, Laurie

Abstract: *Depression, anxiety, and ADHD are common in adolescents, yet support often focuses narrowly on clinical or pharmacological interventions. Weight training is becoming more accessible and widely used by adolescents, but its mental-health benefits remain underrecognized and scattered across the literature. Emerging evidence shows that structured resistance training may improve mood, reduce anxiety, and enhance executive functioning. This review consolidates current findings to clarify what weight training realistically offers as a complementary support for youth mental health. A targeted narrative review was conducted using PsycINFO, PubMed, and UBC library to identify studies on weight training and adolescents mental health. Inclusion criteria focused on adolescents and young adults (16-24) participating in structured weight training programs with outcomes related to depression, anxiety, or ADHD. The poster provides concise evidence-aligned recommendations and resources for using weight training with adolescents experiencing depression, anxiety, or ADHD, and highlights practical programs that can be implemented in school or community settings.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125559 - Printed Poster

The Influence of Integrated Neurocognitive Therapy on Depression, Anxiety, and Quality of Life Outcomes in Adult Outpatients with Schizophrenia

Main Presenting Author: Oliver, Mason Elliott

Additional Authors: Bains, Supriya ; Shvetz, Cecelia ; Roy, Mihika; Khalesi, Zahra; Korostil, Michael; McNeely, Heather ; Schmidt, Louis

Abstract: *Schizophrenia is a severe mental illness often accompanied by comorbid depression and anxiety. These symptoms are associated with poor prognosis and reduced quality of life (QoL), making them key targets for treatment. Integrated Neurocognitive Therapy (INT) is a group cognitive remediation therapy, although designed to address neurocognitive and negative symptoms in schizophrenia, has been shown to reduce depression as indicated by a single item on the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale (PANSS; Mueller et al., 2017). Multi-item measures of depression or anxiety*

have not been used in previous research, nor has QoL been explored as an outcome. This present study aims to bridge the gap in the literature to investigate the influence of INT on depression, anxiety, and QoL in people with schizophrenia. Thirty adults (Mage = 38, SD = 9.87; 9 females and 10 males, and 1 non-binary) with schizophrenia spectrum disorders have been recruited. Participants assessed their levels of depression and anxiety using the Depression Anxiety Stress Scale and the 5-item factor of the PANSS. QoL was also measured. Pre- and post-treatment scores will be compared using a paired t-test. We expect that the intervention will lead to reductions in depression and anxiety, and improvements in QoL. The findings of this study will help optimize INT and enhance treatment outcomes.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125463 - Printed Poster

The link between migration status to Canada, psychological distress and psychosocial risk: Exploration within a clinical perinatal sample

Main Presenting Author: Rochelet, Éliane

Additional Authors: Hayton, Barbara ; Schwartz, Hannah; Wolde-Giorghis, Rahel; Szekely, Eszter; Poulin, Marie-Josée; Zelkowitz, Phyllis; Herba, Catherine

Abstract: *Background: The perinatal period is a vulnerable time for mental health difficulties. Immigrant women appear at higher risk, reporting more psychological distress than Canadian-born women. This is potentially due to psychosocial factors such as lower socioeconomic status, social isolation, and barriers to healthcare access. Yet, this link has not been examined among women referred to psychiatric services. Our objective is to examine associations between migration status and depression and anxiety symptoms, as well as the role of psychosocial risk.Methods: Our sample includes 744 women from the Perinatal Multisite Databank who received psychiatric care during the perinatal period. We will test indirect effects of psychosocial risk (combined scores of the Socioeconomic and Relationships subscales of the Cambridge Worry Scale) on the relationship between migration status (immigrant versus Canadian-born) and psychological distress (symptom scores of the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale and the Generalized Anxiety Disorder-7).Expected results: Immigrant women will present higher levels of depression and anxiety symptoms, a relationship partly explained by their increased psychosocial risk.Conclusion/Impact: Our results will clarify the perinatal experience of immigrant women with psychiatric disorders and thus, help guide more focused and culturally adapted interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125418 - Printed Poster

The mediating effect of self-esteem on the associations between adaptive and maladaptive perfectionism and life satisfaction

Main Presenting Author: Lei, Ya Ting

Additional Authors: Green-Demers, Isabelle ; Pelletier, Daniel

Abstract: *The diverging consequences of adaptive and maladaptive perfectionism have been the focus of a flourishing research tradition. The goal of the present study was to examine the mediating effect*

of self-esteem on the associations between adaptive and maladaptive perfectionism and life satisfaction. It was hypothesized that: (1) adaptive perfectionism would be positively associated with self-esteem; (2) maladaptive perfectionism would be negatively associated with self-esteem; (3) self-esteem would be positively associated with life satisfaction; and (4) self-esteem would be a mediator of the associations between adaptive and maladaptive perfectionism and life satisfaction. Participants (N=300 high school students from grade 8 to 12) completed a questionnaire package during class time that comprised the following measures: The Multidimensional Perfectionism Scale, the Self-Esteem Scale, and the Life Satisfaction Scale. The hypothesized network of associations between variables was tested by means of a path analysis. Mediating effects were evaluated using Hayes' method (i.e., Judd & Kenny's and Sobel's tests jointly). Results integrally corroborated hypotheses. Results are discussed in terms of their contributions to our understanding of processes involved in the consequences of adaptive and maladaptive perfectionism.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125100 - Printed Poster

The Price of Belonging: How Social Anxiety and Self-Esteem Influence Consumer Spending After Social Inclusion or Exclusion

Main Presenting Author: Kasprzak, Emilia
Co-Presenting Author: Kahlon, Kashish

Additional Authors: Moscovitch, David A; Lee, John W

Abstract: *Social exclusion is theorized to shape financial spending behaviour, yet no research has examined how social anxiety and self-esteem influence spending after social inclusion or exclusion. In this online between-subjects study, 339 female undergraduates (M= 21.2 years, SD = 3.71) completed the Cyberball task and were randomly assigned to inclusion or exclusion conditions before completing a spending task using a $250 cash and $300 credit budget. Participants selected practical versus conspicuous clothing options for a job interview and completed the Social Phobia Inventory (SPIN), the Needs-Threat Scale (NTS), the Self-Assessment Manikin (SAM), and the Spending as Social and Affective Coping Scale (SSAC). Across conditions, higher trait social anxiety predicted greater total spending (B = 3.04, p = .042) and higher state SSAC (B = .11, p = .017), indicating that socially anxious individuals were more motivated to cope through spending and more likely to exceed practical budgets. Self-esteem moderated condition effects; after exclusion, lower self-esteem predicted higher spending, whereas after inclusion, higher self-esteem predicted higher spending, suggesting that self-esteem determines whether spending serves as social repair or social affirmation. Clinically, these results underscore the need to assess rejection sensitivity, self-worth, and financial coping tendencies.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124825 - Printed Poster

The Relationship Between Cybercrime and Post-Traumatic Stress: Exploring the Impacts of Online Violent Threats, Perceived Social Support, and Shame

Main Presenting Author: Leynard, Stephen W

Additional Authors: Annala, Cala N; O'Neill, Melanie L

Abstract: *Cybercrime (e.g., online fraud, harassment, or defamation) is associated with significantly increased psychological distress among individuals who experience it and represents a rapidly increasing form of crime in Canada (Hamby et al., 2021; Statistics Canada, 2022). Although past research demonstrates that cybercrime is associated with increased post-traumatic stress (PTS) among victims (Stevens et al., 2021; Feinstein et al., 2021), minimal research has examined the mechanisms underlying this effect. The present study hypothesized that receiving violent threats online, perceived social support (PSS), and internal shame would predict PTS among cybercrime victims. Participants (N = 67) completed a survey measuring their exposure to violent threats online (a yes/no question), and scales assessing their PSS, internal shame, and PTS. A hierarchical regression analysis revealed that while exposure to violent threats ($b = 13.76$, $p < .001$) and internal shame ($b = 2.85$, $p < .001$) significantly predicted PTS, PSS was no longer significant after the addition of internal shame ($b = -0.16$, $p = .24$). Overall, the model accounted for 39.8% of the variance in PTS, $F(3, 63) = 13.88$, $p < .001$. Data analysis for this study is ongoing. Results suggest that PTS may be influenced by exposure to violent threats, social support, and the extent of internal shame experienced.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125458 - Printed Poster

The Relationship Between Outcomes and Perceptions of Care in Addiction Treatment

Main Presenting Author: Shinbine, Danielle L
Co-Presenting Author: Snaychuk, Lindsey A

Additional Author: Basedow, Christina

Abstract: *Background: Patient experiences of care are central to treatment engagement and may influence recovery outcomes. In addiction treatment settings, however, the relationship between perceptions of care and clinical outcomes is not well understood. Objectives: Using a multi-method approach, we explored the relationship between perceptions of care and treatment outcomes in adults with substance use disorders. Methods: Participants were 1,149 patients who completed a 7-week inpatient treatment program between 2020 and 2024. Participants completed assessments throughout treatment and provided program feedback at discharge using a standardized tool to assess perceptions of care. Reflexive thematic analysis was used to identify themes from qualitative data on perceptions of care. Linear regression models were used to determine if outcomes were associated with perceptions of care. Results: Themes identified included accessibility and therapeutic alliance. More positive perceptions of care were associated with greater improvement in addiction and mental health symptoms, including substance dependence and depression. Conclusions: Results suggest that enhancing patients' care experiences may improve clinical outcomes in inpatient addiction treatment. Action/Impact: These results underscore the need to examine patient experiences as contributors to treatment effectiveness and recovery.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 126007 - Printed Poster

The role of family functioning on the mental health symptoms of siblings within a family: The moderating influence of child environmental sensitivity

Main Presenting Author: Musleh , Katie

Additional Authors: Sloss, Imogen ; Browne, Dillon

Abstract: *Some children are more influenced by family experiences than others due to heightened sensitivity to their environment. Various studies provide evidence that highly sensitive children are at an increased risk of mental health difficulties when exposed to suboptimal family environments. However, most research on the influence of family processes on mental health outcomes for highly sensitive children employs single-dyad or between family methodologies, often disregarding how environmental sensitivity (ES) may vary within-families and between siblings. Therefore, the purpose of the present study is to (1) examine the moderating influence of child ES on the relationship between family functioning and child mental health symptoms, and (2) determine whether this relationship will be stronger for siblings with higher ES within the same family. The study will use data from a sample of 549 caregivers and their 1098 children (aged 5-19 years) followed longitudinally over 7 timepoints from May 2020 to October 2022. This study will employ a longitudinal multi-level within-family moderation analysis in order to parse out the effects of shared environmental factors from child-specific developmental processes. Findings from this study will have implications for the identification of siblings within a family at particular risk for worse mental health outcomes in high-stress family systems.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124991 - Printed Poster

The Role of Mentalization in the Relationship Between Fathers' Childhood Trauma and Their Child's Behaviour Problems

Main Presenting Author: Younes, Zoe

Additional Authors: Villeneuve, Elise ; Godbout, Natacha; Paradis, Alison

Abstract: *Childhood interpersonal trauma (CIT) experienced by parents (e.g., sexual abuse, neglect) can be carried into the next generation and is linked to children's behaviour problems. As parental mentalization (i.e., the capacity to reflect upon one's own mental states and their child's) is associated with children's behaviour problems and contributes to intergenerational trauma processes, it may operate as an underlying mechanism in this relationship. Yet, the literature on this matter, specifically regarding fathers, remains limited. Thus, this study examines the role of mentalization in the link between fathers' CIT and their child's behaviour problems, using data from 603 fathers recruited as part of the Quebec Parental Couple Project. Participants reported on their own childhood trauma, mentalization, and their child's behaviour problems through online questionnaires. Results from an indirect effect analysis (PROCESS Macro, SPSS) revealed that fathers' CIT were associated with lower mentalization, which in turn was related to greater behaviour problems in their child (R^2 = 23%). Fathers with a history of CIT had more difficulty understanding their child's thoughts and emotions, which was associated with greater behaviour problems. Strengthening mentalization could therefore be a valuable intervention avenue to promote healthier behavioural development in children.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125072 - Printed Poster

The role of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and relationship obsessive compulsive disorder (R-OCD) on romantic relationship functioning: Conflict, intimacy, and communication.

Main Presenting Author: Fairley, Daylia S

Additional Authors: Jaworski, Arthur ; Jayaweera, Mika ; Hanjrah, Avneet; Skillen, Sophie; Cho, Jessica; Cox, Amanda; Van Blyderveen, Sherry

Abstract: *Background: Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and relationship OCD (R-OCD) can significantly impair social relationships through self-isolation, debilitating compulsions and obsessions, and severe doubt about one's relationships. However, minimal research has explored the role of OCD and R-OCD in the context of romantic relationships. Methods: Undergraduate students (N = 725) currently in romantic relationships completed an anonymous online survey related to their mental health, perceptions of their partner's mental health, and their relationship experiences. The Y-BOCS was used to categorize participants and their partners according to the presence of OCD symptoms, while responses on the ROCI were used to indicate the severity of R-OCD. Results: Individuals with OCD symptoms were more likely to have partners who presented with OCD symptoms. Self-reported OCD symptoms were associated with greater negative interactional cycles and conflict as well as less intimacy and respect within the partnership. R-OCD was associated with greater negative interactional cycles and conflict and lower levels of intimacy. Conclusions: OCD and R-OCD are associated with negative relationship outcomes that have not previously been investigated, such as conflict, communication, and intimacy. Impact: The results underscore the need for further research on OCD and R-OCD in romantic relationships.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125708 - Printed Poster

The Role of Subjective and Objective Sleep Indicators in Predicting Students' Momentary Psychological Needs Experiences: A Multilevel, One-Week Experience Sampling Study

Main Presenting Author: Al-Zehhawi, Ahmed O. S.

Additional Authors: Burns, Rachel J.; Gunnell, Katie E.; Milyavskaya, Marina; Thorne, Tyler

Abstract: *Poor sleep (quantity and quality) is linked with reduced psychological need satisfaction and increased need frustration; however, past research has relied on self-report measures of sleep and cross-sectional designs, introducing recall bias and limiting our understanding of day-to-day fluctuations in sleep. We investigated if subjective (i.e., self-report) and objective (accelerometer-derived) sleep is related to students' momentary psychological needs using an experience sampling (ESM) design. Undergraduate students (N=289; Mage=19.49, SD=3.81; 68.86% Women) wore an accelerometer continuously for 6 days and completed questionnaires (morning, evening, and 5 daily ESM surveys). We hypothesize that higher sleep quantity (i.e., duration) and quality (i.e., sleep latency, wake after sleep onset, and average movement during sleep) will predict more need satisfaction and less need frustration. Also, more variability in sleep timing (i.e., bedtime and wake*

time) will predict less need satisfaction and more need frustration. Analyses are underway. This project extends past research because using objective measures of sleep reduces the impact of recall bias from self-report measures. Additionally, the ESM design will allow us to examine the relationships between sleep and psychological needs both across people on average and within each person as their sleep changes from day-to-day.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126301 - Printed Poster

The Use of a Clay-therapy and Nature Intervention to Lower Stress Levels in University Students

Main Presenting Author: Ehinger, Madeleine
Co-Presenting Author: Baitz, Rachel

Additional Author: Saxon, Lindsey

Abstract: *University students experience several different kinds of stress and little time to practice stress management. This study introduces a brief 15-minute clay therapy activity as an intervention for stress and tests if stress levels differ when the activity is completed in an indoor and or an outdoor environment. Pre- and post-tests of an adapted version of the Perceived Stress Questionnaire (PSQ) were used to measure stress levels. Participants (n = 63) were adult university students (18+) from Capilano University in North Vancouver, British Columbia. The results of a two-way mixed design ANOVA indicated that there were no significant effects of being outdoors on stress-levels, $F(1, 61) = .19$, $p = .67$, $\eta p2 = .003$. However, there was a significant effect of the clay-therapy activity on stress-levels in the university student participants, $F(1,61) = 82.35$, $p < .001$, $\eta p2 = .57$. Qualitative written responses were also collected in response to the question, "describe your feelings of stress before and after the activity". Thematic analysis is currently underway for this portion of the data. These findings provide a justification for the use of short CAT activities to reduce stress levels and point to the need for more research to be done on the use of nature interventions for stress levels in university students.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125581 - Printed Poster

The use of C-H-C Broad Cognitive Abilities classification in a meta-analysis: A review of Trazodone data

Main Presenting Author: Sepehry, Amir Ali

Additional Author: Narvaez Linares, Nicolás F.

Abstract: *Background: Neurocognitive measures have traditionally been categorized into cognitive domains (attention, executive functioning, memory, and global IQ) for reporting clinical trial data. To our knowledge, no trial or meta-analysis has classified the outcome measures according to the Cattell-Horn-Carroll (CHC) Broad Cognitive Abilities model to assess treatment effects. Aim: We hypothesized that this method could uncover treatment effects masked by overly broad cognitive domain classifications. Method: We used published Trazodone data to run a meta-analysis using the CHC classification model, comparing Trazodone to a control at the endpoint on cognition using Hedge's g, and organizing cognitive tasks according to the CHC model. Results: Fourteen studies*

contributed to this preliminary data analysis. Emerging CHC categories were crystallized intelligence, fluid intelligence, visual processing, short-term memory, long-term storage and retrieval, processing speed, quantitative knowledge, and general intelligence. Conclusion: As anticipated, our approach revealed a treatment effect that the broader cognitive classifications failed to capture. Impact: Grounded in empirically supported CHC latent constructs, we offer explanatory precision and key implications for cognitive modelling, neuropsychology, neuropsychopharmacology, and clinical trial design.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 122906 - Printed Poster

Thematic analysis of support requested and received in an online community for breast cancer patients undergoing a mastectomy

Main Presenting Author: Doef, Taylor L.

Additional Authors: Smith, Alyssa L; Brosseau, Danielle C.

Abstract: *Online communities provide breast cancer patients with a space to receive and provide support. Existing research has focused on support across the cancer journey and has not examined online support for coping with specific treatments. This project identified the types of support women requested and provided when planning for and recovering from a mastectomy. Qualitative data in the form of posts and responses over a year and a half period between 2024 and 2025 were scraped from an online cancer forum. Posts were included if they were tagged with the term 'mastectomy', focused explicitly on a planned or completed mastectomy, and were written by a woman with breast cancer. Using reflexive thematic analysis, we conducted deductive and inductive coding to identify support types. Preliminary data analyses were completed on 17 posts and 83 responses, representing 17 post authors and 32 responders. Of the seven support types identified for deductive coding, four were requested: general advice, appraisal, emotional, and informational. The fifth theme, experiential information seeking, was identified through inductive coding. A greater range of support was provided by responders, as eight types of support provision were identified. This information is beneficial for patients seeking specific types of support and better informs clinicians about the types of support in an online community.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125254 - Printed Poster

Thin slice coding of the alliance in teletherapy: A multilevel psychometric investigation

Main Presenting Author: Daljeet, Sarena

Additional Author: Oakman, Jonathan

Abstract: *Meta-analytic findings indicate that teletherapy is as effective as in-person therapy. Prior work indicates that therapists note challenges to building an alliance or therapeutic during online treatment, raising questions about whether the alliance operates differently in an online medium. Given that the alliance is a key predictor of treatment outcome, understanding alliance dynamics in teletherapy is critical for optimizing online interventions. To date, no studies have employed*

observational coding of the alliance in teletherapy; prior work has relied on self-report data. This study applied a thin-slice observer-rated alliance measure to 5 sessions each from 65 archival adult therapy cases. Guidelines for coding online sessions were developed using focus groups of undergraduate coders. Multilevel intraclass correlations indicated that 7-8 raters were sufficient to achieve moderate reliability (ICC = .72). Cluster-robust regression accounting for therapist effects showed that observer-rated alliance predicted treatment outcome similarly across online and in-person cases (rs = .32 - .34), with comparable results for the self-report alliance (rs = .20 - .18). Findings demonstrate that the alliance can be reliably coded in teletherapy and that observational and self-report indices yield comparable utility in predicting outcome.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126276 - Printed Poster

Transcendental Time Perspective, Non-Attachment and Materialism

Main Presenting Author: Watson, David C

Abstract: *Materialism is when acquiring material possessions, money, status and power is major focus of the individual. Transcendental/Transcendent time perspective (TTTP) is one believes in or imagines a time after death. This time perspective captures the idea of an afterlife as well as a metaphysical perspective of generational immortality and the universe. Non-attachment involves acceptance and well-being regardless of circumstances and is therefore less likely to be associated with clinging to material possessions. While materialism has been negatively associated with non-attachment in previous research, there are no studies relating TTTP to either of these variables. As these temporal perspectives involve letting go of the self in the form of either the notion of an afterlife or a transgenerational perspective, non-attachment is likely to be a factor in the relationship with materialism. Therefore, it was hypothesized that with undergraduate students, non-attachment will mediate the relationship between materialism and TTTP. The results indicated that non-attachment was either a partial or full mediator of the relationship between materialism and TTTP. This study may have implications for reducing materialistic tendencies through practices that encourage non-attachment and a more transcendental or transcendent time perspective.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122385 - Printed Poster

Traumatic life events and sleep health in Autistic youth

Main Presenting Author: Idowu, James

Additional Authors: Sanguino, Hangsel ; Howe, Stephanie; McMorris, Carly

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Sleep difficulties affect ~ 50% of Autistic youth, including trouble initiating/maintaining sleep, irregular patterns, and reduced quality. Poor sleep is linked to anxiety, irritability, and mood instability. Autistic youth also experience higher rates of stressful or traumatic events, which may increase risk for mood difficulties and poorer sleep. However, few studies have examined how trauma contributes to sleep health in this population. OBJECTIVES: To examine whether traumatic life events (TLEs) predict sleep health in Autistic youth after accounting for age, sex, and co-occurring diagnoses. METHODS: Secondary analysis included 52 caregivers of Autistic youth who completed questionnaires assessing sleep behaviours and difficulties, exposure to traumatic events and a 7-day sleep diary. A TLE Composite Score captured exposure level. Sleep health was*

defined across regularity, satisfaction, alertness, timing, and duration. Hierarchical regression tested whether TLEs predicted sleep health beyond covariates. RESULTS: Covariates explained 15% of sleep-health variance. While adding TLEs increased explained variance to 18%, TLEs did not uniquely predict sleep health (β = -.19, p = .178). CONCLUSION/IMPACT: Trauma exposure was not strongly associated with poorer sleep among Autistic youth. Larger studies using youth-reported trauma and mental-health measures are needed

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123367 - Printed Poster

Understanding and Addressing Eco-Anxiety Among Youth: Insights from a Scoping Review and Community Psychology Perspective

Main Presenting Author: Dobai, Jennifer

Additional Author: Riemer, Manuel

Abstract: *Climate change generates significant psychological impacts, with eco-anxiety emerging as a prominent response among youth. Despite growing scholarly attention, eco-anxiety remains inconsistently defined and insufficiently explored within the social and developmental contexts of young people. This scoping review (using PRISM-Sc) of 18 articles synthesizes theoretical frameworks and models used to understand and address eco-anxiety among youth, incorporating insights from Community Psychology (CP) to foreground systemic, social justice, and empowerment perspectives. Findings highlight that youth eco-anxiety is a complex, multi-dimensional experience shaped by moral, developmental, existential, and systemic factors. There are gaps in youth-specific theorizing, the value of CP in integrating psychological and structural approaches, and opportunities for interventions that strengthen community mental health and foster transformative systems change. These findings are urgent as youth mental health concerns escalate within the global polycrisis, highlighting the role of hope, coping strategies, participatory action, and schools as key spaces for support and engagement.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126184 - Printed Poster

Understanding Caregivers Experiences of the SafeCare® Parenting Program.

Main Presenting Author: Gilbert, Maxime

Additional Authors: Zak, Sarah ; Romano, Elisa

Abstract: *Neglect is one of the most common forms of substantiated child maltreatment in Ontario, underscoring the need for effective, accessible caregiver support programs. SafeCare® is a structured home-visitation intervention designed to strengthen caregiver skills in child health, home safety, and parent-child interactions. Using semi-structured interviews with caregivers who completed the program, this qualitative study explores their experiences, perceived benefits, and factors influencing engagement. A hybrid inductive-deductive thematic analysis is being used. Preliminary findings show that caregivers report increased attentiveness to their child's needs, improved ability to manage routines, enhanced home safety practices, and greater confidence supporting behavioural and developmental growth. Scheduling barriers affected participation, but flexible, supportive providers facilitated completion. Early conclusions indicate that SafeCare® promotes meaningful changes in*

daily caregiving practices and home environments. Insights from this work will inform program refinement, highlight conditions that aid or hinder engagement, and support broader efforts to improve child health and safety outcomes.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125188 - Printed Poster

Understanding Control-Related Cognitions in Coping with Suicidal Thoughts

Main Presenting Author: Kazi, Arithro

Additional Authors: Meddaoui, Brianna ; Kaufman, Erin A

Abstract: *Suicidal ideation (SI) is harmful and distressing. How individuals cope with suicidal thoughts, suicide-related coping (SRC), is crucial for preventing risk. One mechanism whereby SRC may confer benefit is by enabling individuals to perceive control over these thoughts (SI controllability). The degree that coping efforts translate to SI controllability may depend on broader agency beliefs (i.e., Internal Locus of Control; I-LOC). We tested whether SRC protects against SI via controllability and the potential influences of LOC. An online convenience sample with recent SI was recruited (N= 240, Mage= 28.66, SD= 9.43; 70% White; 52% female; 38% had past suicide attempt). Participants completed baseline (CoST; Meddaoui et al., 2023; LOC; Levenson, 1973) and 1-month follow-up (SRC; Stanley et al., 2017; ASIQ; Reynolds, 1991) surveys. SRC was indirectly (i.e., via CoST; $\beta = 2.554$, $p < .05$; $\beta = -0.250$, $p < .05$) associated with SI. SRC was positively associated with perceived controllability ($\beta = 3.577$, $SE = 0.649$, $p < .001$), which in turn predicted weaker SI ($\beta = -0.246$, $SE = 0.080$, $p < .05$). Higher I-LOC weakened this link ($\beta = -0.047$, $SE = 0.023$, $p < .05$) at all levels of the moderator. Greater perceived control is vital for coping with SI and may be especially true for those who often feel powerless. Controllability may be a key aspect of coping to target in suicide interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125607 - Printed Poster

Understanding Cybercrime-Related Distress: Internal Shame and the Moderating Influence of Perceived Social Support

Main Presenting Author: Coombs, Elsie

Additional Authors: Annala, Cala N; O'Neill , Melanie L

Abstract: *With the rising prevalence of technology use, harmful online experiences are becoming increasingly widespread (Statistics Canada, 2022). Cybercrime refers to the more severe of these experiences (e.g., online fraud, harassment) and is associated with psychological distress, self-blame, and shame among victims (Borwell et al., 2025; Cross, 2015). While prior studies highlight social support as a buffering factor between cybercrime and reduced subjective well-being (Kaakinen et al., 2018), minimal research examines moderators of the relationship between shame and distress among victims. This study examined the role of perceived social support (PSS) in the relationship between internal shame and depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms (DASS) in cybercrime victims. Participants ($N = 66$) completed scales measuring their cybercrime experiences, internal shame, PSS, and DASS. A moderated regression analysis indicated the model was significant ($R2 = .33$, $F(3, 62) = 10.08$, $p < .001$), though only internal shame was a significant predictor of DASS ($p = .004$).*

However, PSS moderated the relationship between internal shame and DASS at PSS ratings of 61.54 or less, b = -0.06, 95% CI [-0.13, -0.004], t(62) = -2.12, p = .038. Results suggest that PSS may buffer the relationship between internal shame and DASS among victims of cybercrime, and may be a protective factor for mental health.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 124896 - Printed Poster

Understanding Free-to-Play Gaming in Later Life: Profiles and Predictors of Healthy and Unhealthy Use

Main Presenting Author: Chester-Trudel, Leo

Additional Authors: Kairouz, Sylvia ; Savard, Annie-Claude

Abstract: *Free-to-play (F2P) games have become increasingly popular among older adults, yet little is known about how this population engages with these games or why some experience gaming-related harms. F2P games contain distinct retention and monetization mechanics that can encourage increased playtime and in-game spending. As these mechanics may interact with age-related motivations, life-stage contexts, and gameplay patterns, understanding older adults' engagement with these games is increasingly important. This study aims (1) to describe the gaming practices, monetization behaviours, and motivations of older adult F2P players, and (2) to identify characteristics associated with gaming-related harms among older F2P players. Data come from a large web-panel survey conducted across Quebec (N = 3,974). Participants reported on their gaming participation, microtransaction spending, motivations for playing and spending, preferred genres, and gaming-related harms. Ongoing analyses will examine age-related differences in F2P engagement and identify sociodemographic, behavioural, and motivational factors associated with harms among older adults. This study will provide the first portrait of F2P gaming habits among older adults in Canada. Findings will shed light on how F2P design features and age-related factors interact to shape healthy and unhealthy gaming trajectories in later life.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125755 - Printed Poster

Understanding IPV Screening and Disclosure Among Emerging Adults in Healthcare

Main Presenting Author: McAuslan, Pam

Additional Authors: Leonard, Michelle ; Milecki, Joelle

Abstract: *Emerging adults (18-29) face elevated risk for intimate partner violence (IPV), yet disclosure during healthcare encounters remains low (Leemis et al., 2022; Morris et al., 2025; Ranji et al., 2025). Understanding how screening and provider communication influence disclosure is essential for improving patient safety (Miller et al., 2021; Portnoy et al., 2020). Female identifying and gender nonconforming participants are being recruited through Prolific to complete a Qualtrics survey about their most recent healthcare visit, including whether IPV screening occurred, provider responses, IPV history, attitudes towards screening, and satisfaction. To date, 96 of the expected 200 responses have been obtained (expected completion by January 2026). Less than a quarter (n = 23)*

reported being asked about IPV experiences. Quantitative and qualitative analyses will consider the experiences of women with and without IPV experience who are asked or not asked about those experiences at their most recent doctors visits. Screening practices are expected to be inconsistent with disclosure, yet more likely when providers demonstrate warmth, clarity, and nonjudgment. Participants with marginalized identities are expected to be asked less often and report lower disclosure and greater discomfort during encounters. Implications for medical professional training will be discussed.

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125379 - Printed Poster

Understanding Non-Engagement in Psychotherapy Among Individuals with Personality Disorder: A Qualitative Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Spidel, Alicia
Co-Presenting Author: Hawkins, Connor

Additional Author: Kealy, David

Abstract: *Background/Rationale:Non-engagement in psychotherapy among individuals with personality disorder (PD) remains an underexplored but clinically significant issue. While "treatment resistance" is often cited, this label can obscure the complex systemic, interpersonal, and intrapsychic barriers that prevent clients from entering or remaining in therapy. This study examines how individuals with PD describe their reasons for not engaging in treatment, providing a client-centered perspective that challenges common clinical assumptions about motivation and readiness.Methods:A thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006) was conducted using written survey responses from a subsample (N = 64) of adults drawn from a larger mixed-methods study hosted on Prolific, an online research platform. Participants (M age = 34.2 years; 84% women) were screened into the present study by (a) having previously sought mental-health services through the UK's National Health Service and (b) scoring above the cutoff for at least mild probable personality disorder on the Self and Interpersonal Functioning Scale (SIFS), which assesses multidimensional personality impairment per the DSM-5 Alternative Model. Participants provided open-ended responses about why they had not engaged in psychotherapy. Reflexive, team-based coding identified and refined subthemes, followed by consensus meetings to ensure credibility and trustworthiness.Results: Several interrelated themes emerged. These themes reveal the intersection of external and intrapsychic factors that undermine readiness within stigmatizing systems.Emergent themes reflected the interaction between systemic barriers (e.g., service inaccessibility, invalidating clinician attitudes) and intrapersonal factors (e.g., fear of rejection, hopelessness about change) that jointly maintained non-engagement.Conclusions/Impact:Findings suggest that non-engagement in therapy is co-constructed between clients and systems rather than solely a matter of client readiness or service availability. Implications include developing clinician training, evidence based tools for more appropriately triaging clients, and systemic interventions to reduce stigma, enhance motivation, and promote earlier, more sustainable engagement for individuals with PD.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122840 - Printed Poster

Unmasking Parent Self-Stigma in ADHD: How Self-Blame, Shame, and "Bad Parent" Beliefs Relate to Youth Self-Esteem and Strengths

Main Presenting Author: Bath, Alexandra

Additional Author: Climie, Emma

Abstract: *Stigma is a pervasive barrier to mental health care, shaping how children are perceived and how families seek services. Parents of children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) often experience self-stigma, which may affect child well-being. Less is known about how subtypes of parent self-stigma (self-shame, blame, bad parenting beliefs) relate to child outcomes. This study examined correlations and predictors of youth self-esteem and strengths in relation to parent self-stigma subtypes. Participants were 63 parent-youth dyads (youth ages 8-17 years; 66.6% males). Correlations revealed that parent self-stigma was negatively associated with both youth self-esteem ($r(61) = -.29$, $p = .02$) and strengths ($r(61) = -.27$, $p = .03$). Parent self-blame correlated with lower youth self-esteem ($r(61) = -.34$, $p < .01$) and youth-reported strengths ($r(61) = -.32$, $p = .01$). Parent-reported youth strengths were negatively associated with self-stigma ($r(61) = -.39$, $p < .01$), with all subtypes showing significant negative associations (p's <.01). Regression showed parent self-stigma predicted lower youth self-esteem ($\beta = -.46$, $p < .001$), while youth strengths predicted higher youth self-esteem ($\beta = .56$, $p < .001$). Findings underscore the impact of parent self-blame and the protective role of youth recognizing their strengths. Implications for families and parents will be discussed.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 126251 - Printed Poster

Unraveling the Unique Link Between Intolerance of Uncertainty and Emotion Regulation

Main Presenting Author: Mannarn, Michael

Additional Authors: Yun, Connie H.; Park, Juhyun

Abstract: *Intolerance of uncertainty (IU) and emotion regulation (ER) are transdiagnostic factors linked to emotional disorders, yet the nature of their relationship remains unclear. Research shows individuals with greater IU may use more maladaptive and fewer adaptive ER strategies. However, previous focus on bivariate associations makes it unclear if IU is uniquely linked to ER above and beyond other transdiagnostic and confounding factors. Thus, this study aimed to clarify the unique relationship between IU and ER strategies, adjusting for non-acceptance of emotions and current symptoms of dysphoria. 510 college students completed surveys assessing trait IU, eight ER strategies, dysphoria, and non-acceptance of emotions. Consistent with prior studies, IU correlated positively with maladaptive strategies and negatively with an adaptive strategy (cognitive reappraisal). Linear regression analyses showed IU was associated only with maladaptive strategies (βs=.18~.35, ps<.001), adjusting for dysphoria and non-acceptance of emotions. These findings suggest IU may play a unique role in maladaptive ER strategies, but not in adaptive strategies, compared to other key contributing factors. This study highlights the importance of assessing multiple transdiagnostic and confounding factors to refine transdiagnostic models of emotional disorders and discover the unique roles each factor may play.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125467 - Printed Poster

Wanting to feel, yet be in control: Interaction between useless and uncontrollable emotion beliefs and its outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Lilly, Jaimes C

Additional Authors: Huang, Olive Chung-Hui ; Khanna, Geenishka; Daros, R Alexander

Abstract: *Background: Believing emotions are useless or uncontrollable is related to poorer emotion regulation (ER) and mental wellbeing. However, studies mostly examined emotion beliefs (EBs) separately, overlooking how they may interact to shape outcomes, and did not examine differences for negative versus positive emotions. We examined how useless and uncontrollable EBs interact to predict emotional and wellbeing outcomes. Believing that negative and positive emotions are useful but uncontrollable was expected to be related to worse outcomes.Methods: Students and community-dwelling adults (N=214) self-reported EBs, ER difficulties, emotional reactivity, and wellbeing. Separate regressions were run, regressing each outcome onto useless and uncontrollable EBs and their interaction, controlling for age and gender. Negative and positive EBs were modelled separately.Results: For negative emotions, uncontrollable EBs were related to greater ER difficulties and less wellbeing, but not emotional reactivity. For positive emotions, uncontrollable EBs were associated with ER difficulties and reactivity and less wellbeing. No effects were found for useless EBs and no interactions were found.Conclusions/Impacts: Believing that negative and positive emotions are uncontrollable may negatively impact ER and have downstream effects on wellbeing. Treating EBs may be helpful to improve emotional health.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124639 - Printed Poster

Weight at Work: Weight Stigma in Canadian Career Contexts

Main Presenting Author: Doria-Falquez, Laura Margarita

Additional Authors: Nutter, Sarah ; Woodend, Jon ; Arthur, Nancy; Russell-Mayhew, Shelly

Abstract: *Background: Career development is a lifelong process. For many, one experience invisibly weaves through their careers: weight stigma. Negative beliefs, attitudes, and behaviours toward others because of their weight impact how careers are lived and experienced. Weight stigma has been documented at every stage of career development and intersects with identities like gender, race, and socioeconomic status. This presentation draws from a SSHRC-funded study of people living and working in Canada who have experienced weight stigma, aiming to spark dialogue and inspire workplaces where all bodies are valued.Methods: Using an online survey (n = 586) via Prolific, we collected sociodemographic data for intersectional analyses. Measures included the Career Adapt-Abilities Scale, Weight Bias Internalization Scale, Everyday Discrimination Scale, a Job Satisfaction Survey, and a 12-item scale created to examine chronic workplace discrimination. Analyses examine weight stigma's impact on career outcomes using descriptive, group comparison, and regression analyses.Results: Data collection is complete. Preliminary analysis suggests patterns of workplace exclusion intersecting with specific identities to shape experiences of weight stigma.Conclusions/Impact: We hope findings influence policies and practices to inspire workplaces where all bodies are supported.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124527 - Printed Poster

What about psycholytic therapy? A historical revisiting of psychedelics assisting psychotherapy

Main Presenting Author: Zaher, Idir
Co-Presenting Author: Richard, Jérémie

Abstract: *Introduction: The resurgence of clinical research in psychedelics has often been framed within a paradigm that equates the drug experience itself with the psychotherapy. Yet, a careful revisiting of the mid-20th century literature on psycholytic therapy highlights the importance of distinguishing between psychedelics as adjuncts to psychotherapy and psychedelics as psychotherapy. Early researchers working within the psycholytic model understood psychedelics as facilitators of therapeutic processes rather than as stand-alone cures, consistently emphasizing the centrality of therapeutic alliance, set, and setting. Re-examining this body of work allows us to re-center psychotherapy as the primary healing modality, with psychedelics functioning as amplifiers of emotional access, meaning-making, and therapeutic rapport. Objective: Revisiting the psycholytic therapy model provides a counter-perspective to reductionist biomedical narratives that risk collapsing psychotherapy into pharmacology. Instead, it underscores the continued importance of psychodynamic, cognitive, and relational mechanisms in producing durable therapeutic change, placing at the foregrounds the role of skilled therapists and structured therapeutic environments. Conclusions: This orientation reframes psychedelics as valuable tools in therapy, but not as therapy in themselves, especially at low to moderate doses.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 122724 - Printed Poster

What are patients talking about? A thematic analysis of the topics women with breast cancer discussed in an online community.

Main Presenting Author: Smith, Alyssa L.

Additional Authors: Doef, Taylor L. ; Brosseau, Danielle C.

Abstract: *Breast cancer patients access peer support through online communities. Researchers have identified how breast cancer patients use online peer support; however, little information is available about the use of online peer-support for coping with a specific type of treatment. The aim of this study was to identify the topical focus of posts made by women who are considering, preparing for, or recovering from a mastectomy. Qualitative data in the form of posts made during a year and a half period between 2024 and 2025 were manually scraped from an online cancer forum. Included posts were authored by a woman with breast cancer and tagged with the label mastectomy. Inductive data analysis was completed using reflexive thematic analysis. A preliminary analysis of 22 posts representing 19 distinct users was completed and led to the identification of eight topical themes: treatment decision-making, physical healing post-surgery, body image, supplies to aid recovery, medications, reconstruction, use of paramedical supports, and the healthcare system. Our findings suggest that patients seek information about these topics from people who are similar to themselves across several variables (i.e., age, stage of disease). Findings highlight topics that women may find*

difficult to speak about face-to-face or information they are unable to obtain from other support sources.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125284 - Printed Poster

What Patients Want: Preferences for Integrated Eating Disorder and Substance Use Treatment

Main Presenting Author: Sheppard, Sarah

Additional Author: Lacroix, Emilie

Abstract: *Individuals with co-occurring eating disorders (EDs) and substance use disorders (SUDs) face heightened medical risks, poorer treatment outcomes, and significant barriers to care due to fragmented service systems. Although integrated treatment, in which both disorders are addressed simultaneously by a coordinated care team, is strongly recommended, little is known about which treatment features are most important to patients who use these services. The present study examines patient preferences for integrated ED/SUD treatment using an online discrete choice experiment completed by adults with lived experience. Participants selected between hypothetical treatment options that varied in delivery format, length, therapeutic approach, and supplemental supports. The study estimates the relative importance of each attribute and identifies how preferences differ across demographic factors such as caregiving responsibilities and occupational demands. Findings will highlight which treatment elements patients value most and where flexibility is needed to accommodate diverse life circumstances. This work will inform the development of accessible, patient-centred services and guide clinicians and policymakers in designing programs that meet the needs and desires of individuals navigating concurrent ED and SUD recovery.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 123155 - Printed Poster

What We Wish We'd Known: Senior Students' Perspectives on Hookup Culture and First-Year Preparedness

Main Presenting Author: Prusaczyk, Elvira

Additional Author: Rowsell, Kiley

Abstract: *Hookup culture is a well-established part of undergraduate life, yet many students begin university with little preparation, mixed peer messages, and uneven understandings of consent, boundaries, and emotional safety. Early experiences in this culture can shape students' well-being, sense of agency, and confidence in navigating intimate relationships, but campus resources often only provide broad consent education rather than practical, student-informed guidance. This study addresses that gap by interviewing senior students at St. Francis Xavier University (N = 20), who offer multi-year perspectives on navigating campus norms. Semi-structured interviews will be analyzed using reflexive thematic analysis; full analysis will be completed by March 2026. Preliminary coding indicates emerging themes around safety practices, communication and self-advocacy, social and gendered pressures, and the emotional complexities of casual encounters. Senior students' reflections highlight specific challenges first-year students struggle to anticipate-what they*

wish they had known, effective strategies, and gaps in institutional messaging. These findings will directly inform the co-creation of a peer-guided toolkit to support first-year sexual health programming with realistic, actionable, and emotionally grounded guidance for navigating hookup culture.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125737 - Printed Poster

When Trauma-Related Shame Meets Emotion Dysregulation: Understanding Suicidality Risk in Immigrants and Refugees.

Main Presenting Author: Yung, Christine

Additional Authors: Guo, Zixin ; Jin, Ling

Abstract: *Background: Immigrants and refugees experience trauma before, during, and after migration. Trauma-related shame, such as feeling humiliated or unworthy, is a potent risk factor for suicidality. Further, difficulties with emotion regulation (DER) may heighten suicide risk by depleting emotional resources for coping with shame-based distress. The present study aimed to examine whether DER moderate the shame-suicidality among immigrants and refugees in Canada. Method: A sample of 184 immigrants and refugees in Canada completed self-report measures. Moderation analyses were conducted using PROCESS Model 1. Results: The interaction between trauma-related shame and DER was significant (b = .0015, SE = .0006, p < .01). Conditional effects showed trauma-related shame predicted suicidality at low (b = 0.04, 95% CI [0.02, 0.06]), medium (b = 0.05, 95% CI [0.03, 0.07]), and high DER (b = 0.06, 95% CI [0.05, 0.08]), indicating that DER exacerbates the shame-suicidality. Conclusion: DER amplifies the impact of trauma-related shame on suicidality in immigrants and refugees. Impact: The results underscore the importance of addressing emotion regulation challenges in immigrants and refugees experiencing trauma-related shame. Strengthening regulatory skills may help buffer suicide risk and inform more culturally responsive prevention and intervention strategies.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125008 - Printed Poster

Who Prospers with Less Social Media? Baseline Body Image and Problematic Social Media Use Predict Psychological Response to Social Media Reduction in Youth

Main Presenting Author: Turner, Nolan L

Additional Authors: Lopes, Marcus VV; Davis, Christopher G; Goldfield, S Gary

Abstract: *Reducing social media use (SMU) tends to improve body image, yet no study has examined the moderating variables that determine differential treatment responses, essential for targeted interventions. We aimed to causally evaluate whether baseline appearance esteem or Problematic SMU (PSMU) predict changes in body image from an SMU reduction intervention. 220 youth (17-25 years; 77% female), with depression or anxiety symptoms, participated in a 4-week parallel-group RCT. Intervention group was asked to limit SMU to 1-hr/d; controls used as usual. SMU was measured objectively via electronic monitoring. Validated questionnaires assessed appearance esteem*

(BESAA; Mendelson, 2001) and PSMU (SMDS; Van den Eijnden, 2016). Mixed effects models tested whether baseline factors predicted treatment responses for appearance esteem. Baseline appearance esteem and PSMU predicted stronger treatment response: changes in appearance esteem from intervention relative to controls were higher among individuals with higher PSMU (β = 0.34, 95% CI 0.106; 0.567) and poorer baseline appearance esteem (β = 0.394, 95% CI 0.164; 0.625). Findings reveal that a SMU reduction for adolescents exhibiting lower baseline appearance esteem or symptoms of PSMU resulted in greater improvements in body esteem. As such, our findings suggest that SMU reduction confers the strongest benefit in those more vulnerable.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124721 - Printed Poster

Why Bystanders Don't Intervene: Investigating Moral Disengagement, State Anger, and Concern in a Virtual Reality Bullying Paradigm

Main Presenting Author: Lachance, Jordan A.

Additional Authors: MacGillivary, Anna ; Redden, Ralph; Lambe, Laura

Abstract: *Background: Bullying remains a major threat to the well-being of Canadian youth and is associated with a wide variety of negative outcomes. Although most bullying occurs in the context of peer bystanders, few youth defend their victimized peers. Moral disengagement is one factor related to low rates of peer defending, however, research has yet to examine if emotional reactivity helps to explain this link. Methods: The current study used a novel, virtual-reality adaptation of Cyberball, a social exclusion paradigm, to examine links between trait moral disengagement, state affect (anger, concern), and peer defending. Participants (n=40) consist of youth ages 11-14, from whom self-reported data (moral disengagement, state affect) and qualitative data (defending during Cyberball-VR) are being collected.Results: Preliminary results indicate that higher trait moral disengagement predicts less anger when witnessing social exclusion, an emotion that has been previously implicated in peer defending. Mediational analyses will be used to examine whether state anger and state concern explain the link between moral disengagement and peer defending. Conclusion and impact: Insights from this study will help inform social-cognitive and moral emotion theories, while also providing valuable contributions to inform bullying prevention programs.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125983 - Printed Poster

Why Did You Do That? Investigating Sources for Beliefs About Losing Control Over One's Thoughts

Main Presenting Author: De Vega, Sydney L

Additional Authors: Shapiro, Isabel R; Radomsky, Adam S

Abstract: *Background: An array of research on obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) supports specific maladaptive beliefs as responsible for developing and maintaining impairing symptoms. Recently, beliefs about losing control (BALC), primarily over one's thoughts, have been highlighted as likely relevant to OCD's pathogenesis and symptomatology. However, research on what BALC "look like" in real time, as well as possible sources for BALC have yet to be examined. Method: Participants*

(n = 38) were asked to "act as if [they've] lost control of [their] thoughts" for 60 seconds (videorecorded task), followed by sharing "why [they] did what [they] did during the task" (open-ended typed response). Coding of the qualitative data using reflexive thematic analysis is underway. Through this, themes that purportedly underlie how people act out losing control of their thoughts will be identified. Results: We hypothesize that prior experiences involving a perceived loss of control will emerge as a major theme across responses, paired with a range of task behaviours (e.g., sitting still, heavy breathing, pacing). Conclusions: We expect results to align with past research supporting previous experiences as a key source of OCD-relevant beliefs. Impact: Expanding understanding of the sources for BALC fills a gap in a growing literature and hopefully aids in improving cognitive-behavioural therapy for OCD.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123865 - Printed Poster

Work trans-actions: The lived experiences of career development in transgender and gender diverse young adults

Main Presenting Author: Thorpe, Cassandra

Additional Author: Hudson Breen, Rebecca

Abstract: *Due to the comparative visibility of transitioning in the workplace, transgender and gender diverse (TGD) individuals are vulnerable to adverse workplace outcomes, especially in the absence of explicit legal protections. TGD workers have previously reported experiences of job loss, threats, emotional abuse, and loss of advancement opportunities, with such experiences being uniquely linked to decreases in job satisfaction and increases in distress, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. Despite this, workplace experiences of TGD populations have been relatively under-investigated, especially in younger populations. The present study explores the lived experiences of TGD young adults navigating early career experiences in the context of their gender diversity. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with nine self-identified TGD participants (ages 18-25) and analyzed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis. Results describe experiences and features of workplace affirmation and discrimination, their impacts on perceived workplace safety, and considerations in navigating identity at work. These findings illustrate the resilience of TGD young people at work and offer potential guidance to employers, career counsellors, and TGD young adults creating affirming workplaces and supporting resourcing to navigate early career experiences while gender diverse.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123198 - Printed Poster

Youth and Parent Therapeutic Alliance and Self-Harm Outcomes in Family Therapy

Main Presenting Author: Berman, Staci

Additional Authors: Cottrell, David ; Wright-Hughes, Alexandra ; Aitken, Madison

Abstract: *Background. Adolescent self-harm is a leading cause of hospital admission, and many youth continue to struggle despite treatment. Family-based interventions target maladaptive interaction patterns and show promise in reducing symptoms and suicidality. Therapeutic alliance strongly*

predicts positive outcomes across psychotherapies, including those for self-harm. Considering youth and parent perspectives of therapeutic alliance may clarify a mechanism through which family therapy addresses self-harm. Objective. This study examines how youth and parent ratings of therapeutic alliance relate to outcomes of family therapy for youth self-harm. Methods. This secondary analysis uses data from 415 youth-caregiver pairs in the Self-Harm Intervention: Family Therapy Trial. Youth and parent reports of therapeutic alliance were collected 3 months into family therapy. Youth reported on self-harm and suicidal ideation at baseline and 12- and 18-month follow-ups. Multiple logistic regression will examine how parent and youth ratings of therapeutic alliance predict self-harm recurrence at follow-up, while a multiple linear regression will test how alliance ratings predict youth-reported suicidality. Impact. Understanding how youth and parent therapeutic alliance predict outcomes of family therapy for youth who self-harm may clarify mechanisms of effectiveness and guide strategies to support meaningful change for families.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125253 - Printed Poster

Youth Perspectives of Successful Defending in Bullying Contexts

Main Presenting Author: Conrad, Madison K

Additional Authors: Spadafora, Natalie ; Redden, Ralph; Lambe, Laura

Abstract: *Background: Bullying is a pervasive and harmful form of victimization faced by many Canadian youth. The majority of bullying incidents happen in the presence of peer bystanders, some of whom intervene. Many bullying prevention programs aim to leverage the power of peer defending to reduce bullying, inadvertently placing the burden of defending on youth. Peer defending, however, is not always effective.Methods: Using a qualitative design, the current study investigates youth perceptions of successful peer defending, the types of behaviours they use to defend against bullying, and how previous defending experiences affect the likelihood they will engage in that defending behaviour again. Semi-structured interview data are being collected from 40 adolescents in grades 6-8 (ages 11-14). Reflexive Thematic Analysis is used to identify themes from the data.Results: Youth perceive defending as successful if the bullying incident ends, even in cases where they experience consequences as a result of intervening. Youths' prior bystander experiences shape their perceptions of effective defending, the types of defending behaviours they select, and whether they plan to defend in the future.Conclusion and impact: Some youth perceive peer defending as effective, while others do not. Findings may be used to help improve bullying prevention programs.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124794 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

A Longitudinal Study on Intimate Partner Violence and Mental Health Service Use Among Gay, Bisexual, and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men: The Roles of Social Support and Loneliness

Main Presenting Author: Catuna, Jessica

Additional Authors: Skakoon-Sparling, Shayna ; Grace, Daniel; Lachowsky, Nathan; Gormezano, Aki; Vo, Tin; Moore, David; Hart, Trevor

Abstract: *Background: Intimate partner violence (IPV) is as prevalent among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBM) as it is among heterosexual women. However, research on how IPV relates to mental health service (MHS) use among GBM is limited. This study investigates how IPV experiences (victimization, perpetration, or both) relate to MHS use among GBM, considering the roles of social support as a moderator and loneliness as a mediator. Methods: We will draw on data from a longitudinal Canadian study on GBM health. Analysis Plan: Latent growth curve modelling will examine changes in IPV and MHS use across four time points (T2-T4). A cross-sectional analysis using multiple regression will explore different forms of social support (emotional, informational, tangible, affectionate, and positive) measured at T2 as potential moderators and whether loneliness at T3 serves as a mediator. Preliminary findings: GBM who reported IPV victimization at T2 were more likely to report having accessed mental healthcare 6 months later (at T3). All other analyses are underway. Conclusion: Early findings suggest the importance of trauma-informed, affirming practices that recognize the unique IPV experiences of GBM. Enhancing social connection and reducing loneliness may also improve this population's access to and engagement with MHS.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126030 - Virtual Poster

Does daily stress moderate associations between adversity and depression in clinically high risk for psychosis youth? A secondary analysis using the NAPLS-3 dataset

Main Presenting Author: Wakif, Zahra

Additional Author: Deng, Wisteria

Abstract: *Previous research has explored how early adversity is linked with stress, but there is a lack of consensus on how these concepts connect with one another, particularly in youth. Using the North American Prodrome Longitudinal Study 3 (NAPLS 3), a large dataset consisting of youth at clinically high risk for psychosis (CHR-p), the authors aim to bridge these gaps. A moderation analysis with a final sample size of 771 participants was conducted, unveiling a significant interaction in the total number of adverse life events predicting depression, moderated by the amount of daily stress. Higher daily stress weakened the relationship between the number of adverse life events and depression. With further research, these results may suggest that daily stress may act as a potential protective factor against depression in this sample. Not only does this research look at adversity in a more holistic and objective way, but it connects how the total number of adverse life events, daily stress, and depression are associated with one another. Future research avenues include exploring whether subjective daily stress affects results. The authors will explore whether specific forms of adversity or amount of distress caused by adversity strengthens associations. This work can inform how therapists understand the complexity of adversity, daily routines, and mental health for CHR-p youth.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125564 - Virtual Poster

Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Among Sexual Minority Men: A Qualitative Study

Main Presenting Author: Catuna, Jessica

Additional Authors: Skakoon-Sparling, Shayna ; Heeney, Jordan

Abstract: *Background: Research has highlighted high rates of intimate partner violence (IPV) among sexual minority men (SMM), revealing its prevalence and concerning disparities when SMM seek support. However, most studies have been quantitative, lacking exploration of the lived realities and hidden internal burdens SMM carry. This study explores experiences of IPV (victimization, perpetration, and/or both) among SMM in past relationships and their experiences with informal (e.g., friends, family) and formal (therapists, police, psychologists) support systems. Method: A sample of 8 to 15 men from Canada's largest urban cities (Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal) who disclosed IPV in an existing longitudinal Canadian study on SMM's health will be recruited. Analysis Plan: Data will be analyzed using reflexive thematic analysis to explore SMM's lived experiences. This study aims: (1) to analyze how SMM describe their experiences and the impact that IPV has had on their lives, (2) to explore their experiences and the impact of informal and formal support, and (3) to analyze their described needs of care from informal and formal support networks. Conclusion: We hope to gain a better understanding of IPV among SMM, which will inform mental health professionals and community organizations and provide actionable recommendations to enhance support systems and improve care for SMM affected by IPV.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126053 - Virtual Poster

Identifying Mechanisms of Resilience: Direct and Moderated Relationships of Dispositional Mindfulness, ADHD symptoms, and Internalizing Symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Lockinger, Katelyn S

Additional Authors: Danyluk, Alexa ; Beshai, Shadi; Wright, Kristi

Abstract: *Adult attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), even at subclinical levels, is consistently linked to elevated depression and anxiety. Identifying protective factors that may disrupt this association is therefore essential. Dispositional Mindfulness (DM), the capacity to be aware of and accept present-moment experiences, is reliably associated with reduced internalizing symptoms. Yet, research evaluating DM in the context of ADHD symptoms is scarce. We examined the direct and indirect relationships between ADHD symptoms (Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale), DM (FFMQ), depression (PHQ-9), and anxiety (GAD-7) in an online general population sample (n = 579; 36% male). ADHD symptoms were negatively correlated with FFMQ total (r = -.58, p<.001) and facet scores (r range = -.27 to -.66), except for observe. ADHD, depression, (r = .60), and anxiety (r = .61) scores were positively correlated (p<.001). The nonjudgment facet of DM moderated the associations between ADHD and depression/anxiety symptoms (ΔR2 = .01, p>.05); relationships between ADHD and internalizing symptoms were attenuated at higher levels of nonjudgment. No other moderations were significant. Overall, cultivating nonjudgment may confer protection against internalizing symptoms among adults with ADHD symptoms. Future research should evaluate these relationships longitudinally to clarify temporal pathways.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124126 - Virtual Poster

Investigating Whether Cross-Caregiver Reports of Parenting Improve Predictions of Children's Mental Health Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Gilby, Rhiannon E.

Additional Authors: Daoust, Andrew ; Hayden, Elizabeth

Abstract: *Caregiving behaviours predict children's early internalizing (e.g., anxiety) and externalizing (e.g., aggression) symptoms and impact their long-term social and behavioural functioning. While assessing caregiving may inform risk, caregiver self-reports are subject to various biases. Cross-caregiver reports may offer added insight into caregiving practices and improve prediction of children's symptoms. As such, our study examined whether cross-caregiver reports accounted for additional variance in children's symptoms beyond primary caregiver reports of ineffective parenting (i.e., authoritarian or permissive). Using hierarchical multiple regression, we examined models of mothers' reports of children's symptoms and found that mothers' self-reported caregiving was the most consistent predictor, with mothers' reports of fathers' caregiving adding unique explanatory value. Post hoc analyses using fathers' reports of children's symptoms showed the same pattern: regardless of who reported on children's symptoms, mothers' reports of their own and their partners' caregiving remained the most reliable predictors of children's outcomes. These differences may reflect variations in caregiving involvement in our sample. Findings highlight opportunities to streamline assessment procedures, but future research should consider social factors that may influence the validity of caregiver reports.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125315 - Virtual Poster

Predictors and Impacts of Engagement in an App-Based Social Support Forum: Exploring Maternal Depression and Anxiety

Main Presenting Author: Simpson, Kaeley

Additional Authors: Reynolds, Kristin ; Tomfohr-Madsen, Lianne; Roos, Leslie

Abstract: *Mothers with young children often experience heightened rates of depression and anxiety, compounded by barriers to accessing mental health resources and social support. Social support is a protective factor against depression and anxiety, and contributes to mental well-being. Online social support forums may offer an innovative avenue for mothers to receive needed support, yet little is known about the predictors and impacts of forum usage in this population. In the present study, mothers with depression and/or anxiety and a child aged 18-36 months (N = 69 randomized) participated in a 10-week app-based mental health and parenting program called Building Emotional Awareness and Mental Health (BEAM). BEAM included psychoeducational videos on mental health and parenting, online telehealth group therapy, symptom monitoring, and a social support forum. Quantitative and qualitative methods were used to explore predictors and impacts of forum engagement. Quantitative analyses revealed that higher levels of education, income, and household adult support (≥ 2 adults) were associated with greater forum engagement, while pre-intervention mental health symptoms (e.g., depression, anxiety) did not predict usage. Regression analyses*

indicated that time spent on the forum and the number of posts made did not significantly predict changes in depression or anxiety scores from pre- to post-intervention. A thematic analysis of open-ended feedback highlighted how the forum supported participants by fostering peer connection and shared experiences, as well as suggestions for improving forum functionality. This study provides preliminary insights into the predictors and impacts of social support forum use among mothers with depression and/or anxiety, with implications for future research and program development to optimize online support for mothers.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 122853 - Virtual Poster

Sensitization versus Steeling Following Adversity: The Role of Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration

Main Presenting Author: Detta, Jessica
Co-Presenting Author: Grouzet, Frederick M.E.

Abstract: *The impact of adversity can look different for everyone. However, understanding why some individuals succumb to and others resist the negative effects of adversity remains unclear. The current research uses self-determination theory (Ryan & Deci, 2017) to examine how basic psychological need (i.e., autonomy, competence, and relatedness) satisfaction (relative to need frustration) during a previous adversity (RNSdpa) predicts resilience later in life. We used data from samples of undergraduate students (n = 728) who completed a survey examining RNSdpa and trait resilience, and two subsamples (n = 21; n = 48) who completed a 3-week daily diary assessing reactions to daily stressors. Results from regression analyses highlight a significant and positive association between RNSdpa and trait resilience. Multilevel modeling was then used to estimate the within-person association between daily stressors and daily stress and the between-person cross-level interaction of RNSdpa. However, RNSdpa did not moderate the relationship between daily stressors and daily stress but was negatively associated with daily stress above and beyond reaction to stressors. These findings illustrate the importance of having a need supportive environment through adverse experiences as well as the implications regarding the conceptualization of resilience as a daily process.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125557 - Virtual Poster

Social Support Profiles and Emotion Regulation: A Longitudinal Analysis of Risk and Resilience

Main Presenting Author: Gupta, Puloma

Additional Authors: Grocott, Bronwen ; Ibonie, Stevi G. ; Gruber, June; Jopling, Ellen; Jameson, Taylyn; LeMoult, Joelle

Abstract: *The university transition is associated with heightened risk for psychopathology. Prior work shows that both the number and quality of peer relationships buffer or heighten this risk. However, little work has studied how peer network characteristics together predict well-being or mechanisms underlying their formation and stability over time. Latent profile analyses will identify social network profiles (quantity, quality, perceived support/strain) among 2280 undergraduates (73.6% female). Latent transition analyses will test how trait emotion regulation (expressive suppression [ES],*

cognitive reappraisal [CR]) predicts network stability and change, and how changes underlie mental health across the first year of university. We anticipate at least three profiles: high support/low strain, low support/high strain, and mixed support/high strain. We expect that: 1) greater ES will predict membership in and transitions toward profiles with lower support/higher strain, 2) greater CR will predict stable membership in profiles with more support, and 3) shifts toward profiles with less support/higher strain will predict greater risk and less resilience. Results may inform nuanced understandings of how peer networks are formed, maintained, and linked with risk and resilience. Emotion regulation interventions might then be used to optimize first-year students' socioemotional well-being.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126350 - Virtual Poster

The Impact of Secondary Traumatic Stress on the Professional Quality of Life of Healthcare workers in Karachi, Pakistan

Main Presenting Author: Uneeb, Undela

Additional Authors: Fatima, Kiran ; Azhaar, Mahum

Abstract: *Healthcare workers work through the nuanced nature of clients' traumatic experiences, which can strain their well-being. This research investigated the role of secondary traumatic stress (STS) on the different facets of healthcare workers' quality of life, as these professionals are at high risk, especially in countries like Pakistan, where the healthcare system already encounters major challenges (Khan et al., 2023). A sample of 300 healthcare workers from various professions, residing in Karachi, Pakistan, was collected using a purposive sampling method, with participants aged 18-71 years (M = 30.66, SD = 9.781). The Secondary Traumatic Stress Scale (Bride et al., 2004) and the ProQOL-Health version Scale (Centre for Victims of Torture, 2021) were used as research tools. The data was analyzed using SPSS 26. Significant correlations were found between secondary traumatic stress and quality of life. Secondary traumatic stress was also found to be a significant predictor of quality of life. Additionally, the findings emphasized the prevalence of perceived symptoms of STS, as 15.5% of healthcare workers reported experiencing severe STS, while moderate and high STS were reported by 14.3% and 9.3% respondents, respectively. This underscores the need to design policies that incorporate preventive and supportive interventions for safeguarding the mental health of healthcare workers.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123080 - Virtual Poster

Review Session

From Neurobiology to Meaning-Making: Mapping How the Five Core Mechanisms of Psychological Change - Connection, Awareness, Identity, Behavior, and Spirituality - Interact to Produce Lasting Psychological Recovery

Main Presenting Author: Horwitz, Erika

Abstract: *This session examines what truly changes when people recover from mental illness, synthesizing recent research into five interrelated domains: relational connection, metacognitive*

awareness, identity reconstruction, behavioral and biological regulation, and spiritual-existential integration. While psychotherapy has long emphasized symptom reduction, emerging meta-analytic evidence reframes recovery as a transformational process involving self-awareness, emotional regulation, coherence, and purpose. Drawing on findings from psychotherapy process studies, bipolar disorder interventions, and peer- and spiritually integrated therapies, the discussion bridges neuroscience, psychological science, and lived experience. The purpose is to engage clinicians, researchers, and trainees in exploring how to embed these mechanisms within evidence-based and recovery-oriented practice. The topic is especially timely in Canada's post-pandemic mental-health landscape, where systems increasingly value meaning, community, and inclusion. Although challenging traditional biomedical models, the dialogue aims to strengthen psychology's integrative, person-centred vision of healing.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 122577 - Review Session

Implications for Psychologists: An Expert and Evidence-Informed Framework to Prevent Prolonged Absence from Work for Public Safety Personnel with a Work-Related Psychological Injury/Illness: A Consensus-Based Mixed Methods Study

Main Presenting Author: Harrington, Toni

Abstract: *Each year in Canada, thousands of public safety personnel (PSP) must leave work because of a work-related psychological injury/illness. The loss of PSP from the workplace is of significant concern, particularly when fewer individuals are entering such occupations, and for those who do, the learning curve is steep. Public safety professions require extensive training and ongoing development to master the skills and knowledge necessary for the job. The rate of work-related injury/illness associated with public safety work has steadily increased in Canada in recent years. A subset of PSP, including firefighters, paramedics, police, and correctional workers, is of particular concern. PSP who are unable to work or have impaired functioning due to a work-related injury/illness may be eligible for workers' compensation benefits. Meaningful support from workers' compensation boards (WCBs) is vital for these workers in times of work disruption and associated distress. We employed a consensus-based mixed-methods Delphi study to identify the key components of WCB case management practice, collecting data from a group of experts between March 2023 and August 2023. After a series of iterations, a consensus was reached on the key components of a practice framework for use by WCB case managers (CMs) to help mitigate or, where possible, prevent the negative consequences of work disability. The findings of this study highlight the importance of the intersection of psychological injury/illness, occupational-cultural awareness, and best practices in disability management/rehabilitation. Access to evidence-based and optimal care was highlighted as a significant concern, and the participants felt that this should be a priority for healthcare providers. This session will underscore the vital role psychologists play in bridging clinical expertise with occupational realities-advancing culturally informed, evidence-based approaches that promote recovery, work reintegration, and system-level change for PSP impacted by psychological injury.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 121213 - Review Session

Improving the Science and Practice of Cognitive Therapy for Depression

Main Presenting Author: Dozois, David J. A.
Co-Presenting Author: Rain, Sarina

Abstract: *Cognitive therapy (CT) has received extensive research attention and strong empirical support as a treatment for unipolar depression. Beyond reducing acute symptoms, CT serves as an effective prophylaxis against relapse and recurrence. Despite decades of progress, substantial challenges remain: a sizable proportion of patients show suboptimal response, many experience only partial remission, and relapse rates continue to be high. These limitations underscore the need to refine both the science and practice of CT. This Review Session will offer recommendations for improving therapeutic outcomes and advancing the field. First, practical, evidence-informed strategies that individual clinicians can adopt to enhance their effectiveness (e.g., outcome monitoring, cultivating awareness of cognitive and clinical decision-making biases, adhering to a clear hierarchy of evidence, and prioritizing behavioral experiments) will be provided. Second, recommendations for strengthening research on CT for depression, including the importance of identifying and targeting modifiable risk factors, leveraging precision-treatment approaches to understand "what works for whom," and broadening our focus to incorporate interpersonal mechanisms will be presented. These recommendations will move science and practice forward and produce more robust and enduring outcomes for the treatment of depression.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124120 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

Applying Artificial Intelligence to Promote Health and Well-Being in Older Adults

Main Presenting Author: Rahimi, Samira A.

Abstract: *Older adults experience a growing burden of health challenges that affect physical, mental and well-being. Existing approaches to prevention and early identification often rely on health evaluations that happen occasionally(for ex, during periodic clinic visits or scheduled check-ins) rather than through continuous monitoring. AI offers opportunities to enhance health through scalable, data-driven, & personalized strategies that support aging populations. Rahimi's research lab applies machine learning and AI techniques to analyze multimodal health data, including clinical records, wearable sensor-based data, and self-reported behavioral information. We focus on developing & evaluating AI-enabled approaches for early risk id, monitoring of health-related patterns, & design of age-inclusive tools that are accessible & acceptable to older adults. Current analyses explore the feasibility, performance, & user experience of these AI approaches across research & real-world settings. Detailed findings & illustrative examples from variety of studies including early detection of cardiovascular diseases & depression among older adults will be presented and discussed during this talk. Our work contribute to the development of responsible AI applications, informs future research and policy, and supports strategies aimed at promoting healthy aging at scale.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 122727 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Closing the Gap: Leveraging Digital Health to Improve Pain and Psychological Outcomes in Youth and Adults Living with Chronic Disease

Main Presenting Author: Alberts, Nicole M.

Abstract: *Individuals living with chronic diseases often experience acute and chronic pain alongside co-occurring psychological disorders. Although psychological interventions can effectively address these challenges, many individuals cannot access them due to barriers such as cost, geographic distance, and a shortage of trained providers. Digital health approaches - including electronic health (eHealth) and mobile health (mHealth) tools - offer promising ways to overcome these barriers and expand access to evidence-based psychological care. In this presentation, Dr. Alberts will share her recent research on leveraging wearable, web-based, and app-based digital health interventions to improve pain and psychological outcomes among youth and adults living with chronic diseases. Special focus will be given to developing and testing digital interventions for individuals on-treatment or surviving childhood cancer, adolescents with chronic illnesses, and youth with sickle cell disease. The role of user-centered design and healthcare provider input in developing effective, multi-level digital health interventions will also be explored. Future directions for improving pain and psychological outcomes across the lifespan using engaging and sustainable digital health interventions will be discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125068 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Current practices in advanced assessment: Psychologist expertise as an essential part of complex care in hospital settings

Main Presenting Author: Greenham, Stephanie L
Co-Presenting Authors: Pallikaras , Vasilis; Piotrowski, Andrea S; Heintz Grove, Jane

Abstract: *Recruiting and retaining Psychologists in the public health system is increasingly challenging amid rising demand across Canada for publicly accessible psychological services and a rapidly evolving regulatory landscape. Psychologists in hospitals and health centres deliver specialist-level care, including assessment, diagnosis, and evidence-based targeted treatment for patients of all ages with acute, chronic, and complex medical, developmental, and mental health needs (Hudd et al., 2024). This scope of practice requires extensive breadth and depth of education and training (Mothersill et al., in press). The invited panelists will highlight the expertise essential for psychologist practice in these settings, and illustrate the critical role Psychologists play in interprofessional, team-based care, emphasizing assessment and diagnosis. Drawing on decades of experience within the public health system, the panelists will speak to the nuances of clinical formulation and ethical practice in complex, multidisciplinary contexts, exemplified in their practice areas that span inpatient mental health, health and rehabilitation psychology, and pediatric neurodevelopmental services.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 125588 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Family and Peer Relationships of Children and Adolescents with Neurodevelopmental Disorders: Assessment and Intervention

Main Presenting Author: Wiener, Judy

Abstract: *In this presentation a transdiagnostic approach is used to understand family and peer relationships of children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental disorders (ND) and to describe assessment and intervention strategies. First, the transdiagnostic characteristics (e.g., academic achievement, social skills, self-regulation, mental health) of youth with ADHD, learning disabilities,*

autism and intellectual disabilities that affect their family and peer relationships are described. Second, research on family resilience, and research showing that parents of ND youth experience high levels of stress that affects family dynamics and that ND youth and their families are differentially susceptible to negative environmental factors (e.g., COVID-19, digital technology) is synthesized. Third, research on peer relationships of ND youth that shows that they are at risk for peer rejection, peer victimization, and difficulties with acquiring friendships is reviewed. The individual (e.g., social skills, self-regulation) and environmental (e.g., inclusive classrooms) factors that predict peer relationships are discussed. Lastly, evidence-based interventions that improve family and peer relationships and directions for assessment, intervention and research are described.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122870 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Mindfulness-based therapy for women's sexual health concerns: Reflections on two decades of research and clinical practice

Main Presenting Author: Brotto, Lori

Abstract: *Over the past two decades, mindfulness has emerged as a promising treatment for women's sexual dysfunction and vulvovaginal pain, conditions that have historically lacked effective, evidence-based interventions. In this talk, I will synthesize findings from 20+ years of research conducted in the UBC Sexual Health Research Lab alongside key meta-analyses on mindfulness and sexuality, particularly for women. Drawing on randomized controlled trials, and mixed-methods studies with diverse populations of women with sexual health concerns, this talk highlights the consistent and converging evidence that mindfulness-based interventions significantly improve sexual desire, arousal, satisfaction, and overall sexual well-being. Among women with genito-pelvic pain, mindfulness reduces pain intensity, catastrophizing, and avoidance behaviors while enhancing body awareness and emotional regulation. Meta-analytic findings further support these outcomes, demonstrating robust and durable effects across diverse populations. I will also share key reflections based on my clinical experience applying this method and identify 10 features that make mindfulness an excellent fit for addressing women's sexual health concerns. Collectively, this body of evidence from science and practice underscores mindfulness as a feasible, accessible, and effective treatment for sexual dysfunction and vulvovaginal pain.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 122833 - Section Featured Speaker Address

The History of Addictions

Main Presenting Author: Nadeau, Louise

Abstract: *The Greek and Jewish traditions knew about passion and its devastating effects. They also understood the deleterious consequences of substance abuse. Pascasius published in 1561 a monograph on the disease model of pathological gambling. Very modern in his view, some scholars see him as the father of cognitive therapy. His work was forgotten. His rediscovery situates the history of the disease model of addictions in 1561. What were Canadian scientists doing while the US and UK were subsidizing large studies on treatment effectiveness in addictions? They were validating treatment effectiveness, exploring co-occurring disorders and looking at traumatic stress disorders among persons in treatment for an addiction. In the last decade, the availably of synthetic opioids has changed the black-market and is causing a high-rate of overdose deaths-more than 52 000 deaths*

since 2016. All Canadians are at risk given the powerful properties of these drugs. About a decade ago, Internet was made available worldwide. Many papers described the deleterious effects of long screentime on child development. Online gambling has increased as has youth betting. Publicity on social networks and advertising is difficult to stop. Private or unlicensed operators use the risk-taking propension of adolescent brains. There is a dearth of prevention programs in this country that aim at specific small groups.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 126478 - Section Featured Speaker Address

The Trauma Cue Reactivity Paradigm: A Tool for Studying Cognitive-Affective Mechanisms Contributing to PTSD-Cannabis Use Disorder Co-occurrence

Main Presenting Author: Stewart, Sherry H.

Abstract: *Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance use disorders co-occur at rates that far exceed chance. And while cannabis is commonly authorized and used to manage PTSD symptoms, we also know that PTSD and cannabis use disorder are frequently comorbid. Dr. Stewart will begin with a review of learning theories proposed to account for this comorbidity including classically conditioned substance craving to trauma cues. She will present her research using various forms of the trauma cue reactivity paradigm to identify cognitive, affective, and neural mechanisms contributing to this comorbidity and will highlight studies conducted by her undergraduate honours, graduate, and postdoctoral trainees. She will also address the issue of the ethics of using the trauma cue reactivity paradigm, and will review some convincing evidence from people with lived and living experience that argues for this paradigm being ethical for use in research. Dr. Stewart will outline theoretical and clinical implications of the work which recently inspired a case series testing written exposure therapy (WET) as a transdiagnostic intervention. She and her colleagues showed the WET intervention was associated with decreases not only in PTSD symptoms, but also in trauma cue-elicited distress and cannabis craving. Dr. Stewart will conclude with a discussion of future directions in this novel line of research.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 122993 - Section Featured Speaker Address

What About Fathers? An Attachment Perspective on Father-Child Relationship

Main Presenting Author: Bureau, Jean-Francois

Abstract: *What counts as an attachment relationship, and who can serve as an attachment figure, has evolved considerably since the early days of attachment theory. For decades, mothers were regarded as the primary, if not exclusive, figures toward whom children formed attachment bonds. Although pioneering work by scholars such as Michael Lamb in the 1970s began to challenge this assumption, attachment relationships to fathers have remained comparatively underexamined since the inception of attachment theory. Indeed, fathers constitute only about 10% of caregivers included in attachment research, a proportion that has remained relatively stable across decades. Nonetheless, important conceptual and empirical advances in recent years have substantially deepened our understanding of father-child attachment. In this presentation, I will review the state of the father-child attachment literature. I will begin by situating this body of work within its theoretical and historical context. Next, I will review evidence demonstrating fathers' capacity for sensitive caregiving and their ability to foster secure attachment relationships with their children. I will then examine the antecedents and*

developmental sequelae of father-child attachment security and insecurity. Finally, I will identify persisting gaps in the literature and discuss implications for research and intervention.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 122924 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Working with Adults with a Complex Trauma History: An Introduction to the APA Professional Practice Guidelines

Main Presenting Author: Frewen, Paul

Abstract: *This presentation will overview the rationale and application of 7 professional practice guidelines for working with adults with complex trauma history (CTH) that conveniently form the acronym HISTORY. First, psychologists are guided by Humanistic principles and values in their way of relating to persons with CTH. Second, psychologists seek Integrative solutions to the complex psychological and psychosocial problems often experienced by persons with CTH. Third, psychologists aim to Sequence therapy and support for persons with CTH based on individual readiness and client preference. Fourth, psychologists endeavor to understand the psychological effects that CTH may have across the Timeline of an individual's lifespan. Fifth, psychologists strive for positive Outcomes for all psychological problems presented by persons with CTH. Sixth, psychologists appreciate the therapeutic Relationship as the foundation for working with persons with CTH. And finally, seventh, psychologists aspire to help persons with CTH answer the question why the trauma occurred.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123514 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

"I like trolling them": How young adults manage technology-facilitated sexual violence without formal supports

Main Presenting Author: Mcarthur, Jennifer

Additional Authors: Goruk, Kayla J; Blais, Julie; Dodge, Alexa; Dunn, Suzie

Abstract: *Despite the well-documented impacts of technology-facilitated sexual violence (TFSV), resources for those affected remain limited. Given the absence of formal support services, this study explored how young adults navigate experiences of TFSV through in-depth interviews with 17 victim-survivors and analyzed through thematic analysis. Few participants sought support from formal avenues. Instead, many described managing their experiences through minimization (e.g., "It probably would have been worse if it was a picture of me that was actually naked"), avoidance (e.g., "If blacking it out works, why bring it up?"), and acceptance (e.g., "I found that it was easier to kind of get over and find the funny in it"), alongside retaliatory actions (e.g., "sometimes I like trolling them"). Many participants also turned to peers who had endured similar harms, finding validation and comfort in shared experiences of victimization (e.g. "I did find answers in other people's experiences [on] the internet"). These findings highlight the complex and often maladaptive ways young adults cope with TFSV in the absence of institutional support and underscores the need for more accessible resources.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123104 - Snapshot

Academic Comparisons on Social Media: Negative Associations with University Student Motivation and Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Marshall, Tara C

Abstract: *Instagram, TikTok, and other social media sites often facilitate social comparisons based on physical appearance and lifestyle, yet less is known about the extent to which they encourage comparisons based on academic achievement. How often do university students make upward academic comparisons (i.e., to someone better-off academically) or downward comparisons (i.e., to someone worse-off academically) when using social media, and what are the consequences for their well-being and motivation? In this daily diary study (N = 389), we examined the associations of these comparisons with students' social comparison-based emotions (e.g., envy, inspiration), positive affect, and academic motivation over a 10-day period. The data revealed that 552 of the 2,953 diaries (18%) recorded an academic comparison that day, of which upward comparisons were 8 times more likely than downward comparisons, almost ¾ of comparisons were to a stranger or an acquaintance, and most occurred on Instagram (68%) followed by TikTok (18%) and Snapchat (9%). Participants who made more upward academic comparisons reported lower social comparison-based emotions like inspiration but greater envy; in turn, they reported lower positive affect and academic motivation. These results have implications for undergraduate students' well-being and motivation, and by extension, for graduate students and career academics.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125816 - Snapshot

Acting on and resisting urges to engage in nonsuicidal self-injury: A daily diary study

Main Presenting Author: Hamza , Chloe A

Additional Authors: Ewing, Lexi ; Kuburi , Sarah; Goldstein, A Abby

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Research on the role of urges in nonsuicidal self-injury (NSSI) behavior is limited, and the context in which urges transition to NSSI remains poorly understood. However, understanding when individuals act on versus resist urges is critical to inform efforts to prevent and intervene in NSSI. In the present study, within-person fluctuations in NSSI urges (i.e., frequency, duration, intensity) were examined in the prediction of NSSI behaviors. The moderating effects of NSSI aversion (i.e., high pain tolerance and fearlessness) were also explored. Methods: Participants included 160 emerging adults with a history of recent NSSI (83% women, M = 19.75) who completed a baseline assessment and 14 days of daily diary entries. Results: Hierarchical linear modelling revealed that NSSI urges predicted NSSI frequency both on the same day and the next day, with higher urge intensity increasing the likelihood of engagement. Individuals with lower NSSI aversion were at greater risk of transitioning from urges to behaviors.Conclusions: When individuals experience intense NSSI urges, and have low aversion to NSSI, they may be particularly vulnerable for NSSI behaviors. Actions/Impacts: These findings suggest targeting NSSI urges and increasing aversion to NSSI can support NSSI prevention and intervention efforts.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125457 - Snapshot

An Exploration of the Spiritual and Existential Aspects of Psychedelic Experiences Outside of End-of-Life Contexts

Main Presenting Author: Galton, Nicolas

Additional Author: Malette, Judith

Abstract: *Background: Psychedelics are being studied for their potential in reducing distress and death anxiety in end-of-life populations through mystical-type experiences promoting shifts in metaphysical beliefs. Whereas mortality and its associated fears may be salient in palliative contexts, individuals of all beliefs and all stages of life may struggle with the bigger questions of life. This study explores the changes to existential concerns reported by participants outside of palliative contexts, while accounting for their unique spiritual and religious identity.Methods: Six Spiritual and Religious and Spiritual But Not Religious individuals were selected to participate in a two-part qualitative interview process about their most significant psychedelic experience in the last year and its impact on their lives. Interviews were analyzed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis.Results: Psychedelics generated biographically contextualized existential confrontations that influenced the participants' death attitudes and relationships to the various existential domains of existence.Conclusion/Implications: Findings support the positive impacts of psychedelics on death acceptance through an embodied integration process, but also present their potential to reinforce an escape acceptance view of death when supported by disincarnated and abstract integration practices.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 124536 - Snapshot

Association of Psychological Resilience with Psychosocial Outcomes in Kidney Transplant Recipients

Main Presenting Author: Gaudio, Kathleen

Additional Authors: Skolnik, Derek ; Bou-Aoun, Nour; Le, Anh; Sullivan, Michael; Cantarovich, Marcelo; Sandal, Shaifali

Abstract: *Background: Kidney transplant recipients (KTRs) face significant psychological challenges, with lifetime depression risk near 50%. Mental health disorders in KTRs increase the risk of poorer graft and patient outcomes. Psychological resilience (PR), the ability to adapt positively to adversity, is linked to better well-being, yet research on resilience in kidney transplantation is limited.Aim: To assess the relationship between lower resilience, depression risk, and health-related quality of life (HR-QOL).Methods: Cross-sectional study at McGill University Health Centre. Adult KTRs ≥3 months post-transplant completed validated questionnaires on resilience, HR-QOL, depressive symptoms, and pain catastrophizing.Results: Over 6 months, 232 KTRs participated (50% White, 58.2% men). Mean resilience score was 72.78 (SD 19.54), below the general population (82.4, SD 12.8). Higher resilience correlated with lower depression (β = -0.045, p = 0.002) and pain catastrophizing (β = -0.084, p = 0.017), and better mental health component of HR-QOL (β = 0.098, p = 0.001).Conclusion: This study addresses a critical knowledge gap in transplantation by examining PR as a risk factor for adverse psychosocial outcomes. Our findings suggest that resilience may help*

identify patients at higher risk of psychological decompensation, enable earlier interventions, and allocate resources effectively.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126332 - Snapshot

Beyond the Brain: Mapping Physical Health in Canadians with ADHD

Main Presenting Author: Unrau, Carlie M

Additional Authors: Climie, Emma A; Staff, Devon

Abstract: *Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a prevalent neurodevelopmental disorder impacting approximately 2% of adults. Research across the globe indicates that individuals with ADHD are at higher risk of physical health conditions, compared to the general population. However, in a Canadian context, it is unclear whether this remains the case. Thus, the present research aimed to identify whether Canadians with ADHD are at greater risk of various physical health conditions compared to Canadians without ADHD. Data were extracted from the Statistics Canada 2022 Mental Health and Access to Care Survey. All respondents with ADHD were included (n = 465), with a control group matched on select demographic characteristics (n = 465); the final sample comprised 930 respondents. Chi-squared analyses indicated that Canadians with ADHD were more likely to have co-occurring diagnoses of asthma, arthritis, back problems, fibromyalgia, migraines, chronic lung conditions, bowel diseases, chronic fatigue and prior diagnoses of high blood pressure. No significant differences were found in rates of current high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Findings suggest that Canadians with ADHD are at a greater risk for multiple physical health conditions compared to those without ADHD. Results support the need for integrated medical and mental health services to promote early identification and intervention of various health conditions. By raising awareness of common co-occurring conditions, Canadians with ADHD may receive more comprehensive care, relieving cost and time for both providers and users.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123896 - Snapshot

Biopsychosocial predictors of anger and irritability in the menopause transition

Main Presenting Author: Thorsteinson, Venezya H

Additional Authors: Zorzini, Gianna ; Sander, Bethany ; Preston, Duncan; Gordon, Jennifer L

Abstract: *Rationale: There is growing recognition that anger and irritability may increase in the menopause transition (MT). However, the biopsychosocial contributions are understudied. Methods: 100 depressed and 101 non-depressed individuals undergoing the MT provided weekly measures of anger/irritability, sleep quality, and urinary metabolites of estradiol (E1G) and progesterone (PdG) for 3-4 months. Weekly 24-hour hot flash diaries were also completed. Multilevel models examined within-person effects of weekly E1G, PdG, sleep quality, and hot flashes on anger and irritability. Results: Only in the depressed participants, poorer-than-usual sleep quality and higher-than-usual number of hot flashes significantly predicted higher weekly anger and irritability. Though the overall effects of E1G and PdG were non-significant in both participant samples, random effects revealed substantial variability in both the strength and direction of E1G and PdG effects on anger and irritability. Conclusions: These results suggest that increased hot flashes and poor sleep may predict*

greater anger and irritability, particularly in those reporting clinically significant depressive symptoms. Ovarian hormones may also contribute to anger and irritability during the MT, but with substantial individual variability in the strength and direction of the effect.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125401 - Snapshot

Body scan, sitting meditation, thought meditation, or loving-kindness meditation: Perceptions of prominent formal mindfulness practices among young adults with and without recent self-injury

Main Presenting Author: Petrovic, Julia

Additional Authors: Mettler, Jessica ; Heath, Nancy L

Abstract: *Individuals with a history of nonsuicidal self-injury (NSSI) often report high self-criticism, emotion dysregulation, and a complex relationship with their body. As such, formal mindfulness practice (i.e., focusing on one's thoughts, emotions, and body with acceptance) is a common element of prominent approaches to the treatment of NSSI. However, adherence to formal mindfulness practice is often low, underscoring a need for more research into perceptions of these practices. This study explored perceptions of four distinct formal mindfulness practices (i.e., body scan, sitting meditation, thought meditation, loving-kindness meditation) among young adults with (n=12) and without (n=12) past-year NSSI. Semi-structured interviews were conducted and data were analyzed using content analysis. Findings shed light on the unique challenges and preferences of individuals with past-year NSSI in relation to different formal mindfulness practices. While the body scan and sitting meditation are two of the most commonly taught formal practices in mindfulness-based therapies, results revealed challenges to their sustained use (e.g., aversive body awareness in those with recent NSSI). Meanwhile, the thought meditation was well-received by all, while experiences of the loving-kindness meditation were particularly positive among those with past-year NSSI. Clinical implications will be discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122844 - Snapshot

Community Perspectives on Substance Use within the Caribbean population in the GTA

Main Presenting Author: Maraj, Jayashri

Additional Author: Wilson, Ciann

Abstract: *Background: There is a significant Caribbean population in Canada facing a high risk of substance use harm due to various systemic and acculturation factors. Since little research has been done with this population, this study explored the socio-historical and systemic contexts of substance use in Caribbean Canadian communities. Method: Through a qualitative design, I conducted 10, virtual, one-on-one open ended interviews with participants recruited through snowball sampling. These participants were all from Caribbean backgrounds of diverse identities. Results: Through reflexive thematic analysis, preliminary results indicate that there is limited recognition of the colonial grounding of substance use. Despite this, there are clear informal systems of care that can inform*

culturally-relevant practices. Conclusion: These findings indicate the depth of colonial amnesia in perpetuating stigma currently, within the wider population. Impact: The need for knowledge mobilization is highlighted for critical consciousness raising and working towards healthier, more supportive communities.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 126384 - Snapshot

Daily Ups and Downs: Within-Person Daily Associations between Adolescent Anxiety and Depressive Symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Styba-Nelson, Kevin A. E.

Additional Authors: Buckler, E. Jean ; Turner, Brianna J.; Ames, E. Megan

Abstract: *Prevalence of anxiety and depression are rising among young Canadians. Across time (e.g., months, years), research shows a bidirectional association; when anxiety increases, as does depressive symptoms and vice versa. However, given instability in symptoms among adolescents, there exists a need for research investigating their associations on a finer timescale (i.e., on a daily basis) to inform theory and practice. Here, we investigate the within-person associations between anxiety and depressive symptoms in adolescence (ages 13-17) using data from the SSHRC-funded intensive longitudinal study, the Adolescents' Daily Lives project (Ames et al., 2024). Current completion (n = 143; Mage 14.99 (1.39); 65.0% Girls; 7.0% Gender diverse) is nearing target, with a final sample of 182 anticipated by January 2026. Dynamic structural equation modeling (Asparouhov et al., 2018) will be used to investigate the within-person bidirectional associations between anxiety and depressive symptoms, including covariation and time-lagged predictions, as well as the possible moderating effects of age, socioeconomic status, and intolerance of uncertainty. This will provide insight into how anxiety and depressive symptoms are temporally associated daily among Canadian youth, informing effective treatment of combined symptom presentations, as well as the greater symptom variability among adolescents.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124579 - Snapshot

Detecting Sudden Gains in an Emotion-Focused Therapy for Youth

Main Presenting Author: Darking, Serena

Additional Authors: Foroughe, Mirisse ; Torchia, Alisa; Park, Michelle; Arbuck, Lauren

Abstract: *Background: Research has found an association between sudden gains (SGs), known as rapid symptom improvements, and positive therapeutic outcomes. Experiential therapies, such as Emotion Focused Therapy for Youth (EFT-Y), provide opportunities for SGs. Our study is the first to evaluate within-session SGs in EFT-Y. Method: Subsample data from a previous randomized waitlist-control trial. The subsample comprised 22 youth (ages 9-17) to analyze any within-session shifts in emotion regulation (ER) and depression. Measures were collected at eight time points: pre-treatment, beginning and end of sessions 2, 4, and 6, and after session 8.Results: Half of the participants showed at least one SG in ER, and 33% showed SGs in depressive symptoms. All youth improved significantly post-treatment regardless of SG status.Conclusion: In EFT-Y, rapid improvements can occur within a single session. Both SG-responders and non-responders benefit,*

suggesting that EFT-Y is effective for young clients and that SGs may mark key moments of therapeutic change.Action: SGs during EFT-Y highlight meaningful change processes involving ER skills, primary emotion expression, and unmet emotional needs. Therapists can use in-session gains as turning points by noticing rapid shifts, exploring what changed, and helping youth consolidate these gains into concrete emotion-regulation strategies.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125940 - Snapshot

Digital Technologies Available to Support Counselling and Guidance in Educational Settings: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Ronald, Anna

Additional Authors: Brnada, Mateo F.; Wilson, Celena; Wagner, Nathan; Domene, José F.; Brosseau, Danielle C.

Abstract: *Digital technologies (DTs) have rapidly entered school counselling, yet many counsellors report feeling unprepared. We conducted a scoping review to clarify (RQ1) what types of DTs support counselling in educational settings, (RQ2) what outcomes are associated with these DTs, and (RQ3) what kinds of evidence exist to evaluate these outcomes.Eligible studies were published in English between 2018 and 2025 and reported original research on DTs used to facilitate direct school counselling services for primary or secondary students. Studies focused on video counselling were excluded. Searches across six databases identified 594 records, which were screened independently by two researchers. Twelve studies met the inclusion criteria.For RQ1, four DT types were identified: career-guidance platforms, web-based tools, game-based tools, and mobile health applications. For RQ2, four outcome domains were examined: technology acceptance, student psychological functioning, usage metrics, and counsellor productivity. For RQ3, study designs ranged from RCTs to observational studies with unspecified analytic methods.Overall, the evidence base is limited. Most studies assessed short-term acceptability rather than outcomes related to mental health, engagement, or productivity. DTs show potential for supporting school counselling, but more rigorous, theory-driven, and causal research is needed.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125099 - Snapshot

Dyadic Associations between Body Appreciation and Sexual Function in Cisgender Heterosexual and Gender and Sexually Diverse Couples

Main Presenting Author: Adlhoch-Mathé, Eugénie

Additional Authors: Jacmin-Park, Silke ; Juster, Robert-Paul; Bergeron, Sophie

Abstract: *Sexual function, the ability to navigate the stages of sexual response, is associated with an individual's quality of life. Due to the body's exposure during sexual activity, body image may impact this function. However, few studies have examined associations between body image and sexual function among couples, particularly those who identify as gender and sexually diverse, who are at greater risk of experiencing sexual difficulties, partly due to the stress of stigmatization. Examining body appreciation - a positive dimension of body image - among couples could help identify factors*

contributing to their sexual function. The present study assessed dyadic associations between body appreciation and sexual function, examining the moderating effects of gender identity and sexual orientation, in a diverse sample of 151 couples. Participants completed the Body Appreciation Scale-2 and the Sexual Function Evaluation Questionnaire. Results of analyses based on the Actor-Partner Interdependence Moderation Model showed that an individual's body appreciation was negatively related to their own sexual function difficulties (β=-0.21, $p<0.001$), and to their partner's difficulties when the latter was heterosexual (β=-0.18, $p=0.03$). This study highlights positive associations between an individual's body appreciation and sexual function, and the role of their partner's sexual orientation.

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123382 - Snapshot

Exploring Conceptualizations of Complexity and the Persistence of Barriers to Service Accessibility for Youth in Care

Main Presenting Author: Digney, Lucy

Abstract: *For over two decades barriers to service access have been identified at individual, organizational, and systemic levels for youth in care with complex mental health needs. Failure of systems to provide timely, integrated, and effective responses may exacerbate needs or amplify concerns. Shifting from the current view of complexity as individual inability to fit established approaches, researchers are calling for a focus on systemic change to position youth for successful resolution of challenges. Semi-structured interviews with the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate Alberta were analyzed using a qualitative descriptive design to explore why barriers persist and how conceptualizations of complexity can play a role in maintaining barriers or developing of solutions. Three themes were identified: The Weight of the System, Beyond the Label, and Professional Gateways to Support. Findings highlight the dynamic interplay of individual, organizational, and systemic factors that both contribute to and alleviate complexity. These results underscore a critical responsibility of psychologists: language, labels, and interpretations used in assessment and consultation can shape perceptions, responses, and pathways to services for youth in care. Psychologists are uniquely positioned to disrupt deficit narratives and advocate for coordinated services to improve outcomes for this community.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126399 - Snapshot

Exploring C-Reactive Protein/Lymphocyte Ratio as an Inflammatory Biomarker of Depression: Findings From the Lifelines Cohort Study.

Main Presenting Author: Flinn, Clodagh

Additional Author: Burns, Rachel

Abstract: *Rationale: Evidence suggests that inflammation plays a role in depressive pathology. C-reactive protein/lymphocyte ratio (CLR) has emerged as a novel marker of inflammation, demonstrating pro-inflammatory and immunosuppressive aspects of systemic inflammation, which may be related to depressive symptomology. This study prospectively explored CLR as an inflammatory biomarker of depression.Method: CLR at time 1 (2007-2013) was calculated as the ratio*

of C-reactive protein to lymphocyte count. The Mini-International Neuropsychiatric Interview assessed depression at time 1 and 2 (2014-2017).Results: 31,269 adults (18-88 years; M: 44.2; SD: 11.2) without depression at time 1 from the Lifelines Cohort Study were included. CLR at time 1 predicted incident depression (OR: 1.07; 95% CI: 1.02-1.12) after adjusting for covariates.Conclusion: Elevated CLR is associated with increased odds of depression, suggesting the role of inflammation in mental health and emphasising the need for targeted approaches to address inflammation in mental health care. Yet, the effect size was small, reinforcing the need for more research into the link between depression and CLR. Impact: To our knowledge, this is the first prospective study to examine CLR as a biomarker for depression. It contributes to a better understanding of the inflammatory mechanisms which may contribute to mental health difficulties.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123997 - Snapshot

Exploring Definitions and Experiences of Safety in Individuals with Probable GAD and Non-Anxious Individuals

Main Presenting Author: Cupid, Justice

Additional Authors: Szpunar, Karl ; Koerner, Naomi

Abstract: *Safety-centred perspectives of generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) conceptualize chronic worry and anxiety as the consequence of difficulties perceiving safety. A key tenet of these theories is that safety is not merely the absence of threat; however, what it means for safety to be present remains undertheorized. We explored constructions and experiences of safety through in-depth semi-structured interviews with adults from Toronto, Ontario (n = 13) who were asked about what safety means and what factors are critical to safety experiences. A thematic analysis of qualitative data yielded six themes: 1) Safety "is" a multifaceted concept and experience, 2) You need to be safe to survive, you need to feel safe to thrive, 3) Safety means having a sense of control, 4) Interpersonal trust is essential, 5) Belongingness and communalism create a sense of safety, (6) Safety in childhood is not essential for safety learning, "but it helps". Participants with probable GAD (n = 8) shared experiences of uncertainty and worry disrupting safety. These results are consistent with safety being more than the absence of threat, and emphasize the importance of feeling safe to anxiety alleviation, positive affect, a sense of agency, and social connection. Theoretical implications, and the therapeutic benefit of cultivating a felt sense of safety in uncertain situations, will be discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125773 - Snapshot

Exploring existential themes in the process of posttraumatic growth for survivors of violence

Main Presenting Author: Zahary Loreman, Thomas
Co-Presenting Author: Comeau, Thea

Additional Authors: Allison, Kaylee ; Eke, Victoria

Abstract: *Trauma has undeniable harm for individuals exposed to it, but for some trauma can also catalyze positive change. Posttraumatic growth (PTG) is the positive psychological change which can*

occur following trauma, including improved relationships, personal strength, new values and opportunities, and spiritual/existential changes. Recently, debates about the veracity of these changes have emerged, and the importance in distinguishing between real and illusory PTG warrants further study on the process of PTG. Existential processes may be important precursors in the development of authentic PTG. The current scoping review explored the role existential processes play in the development of PTG. This study included 104 papers for analysis. Results suggest that when individuals shift from intrusive rumination into deliberate rumination, they engage in processes of existential questioning and meaning making. Existential questioning can include reflecting on beliefs about self and world given the lived experience of trauma. Meaning making can include the active process of defining the purpose trauma can serve in the individuals' life. These processes may be in important contributors to developing authentic PTG. Understanding how real PTG occurs will contribute to developing interventions which can support trauma survivors in finding positive outcomes in the aftermath of their suffering.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123327 - Snapshot

Externalizing Manifestations of Depression, Masculinity, and Male-Perpetrated Intimate Partner Violence

Main Presenting Author: Storey, Quinn

Additional Authors: Woodin, Erica ; Ogrodniczuk, John

Abstract: *Converging evidence suggests that externalizing manifestation of depression often exhibited by men may contribute to various forms of intimate partner violence (IPV). These externalizing manifestations of depression, alongside IPV perpetration, are linked to traditional or restrictive views of masculinity. Two hypothesized path models of associations between restrictive masculine ideologies, depressive symptoms, and harmful conduct (IPV and coercive control) were explored with a cross-sectional sample of 239 adult men. One model employed externalizing depressive symptoms as a mediator between restrictive masculine ideologies and harmful conduct (externalizing model), while the other employed a generalized measure of depressive symptoms (generalized model). The externalizing model demonstrated good fit, whereas the generalized model did not. In the externalizing model, externalizing manifestations of depression mediated the relationship between restrictive masculine ideologies and both IPV and coercive control. Results suggest externalizing manifestations of depression among men may contribute to the association between restrictive views of masculinity and harmful conduct in intimate relationships. Findings also demonstrate key differences between male-sensitive and generalized depression measures, offering insight for IPV screening programs and ongoing research.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125363 - Snapshot

Facing Your Fears: Caregivers' Psychosocial Wellbeing Across a 14-Week Group Intervention for Anxiety in Autistic Youth

Main Presenting Author: Mueri, Kendra A

Additional Authors: Howe, Stephanie ; Sanguino, Hangsel; Baraskewich, Jessica; McMorris, Carly

Abstract: *Introduction: Autistic youth experience heightened anxiety that impacts daily functioning. Facing Your Fears (FYF) is a 14-week caregiver-child CBT intervention adapted for Autistic youth. Although caregiver involvement in family-based interventions is linked to improved caregiver wellbeing, no study has examined FYF's impact on caregiver psychosocial outcomes or family functioning.Aims: To determine whether FYF participation affects caregiver depression, anxiety, social support, quality of life, and family functioning across pre-, post-, and 6-month follow-up.Methods: Fifty-three caregivers of Autistic youth (Mage = 43.52; 80.43% mothers) completed the BAI and FQOL at all time points; Family Functioning, MOS Social Support, and BDI were completed pre- and 6-months post-FYF.Results: Family functioning significantly increased at 6-month follow-up (p< .001), as well as social support (p< .05). Depressive symptoms decreased, trending toward significance (p = .085). Overall FQOL did not change (p > .05), but physical/material well-being increased across time (p = .043). Remaining repeated measures ANOVAs across pre-, post-, and 6-month after- measures were not significant (p's >.05).Conclusions: FYF participation was associated with improved family functioning, social support, and physical/material well-being. Impact: Limited immediate change may reflect delayed caregiver perceptions, with benefits emerging by 6 months as families apply skills. FYF appears to positively impact caregiver wellbeing and family functioning alongside child anxiety reduction.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123337 - Snapshot

Factors Associated with Fear of Cancer Recurrence in Young Adults with Cancer

Main Presenting Author: George, Reanna

Additional Authors: Crotty, Pam ; Eaton, Geoff; Garland, Sheila

Abstract: *Purpose: YAs diagnosed with cancer will spend more of their lives as cancer survivors. Younger age has been associated with greater levels of fear of cancer recurrence (FCR). This study used data from the Young Adult Cancer Canada (YACC) Recover study to examine factors associated with FCR. Methods: Canadian YAs diagnosed with cancer aged 18-39 completed a survey. The Fear of Cancer Recurrence Inventory - Short From was used to measure FCR. Univariable and multivariable logistic regressions were used to examine demographic, cancer-related and psychological variables associated with clinically severe FCR (scores ≥ 22). Results: Participants (N=564, Mage=32.46, 72.2% women) completed the survey. At the multivariable level, those who were women (Adjusted Odds Ratio [AOR]= 1.767, p =.039), gender diverse (AOR= 3.281, p =.035), had a recurrence (AOR= 3.281, p <.001), have higher education (Some post-secondary AOR=3.71, p =.005;Graduate degree or more AOR= 2.508, p = .040), and have cancer related distress (AOR=3.261, p<.001) were more likely to experience clinically severe FCR. Being 2-4 years from first diagnosis (AOR= 0.433, p =.030) were less likely to experience clinically severe FCR. Age, age at diagnosis, having children, being in a relationship, household income, connection to AYA community, and social supports were not significantly associated with clinically severe FCR. Conclusion: These results suggest that women and people who identify as gender diverse and have had a recurrence may represent a particularly vulnerable group for high levels of persistent FCR. Further research is needed to better understand the relationship between FCR and education level.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125228 - Snapshot

Fostering Social Connectedness: Autistic Adolescents' Experiences of a Dungeons & Dragons Social Program

Main Presenting Author: Smith , Jonathon D. E

Additional Author: Agostino, Alba

Abstract: *Research shows that establishing social connections with peers can be elusive for autistic youth. Additionally, there is a notable lack of social programming services for autistic youth. Eight autistic adolescent participants (1F, 7M) between the ages of 14 - 18 (M = 16.25, SD =1.39) from the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), participated in a program (an average M = 15.43 weeks, SD = .90) for neurodivergent youth utilizing the Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) game through a neurodiversity affirming approach to foster social connectedness. Semi-structured interviews were conducted to gather insight into participants experiences in the program. The thematic analysis revealed three distinct themes, with participants expressing experiences of game enjoyment, social engagement, and unique personal experiences (e.g., sense of autonomy). All participants expressed an appreciation for the social opportunity and feeling connected to the other participants. The results suggest the modified D&D program provided autistic adolescents with an enjoyable program that contributed to a sense of social connectedness. Our study demonstrated the need for new programming to include voices autistic youth voices as this offers the potential to enhance their social experiences and is a crucial factor in improving overall quality of life.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125415 - Snapshot

Healing and Hoping: The Lived Experiences of Hope Following First Pregnancy Miscarriage

Main Presenting Author: Hobbs, Chelsea L.

Additional Author: Larsen, Denise J.

Abstract: *Miscarriage is common yet often unacknowledged and can result in persistent isolation and psychological distress. Across the grief literature, hope is identified as critical to helping individuals envision a future in which they wish to engage. Despite the potentially protective role of hope on the psychological well-being of individuals following a miscarriage, the intersection of hope and miscarriage has yet to be explored. Using interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA), this study poses the question: What is the lived experience of hope for individuals following the miscarriage of their first pregnancy? Seven participants aged 28 to 34 were recruited from across Canada. They completed virtual, semi-structured interviews exploring experiences of hope following a miscarriage of their first pregnancy. Analysis identified four themes: (a) miscarriage steals a hoped-for future, (b) reconnecting to hope, (c) hope is essential to grief, and (d) the healthcare system as a threat to hope. Findings from this study deepen the understanding of individuals' subjective experiences of hope related to miscarriage, informing how to best support individuals through and beyond this unique form of loss.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124381 - Snapshot

How Sexual Anxiety Shapes Relationship Quality: A Longitudinal Examination of Approach and Avoidance Motives in Mixed-Gender Couples

Main Presenting Author: Demecillo, Maron

Additional Author: Cobb, Rebecca

Abstract: *Sexual anxiety may undermine relationship functioning by shaping the motivations that guide pursuit or avoidance of closeness. Individuals high in sexual anxiety often experience heightened tension and discomfort with vulnerability, which may reduce approach motives and erode relationship satisfaction. We examined whether relationship motives explain the association between sexual anxiety and satisfaction in 125 mixed-gender, mostly (70%) White, cohabiting couples (Women M = 25.8 years; men M = 27.5 years). Participants completed questionnaires assessing motives, sexual anxiety, and relationship satisfaction 4 times over 1 year. Multilevel modelling partially supported the mediation hypotheses. Sexual anxiety negatively predicted approach motives, which in turn positively predicted satisfaction; there were no partner effects for approach motives. There were no actor effects for avoidance motives, but the more individuals experienced sexual anxiety, the fewer avoidance partner motives, which in turn positively predicted partner satisfaction. One interpretation is that individuals high in sexual anxiety may place fewer demands on partners, reducing partners' need to pursue avoidance motives such as preventing conflict. Findings highlight the value of strengthening positive relational motives to support adaptive paths to closeness for individuals experiencing sexual anxiety.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124773 - Snapshot

Interventions to Enhance Mental Health Treatment Engagement Among Older Adults: Perspectives from Geriatric Providers

Main Presenting Author: Rapaport, Li-elle

Additional Authors: Mackenzie, Corey S; Kaur, Jagpreet; Ramkissoon, Reece; Del Rosario, Nicole; Kaushik, Vishal; Krysanski, Valerie; Reynolds, Kristin

Abstract: *Older adults face complex challenges seeking and receiving mental health treatment. While older adults access psychological services less than other populations, when they do seek help, strong engagement can predict better treatment outcomes. This study explores providers' perspectives on interventions to enhance engagement among older adults referred to specialty geriatric mental health. Using Raue and Sirey's (2011) late-life treatment engagement model, 11 interviews were conducted with geriatric providers and referral sources. Summative content analysis identified interventions to address engagement barriers, particularly under resource constraints, including low-intensity psychoeducation (e.g., pamphlets, videos), virtual cognitive behavioral therapy groups, and suggestions to improve inter-provider communication and referral processes (e.g., multidisciplinary communication systems, streamlining referral paperwork). While collaborative care teams and nurse practitioner liaisons were proposed to maintain engagement during wait times, resource constraints within the care system were acknowledged. This study underscores the value of quantifying engagement suggestions to prioritize future research efforts effectively. It emphasizes the significance of provider and referrer factors in enhancing patient engagement and advocates for interventions to enhance engagement in and awareness of mental health services.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124921 - Snapshot

Introducing the Ottawa Clinical Fear of Recurrence - Self-Report (OCFR-SR)

Main Presenting Author: Giguère, Lauriane

Additional Authors: Lebel, Sophie ; Harris, Cheryl; Smith, Ben; Humphris, Gerald; Kogan, Cary; Costa, Daniel; Simard, Sébastien

Abstract: *The Ottawa Clinical Fear of Recurrence - Self-Report (OCFR-SR) was created to provide clinicians and researchers with a brief assessment of clinically significant fear of cancer recurrence according to newly updated expert consensus-based criteria: a) high levels of worry, b) high levels of preoccupation, and c) hypervigilance of bodily symptoms d) that last for more than three months. The final OCFR-SR items were selected to ensure representation of each criterion.The OCFR-SR's initial 23 items were administered to mixed cancer survivors. Exploratory factor analysis (EFA) and item response theory (IRT) were used to streamline items and maximize each item's screening potential. The final items' convergent and discriminant validity was explored using Pearson correlations with other instruments assessing related constructs, such as anxiety and depression. Internal and test-retest reliability, as assessed by McDonald's omega and Cronbach's alpha and intra-class correlation respectively, were also explored. The sample consisted of N = 296 cancer survivors. A total of 7 items were selected among the starting 23 items based on internal reliability, EFA and IRT. As all items displayed similar psychometric properties, theoretical considerations were paramount in selecting the final items. The resulting OCFR-SR demonstrated satisfactory convergent and discriminant validity, and excellent internal and test-retest reliability. This study proposes a new brief self-report tool for clinical fear of cancer recurrence. This instrument is the first to address newly agreed upon clinical criteria for fear of cancer recurrence.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125453 - Snapshot

L'empreinte cognitive des violences sexuelles : Une étude auprès de jeunes femmes ayant un historique de placement

Main Presenting Author: Perrin-Plouffe, Roxane

Additional Authors: Lanctôt, Nadine ; Pascuzzo, Katherine

Abstract: *Les violences sexuelles sont susceptibles d'altérer le fonctionnement psychologique des jeunes qui en sont victimes. Les adolescentes placées en centres de réadaptation y sont particulièrement exposées. Reposant sur la théorie de Young (1990), cette étude compare les schémas cognitifs de jeunes femmes au début de l'âge adulte, selon qu'elles aient ou non vécu des abus sexuels à l'enfance et/ou de l'exploitation sexuelle à l'adolescence. L'étude s'appuie sur une analyse secondaire de données longitudinales provenant d'un échantillon de 125 adolescentes placées en centres de réadaptation au Québec. L'abus sexuel avant l'âge de 12 ans est évalué de façon rétrospective, l'exploitation sexuelle a été auto-rapportée à l'adolescence (temps 1 à 5), tandis que les schémas cognitifs ont été évalués au début de l'âge adulte (temps 6). Des tests de comparaisons de moyennes révèlent que les jeunes femmes ayant rapporté des violences sexuelles présentent des scores plus élevés sur différents schémas, suggérant que ces formes de violences contribuent au développement de certaines croyances négatives persistantes à l'âge adulte. Les analyses en cours*

permettront de clarifier les effets différenciés et cumulatifs de ces différentes formes de violences. Des recommandations cliniques sont proposées, notamment la nécessité d'intervenir sur le système de croyances dysfonctionnelles des victimes.

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124821 - Snapshot

Lifetime Adversity and Incident Diabetes Among U.S. Adults with Prediabetes: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study

Main Presenting Author: Forget, Genevieve C

Additional Author: Burns, Rachel J

Abstract: *Without intervention, over one-third of individuals with prediabetes progress to type 2 diabetes (T2D) within four years. Although lifetime adversity has been linked to T2D risk, little is known about its impact on T2D risk among individuals with prediabetes. It was hypothesized that among individuals with prediabetes, greater experiences of childhood adversity, lifetime trauma, and discrimination would be associated with increased risk of incident T2D. Data came from the Health and Retirement Study (baseline: 2008-2010; follow-up: 2012-2014). Prediabetes and T2D status were assessed via blood glucose at baseline and follow-up, respectively. Childhood adversity, lifetime trauma, discrimination, and socio-demographic covariates were self-reported at baseline. Data were analyzed using multinomial logistic regression (N = 2,416). Findings provided limited support for the hypothesis. Holding constant the effect of lifetime trauma and discrimination, higher childhood adversity was marginally associated with increased odds of developing T2D (OR = 1.41 p = .075); lifetime trauma and discrimination were not significant predictors. Results suggest that lifetime adversity is not associated with risk of T2D. Future research may explore the combined burden of adversity exposures, the interaction between prediabetes and adversity to predict T2D risk, and use longer follow-up duration.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123539 - Snapshot

Members' experiences in 2SLGBTQ+ recreational sports clubs

Main Presenting Author: Menard, A. Dana D

Additional Authors: Power, Julia ; Pratt, Sara; Kim, Evgeniya; Touma, Heather; Woodruff, Sarah

Abstract: *Two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (2SLGBTQ+) individuals face systemic barriers to sport participation, including discrimination, exclusion, and violence. Within the 2SLGBTQ+ population, competitive and team sports have been cited by study participants as their least popular type of physical activity due to significant barriers. In response, 2SLGBTQ+ recreational sports clubs were created to offer safer, community-centered alternatives. Existing research on 2SLGBTQ+ recreational sports clubs have investigated participants' motives for joining these groups but none have focused specifically on the impacts of membership; in addition, many have focused only on the experiences of a specific group within the 2SLGBTQ+ umbrella. This qualitative study explored the experiences of 19 members of 2SLGBTQ+ sports clubs through semi-structured interviews. Five themes were identified: (1) Finding a Safe, Inclusive Space; (2) Strengthening My Love for Sports; (3) Benefits beyond Sports; (4) Living Empowered as 2SLGBTQ+; and (5); Room for*

Improvement. These findings underscore the importance of queer-led sports spaces in fostering wellbeing, community connection, and empowerment in 2SLGBTQ+ individuals. As harassment and violence towards gender and sexual minority group members increase worldwide, the role of affirming physical activity spaces becomes increasingly vital. Implications for members, club organizers, and municipal policymakers will be addressed.

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 125675 - Snapshot

Motivation-Based Subtypes of Psilocybin Microdosers

Main Presenting Author: Klukas, Ethan

Abstract: *Background: Recent years have witnessed a rise in microdosing psilocybin. Individuals who engage in this practice report diverse motivations for use which suggests heterogeneity among microdosers. However, research to date has taken a monolithic approach to the examination of microdosers which may overlook potentially important differences. To address this limitation, we aimed to identify and elucidate motivation-based subtypes using a large naturalistic sample of psilocybin microdosers. Method: We used latent class analysis to identify motivation-based subtypes among 4,415 adults who reported microdosing psilocybin. We compared subtypes cross-sectionally using ANOVA and chi-square tests to examine current mental health status, psychosocial functioning, and microdosing practices.Results: Three distinct subtypes of psilocybin microdosers emerged from the data: Mental Health Focused (n = 2059), Well-being Focused (n = 1136), and Creativity and Learning Focused (n = 1220). We identified medium-to-large between group differences in depression, anxiety, and stress across the subtypes, medium sized differences in affect and satisfaction with life, and small-to-medium differences in self-reported mental health diagnoses and use of psychiatric medication (all $p < .001$). Microdosing quantities and frequency were equivalent across subtypes. Conclusions and Impact: The results of this study highlight heterogeneity in the population of psilocybin microdosers. As such, we suggest that psychological outcomes may differ depending on individuals' motivations for use. Acknowledging these distinct subtypes may result in more accurate assessment of change in key outcome variables, potentially revealing larger effect sizes, that may be obscured when analysing microdosers as a homogenous group. The findings from the present research can be used to design future studies that consider the real-world heterogeneity among psilocybin microdosers.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 123981 - Snapshot

Perfectionism and Temporal Dynamics of Stress, Coping and Affect

Main Presenting Author: Lu, Yingke
Co-Presenting Author: Dunkley, David

Abstract: *Perfectionism has been supported as a transdiagnostic vulnerability factor that impacts daily mood. Although personal standards (PSP) and self-critical (SCP) dimensions of perfectionism have been shown to differentially moderate daily coping (in)effectiveness, the temporal dynamics of coping processes have not been examined. Community adults (N = 186) completed measures of perfectionism, then completed an experience sampling methodology with repeated within-day reports of stress appraisals, coping, and affect across different stressors for eight consecutive days. Dynamic structural equation modeling revealed that both PSP and SCP heightened negative affective reactivity*

to stress. Individuals higher in SCP also exhibited stronger declines in positive affect when they engaged in avoidant coping, which subsequently reduced problem-focused coping and perceived control. In contrast, for individuals higher in PSP, heightened negative affective reactivity to stress resulted in marked reductions in perceived control, leading to less problem-focused coping and decreases in positive affect. Together, these findings highlight key dynamic pathways through which perfectionism shapes coping processes and underscore opportunities to promote adaptive coping strategies towards daily stressors, thereby improving psychological well-being in perfectionistic individuals.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123878 - Snapshot

Predicting mental health risk from childhood adversity: A population-based study of Canadian adults

Main Presenting Author: Parker, Victoria

Additional Authors: Johnson, Dylan ; Wade, Mark

Abstract: *Rationale: As adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are increasingly linked to population mental health in adults, interest in screening individuals has grown. U.S., U.K., and New Zealand data show poor individual predictive accuracy, yet providers are encouraged to use ACEs to guide treatment decisions. The current study explored if ACEs differentiates Canadian adults with psychopathology from those without. Methods: Cross-sectional data from 7,608 Canadians surveyed in 2022 were analyzed. Logistic regression assessed group differences, and area under the curve (AUC) analyses tested predictive accuracy.Results: Group analyses found the odds of mental health problems rose with increasing ACEs. Individual discrimination was poor (AUC=0.57-0.64). Using a high-risk cut-off of ≥4 ACEs, sensitivity values were low (0.14-0.23), while specificity values were high (0.93-0.94). Similarly, PPV values were low (0.08-0.22), while NPV values were high (0.92-0.97). Conclusions: ACEs screening performs poorly at the individual level. While high-risk cut-offs may rule out poor mental health for individuals with fewer ACEs, it fails to accurately identify those with psychopathology. Impact: ACEs screening may misallocate treatment. Improved tools integrating broader risk and protective factors are needed to guide care.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125133 - Snapshot

Problematic Pornography Use and Sexual Desire: A Dyadic Study

Main Presenting Author: Dancause, Marianne

Additional Authors: Michaud, Aurélie ; Beaulieu, Vanessa; Danella, Marianne; François, Anaïka; Bőthe, Beáta

Abstract: *Background: Around 3.2% of individuals may experience problematic pornography use (PPU; lack of control in pornography use resulting in adverse consequences (Bőthe et al., 2024; WHO, 2022). Associations between pornography use and sexual desire are inconsistent in the literature (Willoughby et al., 2020), and the associations between sexual desire and PPU have yet to be studied within couples from both partners' perspectives. This exploratory study examines actor and partner effects (Cook & Kenny, 2005) of PPU on sexual desire among couples.Methods: A total of 155*

couples of diverse gender configurations completed a survey assessing each partner's pornography use frequency, PPU, and sexual desire. Actor and partner effects of pornography use frequency and PPU on sexual desire will be tested using the actor-partner interdependence model (Cook & Kenny, 2005), while testing for gender moderation.Results: Associations between both partners' pornography use frequency, PPU, sexual desire and potential gender differences will be examined.Conclusions: Findings will help distinguish problematic from non-problematic use's associations with sexual desire and offer a new framework for understanding such links among diverse couples.Actions/Impact: Clinicians and researchers will be better equipped to understand problems related to sexual desire in couples that may potentially relate to PPU.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125152 - Snapshot

Securing the Spark: Relationship Commitment and Intimate Safety in the Transition to Parenthood

Main Presenting Author: Hamilton, Sierrah A.

Additional Authors: Woodin, Erica ; Morgan, Sean

Abstract: *Background: The transition to parenthood (TTP) is a vulnerable time for couple relationship quality. Intimate safety (IS), defined as an individual's subjective perception of security and comfort in their relationship, is a key protective factor, and we hypothesize that partners who are higher in relationship commitment will experience greater IS in early parenthood. Method: We examined the association between commitment and IS trajectories across the TTP. 58 couples (n=116) were assessed 3 times from pregnancy to 8-months postpartum. We used HLM to account for nestedness in the data. Results: Men reported lower IS than women during pregnancy (b= -3.84, p= .041). IS also declined over time across the TTP for both genders (b= -1.29, p= .034). A significant 3-way interaction emerged between commitment, gender and time (b= -0.61, p= .002), indicating the role of commitment in IS trajectories differed by gender. For women, decreases in commitment predicted decreases in IS over time (b= -5.77, p< .001), whereas higher commitment buffered against this decline (b= 0.82, p= .26). In contrast, men's IS remained relatively stable regardless of their level of commitment. Impact: Women experiencing low commitment during the TTP reported less emotional vulnerability in their relationship, suggesting that low commitment might be a risk factor for poor relationship functioning during the TTP.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125109 - Snapshot

Seeing eye to I: Does personality agreement predict better mental health?

Main Presenting Author: Avery, James R

Additional Author: Koestner, Richard

Abstract: *Background. People whose personalities are more accurately perceived tend to feel more connected to others and have better mental health. However, most research on personality agreement has been conducted cross-sectionally, with participants being perceived by a stranger. Research should investigate whether personality agreement between friends/family longitudinally predicts better outcomes.Method. The present study pooled data from two longitudinal studies where university*

students reported their big 5 personality traits and selected a friend and a family member to rate the participant's personality at T1 (September) and T5 (April). Our outcome variables, relationship satisfaction, subjective well-being, depressive symptoms, and basic psychological need (relatedness, competence, and autonomy) satisfaction, were assessed at all time points.Results. Preliminary results suggest that big 5 trait agreement between participants and their friends/family is significantly associated with greater need satisfaction paired with better mental health outcomes. We will conduct further analyses using latent change score models.Impact. Our results demonstrate the benefits of being accurately perceived, highlighting the importance of self-disclosure. Future research should explore factors that support self-other personality agreement to foster positive interpersonal relationships.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125251 - Snapshot

Self-Reflection, Mindfulness, and Well-Being in Undergraduate Students With and Without ADHD: Evidence of a Differential Pathway

Main Presenting Author: SHAMIM, ASMA

Additional Author: Ferrari, Michel

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: ADHD in postsecondary students is linked to emotional dysregulation and lower life satisfaction, yet little is known about strengths-based mechanisms that may enhance well-being. Wisdom literature suggests that self-reflection and mindfulness may support adaptive functioning, but whether this operates similarly for neurodivergent students is unclear.Methods: A total of 159 undergraduate students (70 with ADHD; 89 without ADHD) completed validated measures of self-reflection, mindfulness, and life satisfaction. PROCESS Model 7 was used to test whether mindfulness mediated the link between reflection and life satisfaction, and whether this pathway differed by ADHD status.Results: Mindfulness significantly predicted life satisfaction ($p < .001$). ADHD moderated the reflection-mindfulness association, with reflective students with ADHD showing markedly higher mindfulness ($p < .001$) while this link was nonsignificant in non-ADHD peers. A significant moderated mediation indicated that mindfulness accounted for the effect of reflection on life satisfaction only among students with ADHD.Conclusions: Mindfulness is a key mechanism linking reflection and well-being for neurodivergent students.Action/Impact: Findings suggest integrating mindfulness-based reflective practices into campus supports for students with ADHD to enhance resilience and well-being.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126412 - Snapshot

Sexual Violence and its Effect on Co-regulation in Intimate Relationships

Main Presenting Author: Doyle, Nissa

Additional Authors: Danyluck, Chad ; Liu, Yan

Abstract: *Intimate trauma involving sexual violence (SV) is an under-reported crime with profound effects on survivors' wellbeing and on their intimate relationships. For healthy couples, sexual intimacy often instantiates patterns of synchronized physiological arousal, termed co-regulation, which evokes safety, trust, and connection between partners. Yet sexual assault-related vigilance and*

emotion dysregulation among SV survivors may disrupt sexual intimacy and broader processes of co-regulation shared with their partners. To address this issue, we used a dyadic, psychophysiological paradigm, examining the role of SV in evoking patterns of co-dysregulation of parasympathetic nervous system (PNS) arousal between couples' during sexually intimate conversations. Couples were recruited from Carleton University and the Ottawa area (N = 86). PNS activity, which plays a central role in intimacy and connection, was continuously recorded from both partners as they engaged in 5-minute conversation about sexual intimacy. Analyses using the Actor-Partner Interdependence model are currently underway. Preliminary findings suggest that couples with SV history display co-dysregulation but maintain satisfying sex lives. These analyses will clarify how survivors and their partner navigate intimacy, with implications for relationship functioning and wellbeing.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125362 - Snapshot

Substance Use Trends and Risk-Related Behaviours Amongst Simultaneous Alcohol and Cannabis Co-Users

Main Presenting Author: Peterson, Jessica R

Additional Authors: Shephard, Aaron ; Ethier-Gagnon, Mikaela; Zhekova, Radostina ; Barrett, Sean

Abstract: *Simultaneous co-use of alcohol and cannabis has been associated with greater substance use and dependence relative to concurrent or single substance use. We examined use patterns among simultaneous co-users to identify factors that may contribute to this elevated risk. Structured interviews (n = 200) were conducted in monthly alcohol-cannabis co-users. General linear models were used to analyze differences in alcohol and cannabis dependence between concurrent and simultaneous users, and to examine how specific use patterns influenced substance quantity among simultaneous users. Relative to concurrent users, simultaneous users demonstrated more problematic alcohol and cannabis use. Among simultaneous users, order in which alcohol and cannabis were administered impacted quantity used, such that the substance administered first was used more in the session. Finally, we found that more alcohol was consumed in group vs. solitary settings. Findings highlight key risk factors associated with simultaneous co-use and may inform targeted psychoeducation and harm-reduction strategies.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125344 - Snapshot

Supporting Mental Health for Families of Children Receiving Neurodevelopmental Services: An Integrated Knowledge Exchange

Main Presenting Author: Varma, Vaibhav

Additional Author: Roos, Leslie E

Abstract: *Approximately 7-14% of Canadian children are diagnosed with neurodevelopmental disorders (NDDs) and intervention pathways are often complex with lengthy waitlists. Without timely support, parents experience elevated distress, increasing the risk for children to develop subsequent impairments. BEAM is an app-based program connecting parents with expert-led psychoeducational*

content and a network of support to reduce depression, anxiety, suicidality, and harsh practices. BEAM has not been evaluated in the context of neurodiverse families. We conducted an Integrated Knowledge Exchange (iKX) engaging 24 parents with lived experience and specialized service providers across Manitoba to (1) identify the priorities and barriers for NDD families, and (2) assess the feasibility and acceptability of BEAM within clinical pathways. Qualitative data from focus groups are being analyzed using a multisite framework analysis approach to construct emergent themes at the individual, organizational, and collective levels. Preliminary findings suggest BEAM can support parents navigating psychological challenges and systemic barriers while on waitlists for treatment across health systems. This is informing the development of a randomized control trial implementing BEAM for NDD families. A second iKX will involve clinical personnel and BEAM participants to evaluate content, delivery, and outcomes.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126297 - Snapshot

Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Psychological Interventions for Women with Chronic Pelvic Pain

Main Presenting Author: Pankratz, Lily

Additional Authors: Benedictson, Jada ; Evans, Devon ; Petty, Sarah ; Banka, Margaret; Reynolds, Kristin; Bilevicius, Elena

Abstract: *Background: Chronic pelvic pain (CPP) is a widespread issue, with robust research demonstrating the significant negative impacts on daily functioning, physical, and mental health. Despite this, little research has been dedicated to understanding the role of evidence-based mental health interventions for managing CPP. This study aims to examine all cognitive behavioural therapies (CBTs) available for CPP and their impact on quality of life, as well as mental and physical health, to better understand effective therapies for the treatment of CPP. Methods: The search was carried out by a librarian using several databases. We included randomized controlled trials, feasibility studies, case series, and evaluation studies using CBT interventions for CPP. Two reviewers independently conducted screenings, extraction, and quality assessment. Results: Our review identified 28 articles that involved a CBT intervention for CPP. The impact of CBT interventions on mental health outcomes revealed a small-medium effect size (d = 0.350, 95% CI [-0.424, 0.276], p<0.001) and a moderate-large effect size (d = 0.705, CI [-0.963, -0.446], p<0.001) for pain catastrophizing. Conclusion: This is the first review to examine the impact of CBTs on CPP outcomes. Action/Impact: These findings will help promote the use of appropriate, evidence-based services among clinicians working with these population*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125870 - Snapshot

The 4E Unconscious: A Tractable Concept for Psychotherapy

Main Presenting Author: Smith, Ryan

Abstract: *Rationale. The psychodynamic unconscious is a culturally pervasive concept, but one with limited utility outside psychodynamic psychotherapy.Methods. I re-interpret the unconscious using a 4E framework from cognitive science, allowing greater utility across psychotherapy modalities.Results. A 4E unconscious, rather than being hidden, is manifest in 1) embodied*

movements, gait, posture, affect, etc., 2) enactive perception actively constructed from goals, available actions, and motivations, 3) extended cognition where non-therapeutic objects can elicit previously unthought cognitions, perceptions, and embodied actions, and 4) embedded situations in dynamic relation with the subject. Each reflects part of the dynamic pattern of cognition and psychopathology and can be observed and manipulated in psychotherapy.Conclusions. A 4E perspective on the unconscious gives psychotherapists concrete ways to understand and mitigate psychopathology, especially when clients struggle to verbalize their problems.Actions. A 4E view of the unconscious gives psychotherapists four variables to work with for observation and therapeutic process: embodied movements manifesting implicit memory, perceptions dynamically altered by movement and setting, extended cognition altered through novel objects, and situations which can be adjusted as needed.

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123453 - Snapshot

The Paradox of Grief: When High Pre-loss Burden Predicts Better Post-loss Survival.

Main Presenting Author: Gunpat, Sasha

Additional Authors: Benzouak, Tarek ; Cassar, Matthew; Prudencio-Brunello, Michael Adrian; Rao, Sanjay

Abstract: *Background: Standard mortality models view spousal death as acute shock, often ignoring pre-loss strain. We tested if pre-loss depression modifies bereavement lethality, hypothesizing antecedent burden buffers against mortality risk.Methods: Using Health and Retirement Study data (1992-2022; N=32,857), time-dependent Cox models estimated all-cause mortality risks. The primary modifier was respondent depressive burden assessed prior to spousal death.Results: An attenuated interaction was observed (HR=0.93, p<.001). For those with no pre-loss depressive symptoms, widowhood increased mortality by 48% (HR=1.48, p<.001). Conversely, high pre-loss depressive burden fully attenuated this risk (HR=0.84, p=.05), indicating no survival difference compared with married controls. This buffering effect persisted across subgroups with severe somatic conditions, including cancer and cardiovascular disease.Conclusion: Bereavement lethality is conditional on the survivor's pre-loss profile. For high-burden individuals, the absence of excess mortality suggests alleviation of chronic strain.Action/Impact: Clinical assessments should stratify risk by pre-loss history. Interventions for spouses with low pre-loss depression should prioritize monitoring for physiological shock, while those with high antecedent burden require support for psychosocial reintegration rather than mortality prevention.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125582 - Snapshot

The predictive role of verb tense for the emotion intensity of autobiographical memories

Main Presenting Author: Boogaart, Kayleigh

Additional Author: Nicoladis, Elena

Abstract: *Previous work has shown present tense to be positively related and past tense to be negatively related to emotion intensity during memory recall. This study tested one potential direction of this association by manipulating verb tense and observing the impact on emotion intensity. 105 participants were randomly assigned to recall emotional autobiographical memories from the past tense or the present tense. All participants recalled a neutral memory which served as an active baseline and then three experimental memories (embarrassing, exciting, nerve-wracking) in randomized order. Emotion intensity was measured by self-report on a 0-10 scale then standardized for the analyses. Through Multilevel Modelling we found that being in the present tense group predicted significantly higher emotion intensity then being in the past tense group ($\beta = 0.44$, $p < .01$) and that this did not differ by memory valence (ps > .05). These findings suggest that recalling emotionally positive and negative memories from the present tense can lead to heightened emotion intensity at the time of recall. The implications differ by valence: recalling distressing memories from the past tense may be helpful in attenuating distressing feelings, whereas recalling positive memories from the present tense may be helpful in amplifying positive affect.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123039 - Snapshot

The relative benefits of formal versus informal mindfulness among young adults with and without recent self-injury: A randomized controlled trial

Main Presenting Author: Petrovic, Julia

Additional Authors: Heath, Nancy ; Mettler, Jessica; Böke, Bilun Naz; Rogers, Maria A; Hamza, Chloe A; Bloom, Elana; Di Genova, Lina; Romano, Vera

Abstract: *Mind-body approaches, such as mindfulness-based interventions (MBIs), are increasingly being used to address various mental health concerns. MBIs typically include the instruction of formal and informal mindfulness practices. However, individuals with a history of nonsuicidal self-injury (NSSI) may experience heightened challenges in response to formal mindfulness (e.g., physical/psychological discomfort), whereas informal mindfulness may be better tolerated. This randomized controlled trial thus compared the effectiveness and acceptability of formal versus informal online MBIs for young adults with (n=127) and without (n=100) past-year NSSI. Overall, results did not differ as a function of NSSI history. Both the formal and informal MBIs led to improved overall dispositional mindfulness, nonjudging, describing, well-being, and psychological need satisfaction immediately post-program, with these improvements sustained one month later. Neither MBI resulted in improved awareness, nonreacting, observing, stress, emotion regulation styles, or academic engagement. Notably, both MBIs were rated as highly satisfactory, with a preference for the informal MBI immediately post-program. Findings underscore the value of emphasizing both formal and informal practice in clinical applications of mindfulness- an approach which may be optimally responsive to diverse needs and preferences.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122845 - Snapshot

The Role of Family Relationships in Children's Resilience Following Exposure to Gender-Based Violence

Main Presenting Author: Zangari, Maria J

Abstract: *More than 50% of children in families where gender-based violence (GBV) is present have witnessed incidents of GBV. Children exposed to GBV face elevated risks to their health and well-being across their life course, yet many demonstrate resilience post-exposure. This study examined whether sibling relationship warmth and caregiver-child closeness served as protective factors for resilience among children aged 5-13 in Canada, from the perspective of their protective parent. Semi-structured interviews with 38 parents provided contextual insights into children's family dynamics and resilience. Transcripts were systematically analyzed and thematically coded, grounded in resilience theory, and a socioecological, strengths-based framework to develop connections among the interacting factors of childhood as a developmental period, exposure to GBV, and protective elements of family relationships. Findings highlighted emotional security, open communication and access to resources as vital factors in family relationships that impacted resilience; in particular, the interplay between relational and structural supports in fostering resilience among children post-GBV exposure. The resilience-supporting factors will inform implementation strategies in trauma- and violence-informed services to strengthen familial bonds, coping mechanisms, and mitigate the negative effects of GBV on children.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 126058 - Snapshot

The role of mindfulness and symptom interference on mental health outcomes following concussion in youth.

Main Presenting Author: Amin, Shahrazad

Additional Authors: Amarnath-Nair, Medha ; Liao, Jackie; Schmidt, Julia; Doan, Quynh; Silverberg, Noah; Gagnon, Isabelle; Cairncross, Molly

Abstract: *Dispositional mindfulness in youth and their caregivers is associated with better mental health outcomes in a variety of conditions. This link has not been studied in concussion. This project evaluates the association between dispositional mindfulness and mental health in youth and their caregiver's following concussion, and if symptom interference (how much concussion symptoms interfere with daily life) mediates this relationship. Youth (N=62; ages 8-16) and their caregivers were recruited from two pediatric emergency departments in Canada within 48 hours of injury. Seven days post-injury, participants completed questionnaires on anxiety, depression, mindfulness, and symptom interference. We will conduct bivariate correlations to examine the association between these variables and mediation models to assess if symptom interference mediates the association between self- and parent-reported mindfulness and mental health outcomes. We hypothesize that greater child and parent dispositional mindfulness will be negatively associated with child anxiety, depression, and symptom interference, and that symptom interference will mediate the relationship between mindfulness and mental health outcomes. Analyses are in progress. This study will provide insight into the relationship between parent and child mindfulness and mental health after youth concussion.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122980 - Snapshot

Understanding Illness Identity in Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection (SCAD) Survivors: Targets for Supporting Mental Health

Main Presenting Author: Maukel, Lisa-Marie

Additional Authors: Mulvagh, Sharon ; Madan, Mina; Pacheco, Christine; Liu, Shuangbo; Saw, Jacqueline; Paquin, Amélie; Tulloch, Heather

Abstract: *Background: Spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD), a cause of acute coronary syndrome, is linked to psychological distress and adjustment challenges. Illness identity predicts mental health in other chronic illnesses but is rarely studied in SCAD. This study examined its association with mental health in SCAD.Methods: SCAD patients diagnosed <3 years were recruited from 6 hospitals. They completed sociodemographic questionnaires and validated measures: Illness Identity Questionnaire (engulfment, rejection, acceptance, enrichment), Generalized Anxiety Disorder-7 (GAD-7), Patient Health Questionnaire-9 (PHQ-9). Multiple regression examined associations between illness identity and mental health, adjusting for age, sex, and time since diagnosis.Results: Participants (N=326, 93% female; mean age=53, time since diagnosis=16 months) reported mean scores: engulfment=2.4±1.0; rejection=2.3±0.7; acceptance=3.6±0.7; and enrichment=3.3±0.8. After adjustment, higher depression scores were associated with greater engulfment (β=.41, p<.001) and rejection (β=.19, p<.001), and lower enrichment (β=-.16, p=.002). Greater anxiety was linked to higher engulfment (β=.50, p<.001) and rejection (β=.14, p=.006).Conclusion: Mental health after SCAD relates to maladaptive and adaptive illness identity patterns, highlighting the need to assess and address illness identity in psychological care.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124863 - Snapshot

Using a Trauma-Informed Acceptance and Commitment Skills Group to Reduce Experiential Avoidance in Justice-Involved Women on Parole

Main Presenting Author: Lawrence, Yasmina CD

Additional Author: Bell, Paula

Abstract: *Justice-involved women report extensive trauma histories, with experiential avoidance (EA) as a core maladaptive coping strategy. Despite evidence for Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), brief trauma-focused (TF-ACT) interventions are understudied in community residential facilities (CRF), a crucial reintegration setting. This study investigates the within-session impact of a 6-week TF-ACT skills group on EA. Using a within-subjects repeated-measures design, seven participants in a CRF completed the Brief Experiential Avoidance Questionnaire (BEAQ) pre- and post-session. Data collection is now complete. Planned formal analyses include session-by-session paired-samples t-tests, Reliable Change Index (RCI) calculations, and Hierarchical Linear Modelling (HLM) to evaluate immediate, clinically significant changes in self-reported EA. Results are anticipated to support the hypothesis that brief TF-ACT reduces EA in this population, aligning with literature on ACT's efficacy in decreasing avoidance and increasing psychological flexibility among trauma survivors. This study addresses a critical gap by evaluating a feasible, trauma-informed intervention within a real-world CRF. Findings will inform the development of accessible, targeted mental health programming to support the rehabilitation and community reintegration of justice-involved women.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 125019 - Snapshot

Voices of Experience: Older Adults and the Future of Health Technology

Main Presenting Author: Wells, Greg
Co-Presenting Author: Yeap, Reiko

Abstract: *The potential of health technologies in enhancing health outcomes and quality of life is increasingly recognized, particularly with regard to supporting older adults and rural populations facing barriers to care. This study amplifies the voices of older rural adults through in-depth interviews conducted in Red Deer and Red Deer County, Alberta. While, overall, participants expressed positive attitudes toward digital health tools-citing increased autonomy, convenience, and improved communication-they also identified critical barriers. Usability and accessibility issues, such as complex login processes, technical language, and non-intuitive interfaces, were widespread. Concerns about privacy, cyber-security, and misinformation were prominent, often rooted in past negative experiences. Participants emphasized the need for age-friendly design, ongoing digital support, and equitable rural access, including solutions for better access and connectivity challenges. Many highlighted the digital divide and rejected societal assumptions that older adults are unwilling or unable to engage with technology. The findings call for inclusive, secure, and context-sensitive health technology solutions that respect and empower older users.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124016 - Snapshot

Working Guidelines to Develop Indigenous Cultural Safety in Psychedelic Assisted Psychotherapy

Main Presenting Author: Thomas, Lakoda R

Additional Authors: Walsh, Zach ; Cates, Jordyn

Abstract: *Background: Indigenous people face distinct barriers to access mental health care, including psychedelic assisted psychotherapy (PAT)1. Indigenous cultural safety (ICS) considers individual health needs by enhancing communication between the provider and patient, reducing systematic discrimination in healthcare2. Impact: We will report on a multi-phase project designed to develop infrastructure (Phase 1) and identify best practices (Phase 2) to facilitate cultural safety. Phase 1 used participatory action research to create an Ethical Research Framework for working with psychedelic medicines in academic and private organizations8. The outcome established an entheogenic leadership collective to liaise between researchers and participating Indigenous communities.Methodology: Phase 2 used semi-structured interviews with experts in Indigenous health to discuss cultural safety guidelines for Indigenous PAT participants. The analysis is ongoing and will be complete by April 2026. Six domains will be examined: Expertise, ICS, psychedelic medicine, PAT administration, PAT training programs, and the ideal culturally aligned PAT. A thematic analysis will be used with a constructivist and a critical realist epistemological orientation9,10. Conclusion: Considering ICS in PAT may increase the therapeutic potential of PAT by directly addressing the needs of Indigenous participants3,4,5,6,7.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124571 - Snapshot

Working on worry: Examining the impact of ADHD on 12-week group cognitive-behavioural therapy outcomes for generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)

Main Presenting Author: Alarachi, Arij

Additional Authors: Rowa, Karen ; McNeely, Heather; McCabe, E Randi

Abstract: *About 20% of adults with ADHD are also diagnosed with GAD, a comorbidity associated with greater clinical burden. Research suggests that CBT, the first line treatment for GAD, is less effective for children with ADHD due to its attentional demands. No studies have examined CBT-GAD outcomes in adults with comorbid ADHD. Clients (N = 97, Mage = 41.67, 84.95% female, 20.62% with ADHD) participating in 12-week group CBT-GAD completed the Penn State Worry Questionnaire - Past Week pre-, post- and at every week of treatment. Symptom trajectories were examined using hierarchical linear modeling, with time nested within individuals and ADHD diagnosis as a Level 2 predictor. Preliminary results indicated time was associated with a significant decrease in worry ($b = -1.06$, $SE = .02$, $p < .001$), while ADHD diagnosis moderated treatment response ($b = .89$, $SE = .40$, $p < .05$, $f^2 = .03$). Clients without an ADHD diagnosis had a more reliable and stronger symptom reduction ($b = -1.50$, $SE = .18$, 95% CI [-1.86, -1.15]), than the group with comorbid ADHD ($b = -.61$, $SE = .36$, 95% CI [-1.34, .11]). 1.15]). These results suggest that ADHD may attenuate CBT effectiveness. Further investigation of how differences in presentations (e.g., inattentive, hyperactive/impulsive, or combined) and age of diagnosis contributes to variability in CBT outcomes for those with the ADHD-GAD comorbidity is warranted.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124849 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

"We Don't Talk About Bruno": Addressing Reluctance to Ask about Substance Use

Main Presenting Author: Conrad, Gretchen
Co-Presenting Authors: Lumb, Andrew B; Krause, Sandra

Abstract: *Individuals with a mental health illness are twice as likely to also have a substance use (SU) disorder compared to the general population, and those with a SU disorder are up to three times more likely to have a mental illness. And yet, "Most psychologists lack training in addiction medicine, and as a result, too many patients are treated solely for mental health conditions without receiving support for substance use disorders" (Witkiewitz, 2024). This workshop will address the discomfort with asking about SU (e.g., stigma, lack of knowledge), how to inquire about SU health in a non-judgmental manner, and how to integrate measurement, harm reduction, and cognitive-behavioural (CBT) strategies into assessment. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss concerns and challenges about assessing for SU and to practice applying practical strategies through experiential exercises. The major categories of substances will be addressed, with the most common, cannabis and alcohol, receiving particular attention. Participants will leave the workshop with 1) Increased understanding of the spectrum of SU health; 2) Increased awareness of barriers to assessing for SU; 3) Knowledge and practice in asking relevant questions when assessing SU; 4) Knowledge and application of SU health measures in assessment; 5) Application of harm reduction and CBT strategies into assessment.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125173 - Standard Workshop

Adult ADHD Assessment: A Clinician's Toolbox for Graduate Trainees

Main Presenting Author: Chavoshi, Saeid

Abstract: *The assessment of ADHD in adults is an area of growing clinical demand, and many early-career clinicians and trainees report a need for greater formal training in this domain. This workshop is designed for graduate students and clinicians who wish to start building a foundation in adult ADHD assessment. We will review best practices for evaluating ADHD in adults, including conducting a structured clinical interview, selecting and interpreting screening tools and core assessment measures, and integrating multiple data sources into a coherent diagnostic formulation. Attention will be given to recognizing and managing common sources of diagnostic complexity, such as comorbid conditions and overlapping symptom presentations. By the end of the session, participants will have a clearer understanding of how to structure an adult ADHD assessment from start to finish, and a practical roadmap for developing their skills and obtaining appropriate supervision as they begin to offer this service in clinical practice.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126403 - Standard Workshop

Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) for Chronic Pain Management

Main Presenting Author: Hadjistavropoulos, Thomas

Abstract: *Evidence-based cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) interventions are widely used in the management of chronic pain. This workshop will familiarize participants with the theoretical foundations and rationale underlying these interventions. It will include a discussion of approaches to the psychological assessment of individuals with chronic pain, followed by an introduction to the application of a broad range of CBT techniques within chronic pain management. The session will be interactive and feature video-recorded demonstrations of CBT methods. A concise overview of the empirical evidence supporting CBT for chronic pain will also be provided.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 121538 - Standard Workshop

Meaning-Centered Men's Groups (MCMG): An Upstream Approach to Promoting Psychological Well-Being and Reducing Risk for Suicide among Middle-Aged and Older Men Transitioning to Retirement

Main Presenting Author: Heisel, Marnin J.

Abstract: *Middle-aged and older men have high rates of suicide, and the older adult population is growing rapidly (WHO, 2021), necessitating upstream interventions to reduce risk for suicide (Lapierre et al., 2011). We developed Meaning-Centered Men's Groups (MCMG; Heisel et al., 2016) in response to this key public health need.This interactive workshop will employ didactics, interactive discussion, and experiential exercises, providing an introduction to MCMG, a 12-session psychological intervention designed to prevent the onset or exacerbation of suicide risk in men*

transitioning to retirement. Based upon principles of Viktor Frankl's meaning-centered existential psychotherapy, MCMG builds upon findings of positive associations between Meaning in Life (MIL) and psychological well-being and negative associations between MIL and depression, hopelessness, and suicide ideation in later life (e.g., Heisel & Flett, 2016). Participants in the initial three uncontrolled courses of MCMG reported camaraderie and social support, and demonstrated increased psychological well-being and reductions in depression, hopelessness, and suicide ideation (Heisel et al., 2018, 2020). To date, we have delivered 15 courses of MCMG, in-person and online, including in an on-going RCT (vs. wait-list controls) for male Veterans and First-Responders 50 years and older who are facing career transition.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 126343 - Standard Workshop

Mood, Memory, and Menopause: What Psychologists Need to Know

Main Presenting Author: Belfry, Sandra

Abstract: *CPA Workshop ProposalTopic: Psychological assessment, diagnosis and treatment considerations for women experiencing the menopause transition.Novel: Formal education about menopause and related symptoms has not been a part of traditional psychological training programs. The mental health and cognitive health changes that can coincide with the menopause transition should be of clinical relevance to clinical psychologists and neuropsychologists. This workshop is designed to educate psychologists about the symptoms of menopause and how it is important to consider a woman's reproductive stage when providing psychological assessment, diagnosis and treatment. Purpose: The workshop will aim to provide psychologists with foundational knowledge, new diagnostic awareness, assessment tools, evidence-based treatment recommendations/strategies, cultural and ethical considerations, along with psychoeducational information for patients so that psychologists can expand their scope and improve psychological services provided to women. Addressing this important midlife reproductive health transition more effectively for women can lead to improvements in women's mental health and cognitive health across the lifespan.Relevance to Psychology:1. Foundational Knowledge-Psychological, cognitive, and emotional changes that can occur during perimenopause, menopause, and post-menopause will be described; as well as the professionally agreed upon symptoms and treatments. This information is based on evidence provided by the leading menopause educating bodies The Canadian Menopause Society (CMS), The Menopause Society (TMS), and The International Menopause Society (IMS).-Information will be provided to clarify menopause-related symptoms and differentiate them from primary mental health disorders that may present with overlapping features (e.g., depression, anxiety, cognitive changes).2. Diagnostic Awareness-The workshop will help psychologists to identify ways in which hormonal transitions can influence the presentation, severity, or course of mental health symptoms.-DSM-5-TR diagnostic criteria will be discussed and while considering the role of reproductive transitions.-Neuropsychological assessment considerations will be discussed in relation to brain fog complaints and other cognitive change concerns3. Assessment Skills-Learn about appropriate psychological assessment tools and clinical interview strategies to differentiate menopause-related symptoms from psychiatric conditions.-Evaluate sleep, mood, cognition, and stress changes through a biopsychosocial lens relevant to reproductive aging.-Assess the impact of midlife role transitions, identity changes, and psychosocial stressors on mental health and cognitive health.-Considerations for medical legal assessments and independent examinations will be addressed4. Intervention Planning Skills-Case conceptualizations will be presented that integrate biological, psychological, and social contributors to distress during reproductive transitions.-Evidence-based psychotherapy approaches (e.g., IPT, CBT-I, ACT) that can support women experiencing menopause-related psychological changes will be presented.-Learn how to effectively collaborate with medical providers when clients may benefit from*

multidisciplinary care.5. Ethical & Multicultural Competence-Various cultural, social, and contextual factors that impact symptom expression and diagnostic interpretation in midlife women will be addressed.-Common biases and gaps in clinical understanding of women's midlife health and how these influence assessment and treatment will be discussed along with the stigma and myths surrounding menopause in therapeutic contexts.-A trauma-informed and culturally responsive practice to menopause-related clinical work will be emphasized.6. Advocacy & Psychoeducation Skill development-Learn about psychoeducational information that will to help patients understand menopause and its potential effects on mental health.-Learn to promote client empowerment by supporting informed decision-making and self-advocacy within healthcare systems.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123061 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

Alcohol Use Among Transgender and Gender-Diverse Adults: New Findings on Context, Intervention, and Risk

Moderator(s): Courtice, Erin L

Abstract: *Transgender and gender-diverse (TGD) adults show elevated rates of alcohol use and related harms compared to non-TGD populations. Yet, research examining mechanisms and contexts of TGD drinking is limited. This symposium presents new research advancing understandings of when, why, and how TGD adults drink. Speaker 1 (S1) will present findings from a 21-day ecological momentary assessment (EMA) study examining how social contexts shape drinking patterns among TGD adults. Findings revealed that drinking risk is context-specific, with home-based social drinking, parties/events, and bar/restaurant contexts associated with heavier drinking compared to when alone at home. S2 will present 1-year follow-up data from the same EMA study, examining whether TGD adults benefited from screening, brief feedback, and referral to gender-inclusive resources for mental health and alcohol concerns. Results showed significant reductions in alcohol use disorder symptoms at follow-up. S3 will present analyses examining associations between intimate partner violence (IPV) experiences and alcohol use among TGD adults. Results will describe associations between IPV type, directionality, and alcohol use. Together, these presentations highlight contextual and interpersonal factors shaping TGD drinking and identify opportunities for harm reduction and intervention tailored to this population.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 125976 - Symposium

Alcohol Use and Intimate Partner Violence: Insights from a Transgender and Gender-Diverse Community Sample

Main Presenting Author: Palachi, Aaron

Additional Authors: Courtice, Erin L; Dermody, Sarah S; Day, M David

Abstract: *Transgender and gender-diverse (TGD) people experience disproportionately high rates of intimate partner violence (IPV) and alcohol use, reflecting the impact of minority stress and*

interpersonal victimization. Research with non-TGD populations suggests that IPV perpetration and victimization are linked to increased alcohol use; yet, little is known about how alcohol use patterns differ based on IPV type and directionality among TGD people. The goal of the current study was to examine these links.TGD adults (Mage = 32.7, SD = 9.6) completed an online survey with measures of IPV-tactics (SGM-CTS2), minority stress, and harmful alcohol use (AUDIT). So far, 176 out of 300 participants have been recruited; of these, 49.3% reported any IPV, of which, 76% was from a current relationship. Among those who reported IPV, 71% consume alcohol 2-4 times or more/week. Using logistic regression, we will examine associations between harmful alcohol use and IPV severity by subtype.Early patterns in the data suggest differences in alcohol use across IPV directionality groups. Examining harmful alcohol use in the context of TGD-IPV will provide insight into how alcohol use and IPV intersect in a marginalized community. Findings can help to inform more nuanced screening, risk assessment, and intervention tailored to gender-diverse communities.

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 126047 - Paper within a symposium

Longitudinal changes in anxiety, depression, and alcohol use disorder symptoms in gender-diverse adults

Main Presenting Author: Dermody, Sarah S

Additional Authors: Courtice, Erin L; Amarasekara, Anurada; Quinn, F Theodore; Hart, Trevor A; Abramovich, Alex

Abstract: *Background: Transgender and gender diverse (TGD) adults experience gender minority stressors (e.g., transphobia, victimization, gender non-affirmation), which increases risk for anxiety, depression, and alcohol-related problems. We examined if screening and providing tailored feedback and TGD-inclusive resources could reduce these symptoms. Methods: A community sample of 99 TGD adults who drink alcohol completed a baseline interview and 21-days of ecological momentary assessments. Participants received tailored written feedback based on depression (PHQ-9), anxiety (GAD-7), and alcohol use disorder (AUDIT) symptoms. One year later, they completed follow-up screening and provided qualitative feedback on the impact of receiving screening and feedback. Results: At baseline, individuals with complete versus missing follow-up data did not differ on PHQ-9, GAD-7, and AUDIT scores. Using complete case analyses (n = 64), there were significant reductions over time in AUDIT scores (Mdiff = 1.65, SD = 2.86, d = 0.58, p < .001), but not PHQ-9 scores (Mdiff = 0.68, SD = 6.36, d = 0.11, p = .868) or GAD-7 scores (Mdiff = 0.05, SD = 1.10, d = 0.04, p = .722). Thematic analyses will examine text responses. Discussion: TGD adults may reduce alcohol-related symptoms following screening, personalized feedback, and providing resources; whereas, mental health symptoms may require further support.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 126039 - Paper within a symposium

Momentary Minority Stress, Resilience, and Social Context as Predictors of Drinking Risk in TGD Adults

Main Presenting Author: Courtice, Erin L

Additional Authors: Wardell, Jeffrey D; Hart, Trevor A; Saewyc, M Elizabeth; Abramovich, Alex; Dermody, Sarah S

Abstract: *Transgender and gender-diverse (TGD) adults face elevated alcohol-related harms linked to minority stress. This ecological momentary assessment (EMA) study is the first to examine how social contexts, minority stress, and minority resilience shape TGD people's drinking episodes. TGD adults (N=98) completed a 21-day EMA study, including daily morning and participant-initiated surveys when beginning drinking, followed by timed surveys. Latent class analysis identified six social context patterns from indicators of companionship and setting. Multilevel models tested associations between context classes and drinking initiation, in-episode consumption, intoxication, and craving, as well as whether within- and between-person minority stress and resilience moderated associations. Compared to drinking alone at home, three contexts: home-based social drinking, parties/events, and bar/restaurants were associated with heavier drinking, greater intoxication, and higher craving. Prior evening bar/restaurant drinking predicted more next-day harms and hangover severity. Within-person resilience was linked to fewer next-day harms ($B = -0.09$, $p < .01$) and more benefits ($B = 0.10$, $p < .01$) regardless of drinking context. Findings show that drinking risk among TGD adults is context-specific and resilience is not uniformly protective, suggesting the need for context-sensitive harm reduction*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 126034 - Paper within a symposium

Building Self-Compassion in Self-Critical Minds: Insights from Trials, Experiments, and Lived Experience

Moderator(s): Kelly, Allison C.

Abstract: *Self-compassion is a robust predictor of resilience and well-being, yet gaps remain in understanding how to cultivate it among individuals accustomed to self-criticism. This symposium integrates experimental and qualitative methods to examine how social and therapeutic contexts and approaches shape the accessibility and impact of self-compassion. Study 1 presents a pre-registered single-session randomized controlled trial showing that self-critical individuals experience the most consistent reductions in distress when using compassion-focused strategies that target soothing physiology compared to cognitive-focused strategies that target logical thinking. Study 2 draws on qualitative interviews with individuals with eating disorders to identify contextual barriers, benefits, and client-centered strategies for integrating self-compassion into feared food exposures. Study 3 uses an experimental peer-modeling paradigm demonstrating that under certain circumstances, brief exposure to a self-compassionate peer can enhance personal self-compassion days later. Together, studies show how social environments and thoughtful intervention design jointly shape the development of self-compassion in self-critical minds. The discussion will consider mechanisms that unify these findings and next steps for optimizing self-compassion interventions in real-world settings.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125901 - Symposium

Addressing the momentary distress of highly self-critical individuals: A single-session intervention study comparing compassion- and cognitive-focused approaches

Main Presenting Author: Mitrovic, Michelle

Additional Author: Kelly, Allison C.

Abstract: *The self-attacking of individuals high in trait self-criticism gives rise to frequent episodes of psychological distress that confer vulnerability to psychopathology. Cognitive interventions aim to alleviate momentary distress via balanced thinking, whereas compassion-focused interventions aim to generate soothed physiology via self-compassion. To determine which approach better explains and treats momentary distress in self-critical individuals, we conducted a randomized controlled trial of single-session Self-Compassion, Cognitive Restructuring, and Control interventions in a student (N = 577) and community sample (N = 123). We predicted that in the face of momentary inadequacy, individuals high in trait self-criticism would experience the greatest reductions in state distress in the Compassion condition via higher soothing affect. Results partially supported hypotheses. Across samples, both Compassion and Cognitive interventions reduced distress. In the student sample, trait self-criticism moderated the effect of condition outcomes. Among high self-critics, Compassion consistently reduced distress more than Control and promoted more soothing affect than Cognitive. Soothing affect, in turn, predicted reduced distress. Thus, compassion-based approaches that cultivate soothing affect may be especially effective for moments of inadequacy-based distress among high self-critics.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125925 - Paper within a symposium

Less is more: Hearing a peer's experience with self-compassion without emphasizing benefits promotes subsequent personal self-compassion

Main Presenting Author: Grove, Monica

Additional Author: Kelly, Allison C.

Abstract: *Self-compassion is a robust predictor of well-being, but its predictors in everyday life are surprisingly unknown. Drawing on social cognitive theory, we hypothesized that exposure to self-compassion in peers, a key social-contextual cue, may promote one's own self-compassion via observational learning, particularly when the behaviour leads to beneficial outcomes for the other. In an experimental study, undergraduate women with low trait self-compassion (N = 244) listened to an audio clip of an alleged peer describing academic stress (a) alone (control condition); (b) with self-compassion; or (c) with self-compassion, emphasizing its beneficial outcomes. They reported their own state self-compassion vis-à-vis academic stress 2-4 days later. Contrary to social cognitive theory, there was no benefit of hearing a peer display self-compassion when beneficial outcomes were emphasized; however, participants who heard the peer describe self-compassion without emphasizing benefits reported greater state self-compassion 2-4 days later compared to both other conditions. Results suggest that brief exposure to self-compassion in others may be beneficial to the observer's subsequent state self-compassion; however, emphasizing benefits of self-compassion may not be helpful. Findings expand theoretical and practical knowledge about self-compassion by highlighting social contextual influences.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125936 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding experiences with and perspectives of incorporating self-compassion into feared food exposures: A qualitative study

Main Presenting Author: Shaw, Jenessa L.

Additional Author: Kelly, Allison C.

Abstract: *Feared food exposures are a core component of eating disorder treatment and entail eating an anxiety-eliciting food without engaging in compensatory behaviours. These exposures can be highly distressing and are seen by some clinicians as contributing to treatment dropout. Given self-compassion's soothing physiological effects, it may help clients navigate the emotional challenges they face during feared food exposures. To understand clients' perspectives on this possibility, we interviewed 19 Canadian adults (mean age=30.84) with an eating disorder who had completed a feared food exposure during treatment. During a 90-minute interview, participants were guided to imagine offering themselves compassion through a food exposure and to reflect on how this approach would impact their experience. Thematic analysis identified four main themes: challenges to using self-compassion in exposures (e.g., recovery conflict limits ability to validate); strategies used to overcome these challenges (e.g., using compassionate action when self-talk is too hard); potential benefits of integrating self-compassion (e.g., increasing ability to tolerate distress); and the need for a client-centered approach (e.g., context impacts readiness). Together, these findings outline the promise and challenges of integrating self-compassion into feared food exposures and offer practical guidance for clinicians.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125934 - Paper within a symposium

Changing Spouses Changes Emergency First Responders: Exploring Changes in Spouse and Emergency First Responder Health and Wellbeing Following a Psychoeducation Program

Moderator(s): Schwartz, Kelly

Abstract: *Almost half (45%) of Canadian emergency first responders (EFR; i.e., firefighters, police officers, and paramedics) report suffering from one or more mental disorders (Carleton et al., 2018), many of which are the result of experiencing potentially psychologically traumatic events (PPTE). As a result of the extraordinary impacts of operational stress and trauma brought into the home by the EFR member, spouses and significant others (SSO) also often encounter distinctive experiences and challenges that place them at an increased risk for developing mental health and relationship challenges. The current symposium will present three papers exploring how a virtual psychoeducation and support program called Re: Building Families (RBF; Schwartz et al., 2022; Harris et al., 2022) not only changed the participating SSO, but also the nonparticipating EFR. Paper 1 will show how changes in SSO family functioning and mental wellbeing were also reflected in self-reported functioning of the EFR. Paper 2 will share how these changes were moderated by the pre-program posttraumatic stress levels of the EFR. Paper 3 will report on changes in biometric functioning for pairs of SSO and EFR following the RBF program. Discussion will focus on how upstream psychoeducation programming can impact positive change within and between the EFR and SSO.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124861 - Symposium

After the Siren Sounds: Traumatic Stress in Emergency First Responders and Its Impact on Spousal Perceptions of Family Life and Response to Intervention

Main Presenting Author: Riondino, Giulia
Co-Presenting Authors: Bernard, Brianna; Wax, Rachel

Additional Authors: Schwartz, Kelly ; Ioachim, Gabriela

Abstract: *Emergency first responders (EFR) face daily exposure to trauma, which not only impacts their own mental health, but ripples throughout their family. This study investigates how post-traumatic stress symptoms (PTSS) in police, firefighters, and paramedics shape their spouses' perception of family functioning and influences their response to a psychoeducation and support program. EFR and their spouses completed questionnaires before the Re:Building Families (RBF) program, right after, and 3 months following the program. This study will consider two measures: the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Checklist to assess EFR symptom severity and the McMaster Family Assessment Device to evaluate family communication and emotional involvement. Preliminary analyses demonstrate that family functioning improved over the course of RBF (Talebi, 2024) and 34% of EFRs present with clinical level PTSS. This project aims to evaluate how EFR's PTSS relates to how the family operates, and how well their spouses respond to supportive interventions. We anticipate that PTSS levels in EFRs will be positively correlated with poorer family functioning. Additionally, families with higher reported PTSS may need more tailored support and therefore may demonstrate weaker responses to the program. This work strengthens the foundation for tailored supports that bolster wellbeing across first-responder families.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125785 - Paper within a symposium

Changing Me Changes You: Effects of a Spouse Psychoeducation Program on Emergency First Responder Partners

Main Presenting Author: Schwartz, Kelly
Co-Presenting Author: Ioachim, Gabriela

Additional Author: Sierra Hernandez, Carlos

Abstract: *Emergency first responders (EFR), including police, firefighters, and paramedics, are routinely exposed to operational stressors and potentially psychologically traumatic events (PPTE), heightening their risk for psychological distress and mental health challenges (Carleton et al., 2018). These impacts often extend to EFR families, contributing to relational strain and vicarious trauma (Casas & Benuto, 2021). This study examines how a 6-module psychoeducational and support program (Re: Building Families; RBF) for EFR spouses and significant others (SSO) indirectly produces reciprocal change in the EFR. A total of 226 SSO and 148 EFR members completed pre-, post-, and 3-month follow-up questionnaires assessing areas of family functioning (FAD; Epstein et al., 1983) and family satisfaction (FSS; Olson, 1989). Although the EFR did not participate in the RBF program, linear mixed model analysis found that positive and significant changes in SSO in communication, roles, and behavioural control were also found in the EFR. Findings will inform discussions on how SSO-focused interventions enhance FR well-being, with implications for designing trauma-sensitive programs that improve both individual and relational outcomes for FR families.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125771 - Paper within a symposium

Discussant

Main Presenting Author: Fournier, Amelie

Abstract: *Dr. Amélie Fournier is a registered psychologist through the Saskatchewan College of Psychologist and l'Ordre des psychologues du Québec who has been providing services for the past 13 years. She is a national expert on operational stress and trauma and serves as the National Francophone Implementation Lead & Clinical Psychologist at PSPNET Canada, a Public Safety Personnel Internet-Delivered Cognitive Behaviour Therapy program. She also contributes to the RCMP Longitudinal Study on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Dr. Fournier will critically respond to these three papers and provide subject matter expert reflection on their application to the Canadian first responder community and their families.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125812 - Paper within a symposium

Do You Feel What I Feel?: Symmetry in Spouse and EFR Member Biometric Indicators of Stress Following Spouse Participation in a Psychoeducation Program

Main Presenting Author: Ioachim, Gabriela
Co-Presenting Authors: Bernard, Brianna; Schwartz, Kelly

Additional Author: Lethebe, Cord

Abstract: *Emergency First Responders (EFR) experience poor mental health outcomes due to occupational stressors, which often translate to family systems (Traynor et al., 2024). The Re: Building Families (RBF) program is a psychoeducational program for spouses of EFR that focuses on recognizing and addressing the effects of operational stress in the home. 226 spouses of fire, paramedic, and police members completed the RBF program and provided baseline, post-session, and follow-up measures of mental and family health; 148 EFR responded to the same measures. We also evaluated objective changes in stress during and after the RBF program using Garmin devices that provided measures of continuous heart rate variability, daily resting heart rate, and number of wake events during a sleep cycle. All participants wore the Garmins continuously from the start of the RBF program through completion and a follow-up assessment (20 weeks total). Preliminary findings from an interrupted time-series analyses indicate measures of stress are more similar within spouse-EFR dyads after the program completion, and that changes in physiological stress measurements depend on the EFR sector. This study is one of the first to examine objective stress outcomes from an EFR families program, and the first to examine how proactive education for one family member may influence the wider family unit.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125806 - Paper within a symposium

Finding the Right Fit: Enhancing Psychosocial Treatment Acceptability for Persisting Symptoms After Concussion (PSaC)

Moderator(s): Cairncross, Molly

Abstract: *Persisting symptoms after concussion (PSaC) are strongly predicted by psychosocial factors, placing psychologists and neuropsychologists at the forefront of post-concussion care. Still, many patients prefer to seek biomedical treatments over psychosocial alternatives, putting the acceptability of these approaches into question. This symposium examines determinants of psychosocial treatment acceptability by integrating perspectives from patients, caregivers, and clinicians. Hiba Al-Hakeem (PhD Candidate) will present data from Move&Connect, an interdisciplinary, group-based program*

for youth with PSaC and their caregivers. The program combines psychoeducation, skill-building, and rehabilitation exercises, exploring which aspects align with family needs and promote engagement. Mack Hancock (PhD Student) will discuss findings from the PatACT trial, an RCT comparing high-dose psilocybin-assisted therapy to active control dose psilocybin-assisted therapy for adults with PSaC, aimed at identifying who benefits most from integrative therapeutic approaches. Caitlin Courchesne (PhD Candidate) will present a grounded theory study of clinician experiences treating PSaC in tertiary rehabilitation, outlining processes that foster therapeutic alliance amid divergent understandings of PSaC. Together, these presentations highlight critical pathways to improving PSaC care across the lifespan.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122987 - Symposium

Evaluating the Safety and Feasibility of Psilocybin-Assisted Psychotherapy for Persisting Symptoms After Concussion

Main Presenting Author: Hancock , Mack

Additional Authors: Campbell, Christina ; O'Grady, Kaitlin; Mayo, Leah; Debert, Chantel

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Persisting symptoms after concussion (PSaC) are often maintained by emotional dysregulation and cognitive inflexibility-core targets of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT). Psilocybin-assisted psychotherapy (PAP) may enhance emotional openness and engagement with ACT, but its safety, feasibility, and acceptability in individuals with PSaC remain unknown. Methods: This double-blind, randomized, active-controlled trial enrolls 40 adults with PSaC (≥3m-5y post-injury) and is randomized to either high-dose or active-control psilocybin with five weekly ACT sessions. Primary outcomes are safety and feasibility. Secondary outcomes assess psychological flexibility and symptom change. Multiple linear regression will test improvements across follow-ups ($\alpha = 0.05$, 95% CI), with exploratory analyses evaluating whether expectancy predicts therapeutic response. Results: Data collection is ongoing; preliminary observations indicate strong engagement and acceptability. Conclusions: The trial will assess whether PAP is a safe and feasible intervention in a population with PSaC. Action/Impact: As the first clinical trial of PAP for PSaC, findings may inform future clinical pathways for PSaC.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126004 - Paper within a symposium

Meaningful components and engagement processes in the Move&Connect interventions: A qualitative study of youth and caregiver experiences with psychosocial concussion care

Main Presenting Author: Al Hakeem, Hiba

Additional Authors: Hickling, Andrea ; Madge-Nyren, Sophie; Lovell, Andrew ; Mallory, Kylie; Miller, Carlin; Scratch, Shannon

Abstract: *Background: Youth with persisting symptoms after concussion (PSaC) and their caregivers experience biopsychosocial challenges. Move&Connect (M&C) is a virtual interdisciplinary group program with parallel interventions for youth (M&C-Youth) and caregivers (M&C-Caregivers) that combines psychoeducation and skill building with exercises for youth. Understanding how families experience intervention components is essential to improving engagement and acceptability of PSaC*

care. Methods: Semi-structured interviews were conducted (16 youth, 19 caregivers). Directed content analysis, informed by a motivational engagement framework, and inductive coding were used. Results: Cognitive, affective, and behavioural examples of engagement were identified. Youth engagement was supported by comfort in the virtual setting, adaptable exercises, and trust and validation. Ongoing symptoms, discrepancies between exercises and abilities, and familiar content reduced youth participation. Caregivers engaged through belief in M&C-C, emotional connection, and active involvement. Barriers to caregiver participation included stress, competing demands, and limited reminders. Conclusions: Families viewed M&C as a supportive intervention that addressed their needs. Impact: Findings highlight key engagement processes that may strengthen the acceptability and uptake of rehabilitative interventions for PSaC.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125855 - Paper within a symposium

Navigating uncertainty in persisting symptoms after concussion (PSaC): A grounded theory study of clinician approaches to psychological care

Main Presenting Author: Courchesne, Caitlin

Additional Author: Cairncross, Molly

Abstract: *Background: Belief in a biological symptom origin dominates the treatment-seeking landscape for adults with persisting symptoms after concussion (PSaC). Little is known about how mental health clinicians bridge etiological tensions and foster psychotherapy engagement. Methods: 9 clinicians (6 neuropsychologists, 3 occupational therapists; M=12.1y experience treating PSaC) completed semi-structured interviews. Transcripts were analyzed using methods of constructivist grounded theory. Results: Clinicians avoid debating symptom origin, viewing etiological arguments as clinically unproductive. Instead, they validate clients' suffering, emphasize client agency in symptom reduction, and ground intervention rationales in brain-behaviour principles to strengthen coherence. Through repeated experiences of symptom management, clinicians use emerging treatment gains to gently challenge threat-related illness beliefs and cultivate hope for recovery. Conclusions: Effective psychological care for PSaC involves normalizing etiological uncertainty, zooming out from concussion to identify actionable symptom targets, and integrating a neuropsychological lens to validate clients' cognitive representations of PSaC. Impact: Providers should recognize the sociopolitical and gendered contexts of PSaC and adopt a collaborative stance that promotes agency without reinforcing maladaptive illness beliefs.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124599 - Paper within a symposium

From Research to Practice: Development, Validation, and Use of the Diagnostic Assessment Research Tool (DART)

Moderator(s): Milosevic, Irena

Abstract: *Accurate screening and diagnosis of mental health concerns is essential for treatment planning and research across settings, including community care. Existing tools are strong but often costly and lengthy, limiting accessibility and flexibility for providers and clients. There is a need for an open-access, reliable, valid, and adaptable tool usable across diverse settings and populations. This symposium introduces the Diagnostic Assessment Research Tool (DART), developed by clinicians*

and clinician-scientists with expertise in a broad range of mental health difficulties. Its development reflects collaboration among academic, clinical, research, and community stakeholders. DART is now used internationally by clinicians from varied backgrounds. The talks will review its history, purpose, and development and cover the screener's sensitivity in predicting diagnoses, the DART's psychometric data from a large-scale validation study, and a learner's perspective on training. The DART reduces barriers to care by offering an open-access, standardized tool that saves clinician time, lessens client burden, and integrates advances such as assessing minority stress.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126266 - Symposium

DART in Focus: Validity, Reliability, and Diagnostic Accuracy for DSM-5 Disorders

Main Presenting Author: Pawluk, Elizabeth J

Additional Authors: Milosevic, Irena ; Scott, Andrew; McCabe, E Randi

Abstract: *Background: The Diagnostic Assessment Research Tool (DART) was developed to provide clinicians and researchers with a high-quality interview for identifying DSM-5 mental disorders. Its modular design allows each module to function independently or be combined for customized assessments. This study evaluated the psychometric properties of several DART modules in a clinical setting, focusing on validity, reliability, and diagnostic concordance with the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-5 (SCID-5). Method: Participants were recruited from an outpatient anxiety clinic. Study components including self-report questionnaires and a DART interview, and random assignment to an additional DART or SCID interview. Modules assessed depressive disorders, social anxiety disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder, agoraphobia, specific phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder. Results: Preliminary findings support the validity of DART diagnoses relative to self-report measures and show excellent concordance with SCID-5. Interrater reliability was strong and two-week test-retest reliability was excellent. Conclusion: The results indicate that DART is an effective tool for identifying common DSM-5 mental disorders, offering strong reliability and validity.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126303 - Paper within a symposium

Finding the right door: Exploring patient's accuracy at self-identifying mental health concerns

Main Presenting Author: Parkinson, Sydney

Additional Authors: Pawluk, Elizabeth J; Scott, Andrew; Matsumoto, M Katelyn; McCabe, Randi E

Abstract: *Screening tools highlight symptoms needing further assessment and reduce demand for diagnostic interviews. The Diagnostic Assessment Research Tool (DART) Screener evaluates whether individuals can accurately self-identify mental health diagnoses. Individuals (n=309) at the Anxiety Treatment and Research Clinic completed the DART Screener, assessing symptoms of anxiety and related disorders, depressive disorders, alcohol use disorder, substance use disorder, and psychosis. Individuals indicated whether symptoms cause impairment and ranked their top three concerns. A clinician blinded to screener responses then administered the DART interview. Overall, 36% of individuals' top-ranked concern matched their principal diagnosis, while 65% had one of their top three concerns endorsed as their principal diagnosis. Additionally, 70% of individuals ranking an*

anxiety disorder first received an anxiety disorder principal diagnosis, compared to 13% for mood disorders. Fifty-five percent of top-ranked concerns predicted principal or additional diagnosis, while 80% had at least one of their top three concerns reflected in diagnostic outcomes. Considering impairment improved accuracy in predicting diagnoses. Findings highlight the potential for self-report screeners to reduce assessment barriers and enhance access to appropriate care.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126288 - Paper within a symposium

Getting trained on the Diagnostic Assessment Research Tool (DART): A learner's perspective

Main Presenting Author: Jamalifar, Rei
Co-Presenting Author: Alarachi, Arij

Abstract: *Introduction: Training in diagnostic assessment and formulation is a foundational experience for trainees, and guidance on how to effectively train learners in providing evidence-based assessments is crucial. Aim: This presentation outlines the three-phase DART training protocol from a trainee perspective, providing insights into the learning experience and its impact. Training Protocol: In Phase I, trainees engage in weekly training sessions, supplemented by self-directed preparation involving review of specific DART modules and their corresponding DSM-5 sections. Each session involves a detailed walkthrough of modules, focusing on differential diagnosis, follow-up questions, and strategies for clarifying vague patient responses. Phase II involves observing three DART assessments to enhance comprehension of administration procedures. In Phase III, trainees complete a mock assessment and proceed to administer three supervised DART assessments with patients, providing an opportunity for feedback. Significance: DART training strengthens foundational diagnostic skills and deepens understanding of symptomatology and diagnostic criteria. Repeated administration fosters enduring comprehension of diagnostic intricacies. Integrating the DART into training curricula offers a valuable opportunity for improving emerging scientist-clinicians' clinical knowledge and diagnostic skills.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126307 - Paper within a symposium

Improvements for sexual education that reflect the realities of young adults' sexting behaviours

Moderator(s): Blais, Julie

Abstract: *As sexting (i.e., sharing of sexually explicit messages, images, or videos) has become a common sexual behaviour among young adults, sexual education programs should be updated to address sexting and help prevent harmful sexting behaviours. Sexual education on sexting tends to rely on abstinence-only or fear-based paradigms, without acknowledging safe sexting. As such, this symposium will explore ways to enhance sexual education to better meet the needs of youth, while addressing harmful sexting behaviours and promoting a sex-positive approach to consensual sexting behaviours. In the first talk, using grounded-theory, McArthur and Blais explore how young adults (N = 31) navigate consent while sexting, to understand how sexual education could better reflect the realities of young adults' sexting practices. Next, Davidson et al. explore the effect of different message framing on undergraduate students' (N = 290) perceptions of consensual sexting and the non-consensual dissemination of sexts. Last, Holmes et al. explore the effect of message framing on undergraduate students' (N = 290) willingness to send consensual sexts and to non-consensually*

disseminate the sexts of others. Together, these talks explore factors that could be incorporated into sexual education programs to help decrease the prevalence of harmful sexting behaviours.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123653 - Symposium

"Like a Dance": A constructivist grounded theory study of young adults' consent practices in sexting

Main Presenting Author: McArthur, Jennifer

Additional Author: Blais, Julie

Abstract: *Given the high prevalence of sexting and its documented overlap with non-consensual image-sharing and coercion, understanding how young adults navigate consent in these interactions is essential for developing education programs that reflect the contemporary realities of sexual communication. To explore this, data were collected through semi-structured interviews with 31 young adults and analyzed using constructivist grounded theory. Findings revealed that the negotiation of consent in sexting unfolded across three interrelated categories, conceptualized through a hiking metaphor. The Terrain captures participants' shared understanding that the distance technology creates serves as both an aid and a barrier to negotiating consent. The Journey represents the process of interpreting and managing consent within this challenging space, employing strategies like graduated escalation, reciprocity, explicit inquiry, and post-hoc affirmation. Underpinning this process is The Map, a set of pre-existing expectations and beliefs shaped by cultural understandings of consent, gender norms, and relationship histories. Together, these insights highlight the complexities of navigating consent in a novel context, underscoring the need for sexual education programs that address the unique challenges of sexual communication online.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123654 - Paper within a symposium

Does sexting messaging influence perceptions of consensual and non-consensual sexting in undergraduate students?

Main Presenting Author: Davidson, Myles

Additional Authors: Holmes, Emma J.; Babchishin, Kelly

Abstract: *Sexting is common among young people, with as many as 80% reporting they have sent a sext. Despite the prevalence of sexting, education on sexting leans heavily on abstinence and legal paradigms rather than evidence-based messaging focused on potential consequences and safe sexting strategies. Although message framing can influence sexting behaviour and knowledge, past research has focused primarily on legal messaging. This study addresses that gap by testing whether evidence-based sexting messaging can shape perceptions of sexting differentially than legal and neutral sexting messaging. Preliminary analyses conducted with 290 undergraduates (Mage = 20; 79% female) revealed a significant effect of messaging condition on perceptions of general sexting [F(3, 286) = 3.78, p = .011, h2p = .04] and non-consensually disseminating sexts [F(3, 286) = 3.35, p = .020, h2p = .03]. Those in the evidence-based condition rated general sexting more favourably and non-consensually disseminating sexts less favourably than those in the legal condition (d = 0.49 and d = 0.53, respectively). These findings underscore the potential role of evidence-based sexting messaging*

in reducing positive perceptions of illegal sexting behaviour while simultaneously promoting safe sexting.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123655 - Paper within a symposium

The impact of messaging on the willingness to send sexts in undergraduate students

Main Presenting Author: Holmes, Emma J.

Additional Authors: Davidson, Myles ; Babchishin, Kelly

Abstract: *Effective sexting education requires understanding not only whether young people's perceptions of sexting can be influenced by educational messaging (Paper 2 of this symposium), but also whether these messages can influence behavioural intentions. The present study builds on Study 2 by testing whether participants who were randomly assigned to one of four messaging conditions (presenting legal information, safer-sexting strategies, information about sexting, or an unrelated control topic) subsequently reported different willingness to engage in sexting behaviours. Our preliminary analyses (N = 290; Mage = 20; 79% female) found that the messaging condition did not influence participants' willingness to send a consensual sext (F(3,185) = 1.67, p = .175, h2p = .03), nor their willingness to non-consensually disseminate sexts (F(3,286) = 0.14, p = .939, h2p = .001). Unlike Davidson et al., the present results do not suggest a differential impact of messaging type on participants' willingness to send consensual sexts and to non-consensually disseminate sexts. In sum, our intervention (i.e., a short infographic) was strong enough to influence participants' perceptions of sexting, but not strong enough to influence their behavioural intentions. As such, longer or more interactive interventions may be necessary to effectively target young peoples' behavioural intentions to sext.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123657 - Paper within a symposium

Informing Inclusive Mental Health Systems and Policies for Refugee Populations: Refugee Youth Voices on Mental Health, Resilience, and Service Gaps

Moderator(s): Cameranesi, Margherita

Abstract: *Background & Rationale: Refugee youth experience unique mental health challenges shaped by displacement, racism, and systemic barriers, yet their voices remain underrepresented in research and service design. Methods: This symposium presents findings from a participatory action research (PAR) project conducted in partnership with refugee youth and service providers in a mid-sized Central Canadian city. Drawing on walking interviews with 38 racialized refugee youth (ages 12-21), the project aimed to explore youth perspectives on mental health, resilience, and well-being. Results: Together, the research findings offer critical insights into how refugee youth conceptualize mental health and resilience, and how their everyday geographies and lived experiences shape access to supports. Conclusions: Refugee youth conceptualized mental health collectively, emphasizing relational, cultural, and spiritual dimensions of coping and adaptation. Impact: Findings underscore the importance of participatory, youth-led, trauma-informed, and strengths-based approaches to mental health research and policy. Recommendations include integrating cultural responsiveness, community connections, spirituality, and youth engagement into mental health systems and policies to promote equity and inclusion in care for refugee populations.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123259 - Symposium

A Double-Edged Sword: Responsibility, Aspiration, and Mental Health Among Refugee Youth

Main Presenting Author: Wahabi, Seeba

Additional Authors: Cameranesi, Margherita ; Alvarez Del Angel, Melissa; Moore, Jacqueline; Piotrowski, Caroline C.

Abstract: *Background. Refugee youth often carry significant responsibilities within their families and communities, while also holding ambitious personal goals and aspirations. These intertwined demands can both support and strain mental health, creating a double-edged dynamic that remains understudied.Methods. Drawing on a participatory study with 38 racialized refugee youth in a mid-sized Central Canadian city, we used walking interviews and youth-generated photographs to explore how responsibilities and future aspirations influence well-being. Data were analyzed using framework analysis.Results. Youth described heavy emotional and practical responsibilities, including caring for family members and academic pressure, which often led to stress, fatigue, and feelings of guilt when they could not meet expectations. At the same time, participants emphasized that goals and dreams, such as educational success, career ambitions, and desires to support family, were powerful sources of motivation, identity, and hope.Conclusions. Responsibility and aspiration operated as a double-edged sword, simultaneously impairing and strengthening youth's resilience, with complex implications for mental health.Impact. Programs should recognize both sides of this dynamic by offering supports that reduce pressure while nurturing youths' goals. Strengths-based, culturally grounded practices can help youth pursue aspirations without carrying responsibilities alone.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123269 - Paper within a symposium

Faith and Meaning-Making: Religion as Foundation of Refugee Youth Mental Health and Resilience

Main Presenting Author: Alvarez Del Angel, Melissa

Additional Authors: Cameranesi, Margherita ; Wahabi, Seeba; Moore, Jacqueline ; Piotrowski, Caroline C.

Abstract: *Background. While often overlooked in mental health research, religious faith and spirituality are significant coping and meaning-making resources for many refugee youth living in Canada. Methods. This study used a participatory action research approach to examine how racialized refugee youth living in an urban setting in Central Canada experience the role of religious commitment and spiritual belief in shaping their mental health, resilience, and well-being. Narrative and pictorial data was collected by completing walking interviews with 38 youth participants ages 12-21 years and analyzed using framework analysis. Results. Youth described faith as a source of hope, gratitude, identity, community, and emotional regulation. Faith practices, such as prayer, religious study, and participation in congregational life, were associated with feelings of peace, purpose, gratitude, and social support. Conclusions. Faith emerged as a deeply embedded, multidimensional resource that shaped youths' emotional, relational, and spiritual experiences of coping. Impact. Clinicians and researchers should consider faith as central to many refugee youths' frameworks for understanding and managing mental health. Inclusive, spiritually sensitive practices should be embedded into mental health services and research methodologies.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123264 - Paper within a symposium

The Role of Community Connections and Sense of Belonging in Refugee Youth Mental Health and Resilience

Main Presenting Author: Moore, Jacqueline

Additional Authors: Cameranesi, Margherita ; Wahabi, Seeba; Alvarez Del Angel, Melissa; Piotrowski, Caroline C.

Abstract: *Background. A growing body of literature suggests that community connection and a sense of belonging play protective roles in refugee youth mental health. Methods. This study explores how racialized refugee youth conceptualize and experience belonging, and how community ties shape their mental health and resilience. We conducted walking interviews with 38 racialized refugee youth living in a mid-size city in Central Canada and analyzed narrative and pictorial data generated with these activities using framework analysis. Results. Youth described belonging as emerging from both formal (e.g., schools, faith groups, and community centres) and informal (e.g., peer networks and sports teams) connections, and emphasized the importance of culturally affirming spaces, shared language, and opportunities for mutual support. Youth also expressed ambivalence about "fitting in" versus maintaining cultural identity.Conclusions. Youth described their connections as complex and varied - some relationships fostered resilience, others caused harm, while some were experienced ambivalently.Impact. Programs seeking to promote refugee youth mental health should invest in creating culturally safe spaces that foster inclusion, collective identity, and trust. Researchers are encouraged to engage with youth in mapping the relational geographies of belonging in their communities.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123267 - Paper within a symposium

Youth-Identified Mental Health and Service Needs: Findings from Walking Interviews with Refugee Youth

Main Presenting Author: Cameranesi, Margherita

Additional Authors: Wahabi, Seeba ; Moore, Jacqueline; Alvarez Del Angel, Melissa; Piotrowski, Caroline C.

Abstract: *Background. Despite growing recognition of refugee youth mental health as a priority in the Global North, few studies directly engage youth in identifying their mental health concerns and service needs. This study centers refugee youths' perspectives to better understand the challenges they face and the supports they consider meaningful.Methods. Using a participatory action research approach, walking interviews with 38 racialized refugee youth living in a mid-sized Central Canadian city were conducted to explore youths' mental health concerns and their views on helpful, accessible, or missing services. Narrative and visual data were examined using framework analysis.Results. Youth highlighted the mental health impacts of potentially traumatic events, such as exposure to war and religious persecution, separation from family members, intergenerational conflict, acculturation stress, academic pressure, and economic insecurity. Anxiety, loneliness, and emotional isolation were frequently reported, particularly in the absence of culturally relevant supports. Participants identified trusted adults, peer mentors, and culturally responsive school- and community-based services as*

critical but often underfunded or unavailable. Language barriers, stigma, and fear of institutional systems emerged as major obstacles to accessing care.Conclusions. Refugee youth articulated clear mental health priorities and emphasized that supportive relationships and culturally relevant services are essential yet inconsistently available.Impact. Findings point to the need for co-designed, youth-centered, culturally responsive mental health services that build on existing community strengths and reduce institutional barriers to care.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123276 - Paper within a symposium

Interventions for perinatal mental health: Implications for family-centered care inclusive of sexual and gender minority parents

Moderator(s): Cameron, Emily

Abstract: *Exposure to parental mental health is well-established as a key risk factor for adverse child developmental outcomes, given the association with harsh and punitive parenting practices. Children experiencing one or both parents with chronic and untreated mental health concerns are at increased risk for developmental delay, poor academic functioning, and later psychopathology. There is a clear need to identify parents in need of support and ensure evidence-based treatment options are available to promote optimal child development. The proposed symposium will explore these topics across three key populations with presentations intended to mirror the evolution of focus in the field of perinatal research from mothers to fathers to sexual and gender minority parents. The first presentation will provide background information on perinatal mood disorders in mothers and the evaluation of a virtual reality treatment to address these concerns. The second presentation will then expand on this work to include investigation of perinatal mood concerns in fathers, including a discussion of tailored treatment implications. The third presentation will discuss intersecting identities during the transition to parenthood for sexual and gender diverse individuals. The intention of this symposium is to provide an overview of overlapping and unique mental health considerations for all new parents and their children.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125496 - Symposium

Dual trajectories of paternal perinatal depression and anxiety: Implications for tailored prevention and intervention strategies for fathers

Main Presenting Author: Cameron, Emily E

Additional Author: Tomfohr-Madsen, Lianne M

Abstract: *Paternal perinatal mood disorders impact approximately 10% of new fathers and put children at risk for long-term health and developmental concerns. Yet, current research is limited on the longitudinal understanding of symptom course and often assumes a one separate trajectory for common concerns. Extant research indicates high comorbidity between depressive and anxiety symptoms providing a clear rationale for assessing concurrent change over time. Analyzing distinct trajectories of symptoms - compared to a single trajectory - allows for the evaluation of unique predictors for groups experiencing different trajectories. The current study aimed to identify unique trajectories of paternal perinatal depression and anxiety symptoms and risk and protective factors associated with group membership. Fathers (N=160) completed assessments 6-9 months prenatal and*

1-, 3-, 6-, 9-, and 12-months postpartum assessing sociodemographics, mental health, relationship factors, and infant development. A parallel-process latent class growth model was used to analyze the joint trajectories of depression and anxiety symptoms over 15 months. Preliminary findings indicate a four-class solution fit the data best, with specific risk and protective factors predicting group membership. Clinical implications include the utility of tailored in-person and remote programs to address specific subgroup needs.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125528 - Paper within a symposium

Intersecting identities and perinatal wellbeing: Sexual minority status, ethnicity, and the role of social support

Main Presenting Author: Freeman, Makayla

Additional Authors: Dewsnap, Kyle ; Schanding Jr., G. Thomas; Doyle, Jennifer; Lebel, Catherine; Giesbrecht, Gerald F; Tomfohr-Madsen, Lianne M

Abstract: *Sexual and gender minority populations face elevated rates of mental health challenges due to systemic discrimination and social exclusion but are overlooked in perinatal research. Sexual orientation intersects with ethnicity, which is known to be associated with perinatal mental health. This study investigates the intersecting impacts of sexual orientation and ethnicity on perinatal mental health using data from a pan-Canadian cohort study. Logistic regressions assessed differences across sexual orientation in symptoms of depression and anxiety while controlling for covariates. The intersecting impact of sexual orientation and ethnicity was also examined. Social support was considered a protective factor in secondary analyses. Sexual minority identity was associated with increased odds of clinically elevated depressive and anxiety symptoms during pregnancy beyond other known correlates. Models including ethnicity demonstrated significant main effects of sexual orientation and ethnicity on depressive symptoms. Interactions between sexual orientation and social support were not associated with significant difference in odds of depression or anxiety in adjusted models, but there was a significant main effect of social support. Findings inform understanding of perinatal mental health for diverse sexual minority individuals, including protective and intervention factors.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125539 - Paper within a symposium

The Use of Virtual Reality in the Treatment of Perinatal Mood Disorders: Preliminary Results from a Co-Design Project

Main Presenting Author: MacKinnon, Anna

Additional Authors: Masse, Morganne ; Zorzi, Chantal; St-André, Martin; Herba, Catherine; Montreuil, Tina; Dumas, Guillaume; Côté, Sylvana; Senecal Tremblay, Joel

Abstract: *Perinatal anxiety and depression affect approximately 25% of mothers in Canada, with potential consequences for maternal health (e.g., preeclampsia) and infant development (e.g., prematurity, low birth weight). Existing interventions (e.g., pharmacotherapy, psychotherapy) are limited by financial, logistical, and sociocultural barriers. The Toi, Moi, Bébé (TMB) web-based program was adapted at CHU Sainte Justine to better address these limitations. This study examines*

the feasibility of integrating virtual reality (VR) to improve engagement and effectiveness. A VR prototype with four modules (two interactive games, two passive exercises) was co-designed with 20 previous TMB participants. A mixed methods evaluation was conducted to explore parent needs and VR experiences through questionnaires (e.g., cybersickness, presence, system usability) as well as semi-structured interviews (thematic analysis in NVivo). Preliminary findings include reports of complex perinatal mental health challenges and parenting stressors, as well as how VR could help. Both quantitative and qualitative data examined VR user experience and highlighted potential improvements. VR shows promise as a complementary tool to TMB. Findings will guide prototype optimization, and in turn aim to improve accessibility and effectiveness of digital interventions for parent mental health during the perinatal period.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125525 - Paper within a symposium

Interventions, Campaigns, and Policy: Strategies for Tackling Mental Health and Substance Use Stigma

Moderator(s): Shahid, Hamnah

Abstract: *Mental health and substance use stigma simultaneously create health inequities and perpetuate pre-existing public health challenges. Understanding how stigma operates at different levels (i.e., self, public, and systemic) will aid in the development of effective anti-stigma interventions, campaigns, and public policy. First, Panetta will provide data on an individual, self-stigma intervention targeted towards students with mental health challenges. Then, Greto will present insights from anti-stigma campaign creators to explore how they shape representations of people who use drugs during the campaign development process. Finally, Shahid will present an analysis of how laypeople (de)stigmatize people who use illicit drugs in drug decriminalization discourse by (re)defining social category boundaries. Together, these studies provide a holistic, multi-level view of the challenges posed by mental health and substance use stigma, as well as a better understanding of both potential solutions and pitfalls.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126380 - Symposium

From Idea to Launch: Shaping the Representation of People Who Use Drugs in Substance Use-Focused Anti Stigma Campaigns

Main Presenting Author: Greto, Tia

Additional Author: Neufeld, Scott

Abstract: *In the last decade, Canadian governments and health authorities have commonly used mass media campaigns to address the public's stigmatizing attitudes toward people who use drugs (PWUD). Despite substantial documentation of racialized and economically marginalized PWUD being disproportionately impacted by substance use stigma and drug toxicity death, these campaigns predominantly feature White, middle-class representations of PWUD. Our previous work suggests that excluding marginalized PWUD from these campaigns may naturalize or exacerbate the inequities they face. In this qualitative study, we aimed to better understand what shapes the representation of PWUD in anti-stigma campaigns by interviewing the creators of four recent Canadian interventions. We asked questions such as: "Could you describe the process for choosing the imagery and messaging for*

the campaign?", and "How (and by whom) were decisions made about how to represent PWUD?". Using Reflexive Thematic Analysis to examine campaign creators' insights, we identified key ideas, strategies, and - unexpectedly - challenges that influenced their approach, and ultimately, who was featured in their campaign. The findings of this study create an opportunity for learning and reflection among campaign developers (and their wider networks) with the potential to inform future anti-stigma campaign development.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126383 - Paper within a symposium

Impact of Honest Open Proud-College (HOP-C) on Anxiety, Depression, and Stress in University Students with Mental Health Challenges

Main Presenting Author: Panetta, Chyenne

Additional Authors: Dabas, Grishma ; Maranzan, Amanda

Abstract: *Stigma contributes to the existing stressors of having mental health challenges. Self-stigma of mental illness is one facet that has been associated with depression, anxiety, and overall stress. Honest, Open, Proud-College (HOP-C) is a peer-led invention program that is designed to help those with mental health challenges overcome the symptoms associated with self-stigma of mental illness. Previous research on the HOP-C program has shown that it was successful in reducing stigma-related stress and had moderate effects on depression following completion. This study examined the change in depression, anxiety, and stress before and after program participation for both groups, using the DASS-21 scale. Those who did participate in the intervention showed a reduction in depression, anxiety, but not overall stress, compared to those who did not participate. The HOP-C sample (n=32) and waitlist control sample (n=31) both completed the questionnaire at baseline, before participants were randomized, and after completing the intervention. Individuals who completed the HOP-C program showed an anxiety reduction (p=0.18) and depression (p=0.27) compared to those who did not. However, there was no significant reduction in stress for the HOP-C group compared to the waitlist group (p=.146). These results imply a therapeutic impact of HOP-C that may extend to non-clinical samples.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126391 - Paper within a symposium

Stigma and the (Re)Definition of Social Category Boundaries in Drug Decriminalization Discourse

Main Presenting Author: Shahid, Hamnah

Additional Author: Neufeld, Scott

Abstract: *We theorize stigma as a form of social control that (re)defines social categories to exclude people who use illicit drugs (PWUID) and criminalization as a stigmatizing process. Drug decriminalization is a potential solution to substance use stigma. Understanding how decriminalization may (re)define social categories is important for designing destigmatizing policies. Using a Freedom of Information request, we obtained 221 deputations sent to the City of Vancouver regarding Motion B.4, which would advance decriminalization. We used reflexive thematic analysis to explore: (1) how laypeople (re)defined social categories to include or exclude PWUID; and (2) what laypeople envisioned the implications of decriminalization will be for the (re)definitions of PWUID's*

social categories. Opponents of Motion B.4 often endorsed criminalization placing PWUID in stigmatized social categories as necessary social control. Meanwhile, some supporters of the motion medicalized substance use and addiction, thereby dehumanizing PWUID and maintaining their outgroup status. Finally, other proponents of the motion redefined social categories to include PWUID in shared ingroups, modeling the hope that decriminalization will cause others to do the same. Our analysis highlights the importance of drug decriminalization models that redefine social categories to meaningfully include PWUID in shared ingroups.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126382 - Paper within a symposium

Mental health in public safety personnel: Insights across diverse dimensions and degrees

Moderator(s): Danyluk, Alexa M.

Abstract: *In protecting the health and safety of Canadians, public safety personnel (PSP) are routinely exposed to diverse stressors that undermine their mental health and wellbeing. Growing research focuses on mental health disorders among PSP, which may inform responsive approaches to PSP mental health concerns. In the current symposium, we will outline three studies that examine PSP mental health across diverse dimensions and degrees, with implications for the identification, prevention, and intervention of mental health concerns among PSP. Brambell will describe a cross-sectional, between cohorts study comparing wellbeing in RCMP cadets entering training before and after COVID-19 restrictions. Danyluk will describe a cross-sectional and pre-post investigation of anger (i.e., risk-factors, predictors of change, and effects on treatment satisfaction) among PSP enrolled in tailored, transdiagnostic internet-delivered cognitive behavioural therapy (ICBT). Sivell will describe a mixed-methods study evaluating the suitability of a tailored, therapist-guided ICBT for PSP with subthreshold symptoms (i.e., below diagnostic cut-offs). Carleton will act as the discussant, summarizing and contextualising the research, and working to frame possible future directions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124304 - Symposium

Benefits of transdiagnostic internet-delivered cognitive behavioral therapy for public safety personnel with anger concerns

Main Presenting Author: Danyluk, Alexa M.

Additional Authors: Carleton, R. Nicholas ; Price, Jill A. B.; Hadjistavropoulos, D. Heather

Abstract: *Background: Public safety personnel (PSP) experience elevated risks for anger and other mental health symptoms. Research supports the effectiveness of transdiagnostic internet-delivered cognitive behavioural therapy (ICBT) in treating anger among PSP. The optimization of ICBT to treat anger has been hindered by insufficient research on the characteristics of PSP who experience anger and benefit from ICBT. Methods: The current study used cross-sectional and pre-post analyses (pre- to 8-weeks-post enrolling) to examine anger (risk-factors, predictors of change, and effects on treatment satisfaction) among PSP (n=663; 53% women) enrolled in ICBT (designed for 8 weeks). Results: Cross-sectionally, PSP with higher symptoms of anxiety (p<.001), posttraumatic stress (p<.001), alcohol use (p=.018), drug use (p=.015), or insomnia (p=.012) were more likely to report clinically significant anger at pre-treatment. Most PSP (99%) perceived ICBT as worthwhile at post-*

enrollment, though PSP with clinically significant anger at pre-treatment were less likely to do so (p=.009). PSP who were older (p=.040), women (p=.038), or from small communities (p=.008) reported smaller changes in anger at post-enrollment. Conclusions: Tailoring ICBT for PSP demographics and anger concerns may improve outcomes. Implications: Future research may adapt ICBT for diverse PSP with clinically significant anger.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124754 - Paper within a symposium

Differences in wellbeing among Royal Canadian Mounted Police cadets starting training before and after COVID-19

Main Presenting Author: Brambell, Autumn

Additional Authors: Teckchandani, Taylor A.; Shields, Robyn E.; Nisbet, Jolan; Krätzig, Gregory P.; Kirby, Kayla M.; Carleton, R. Nicholas

Abstract: *Background: As essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, public safety personnel (PSP; e.g., Royal Canadian Mounted Police [RCMP]) endeavoured to protect the safety and security of Canadians during a period of uncertainty. RCMP cadet training during the pandemic was modified to reduce cohort sizes, implement quarantine protocols, and limit social interactions, changes that may have affected cadets' wellbeing. The potential impact of COVID-19-related modifications to training on RCMP cadet wellbeing has yet to be examined. Methods: Using online pre-training surveys, wellbeing was compared among RCMP cadets (n=552; 72% male) entering training before (May-Dec 2019) and after COVID-19 restrictions (Nov 2020-Aug 2022). Results: Cadets who began training after COVID-19 reported lower overall wellbeing (p<.05), with the greatest declines observed in psychological wellbeing (p<.01) and smaller reductions in social wellbeing (p=.06), but no differences in emotional wellbeing (p>.05). Younger, single, male cadets reported the most pronounced declines overall. Conclusions: Results evidence declines in RCMP cadets' psychological and social functioning upon entering training during the COVID-19 pandemic. Implications: Limited research exists on cadet wellbeing during COVID-19, and future work is needed to develop supports for psychological and social support for RCMP cadets.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124753 - Paper within a symposium

Suitability of therapist-guided internet-delivered cognitive behavioural therapy for public safety personnel with subthreshold symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Sivell, Paige

Additional Authors: Price, Jill A. B.; Hadjistavropoulos, Heather D.

Abstract: *Background: Public safety personnel (PSP) report elevated mental health concerns due to frequent potentially psychologically traumatic event exposures. Mental health programs, such as internet-delivered cognitive behavioural therapy (ICBT), can help PSP - even before clinical symptoms. Methods: The current mixed-methods study assessed engagement, outcomes, and satisfaction of a therapist-guided ICBT program (i.e., PSP Wellbeing Course) among PSP (n=174) with subthreshold symptoms (i.e., below diagnostic cut-off). Results: Quantitative data showed high treatment engagement and satisfaction, and clinical reductions in anxiety, depression, and*

posttraumatic stress symptoms from pre-treatment to 8-weeks post-enrollment (ps<.001; Hedges' g=.40-.50). Qualitative data highlighted the value of relatable materials, therapist involvement, and early access to mental health services. Semi-structured interviews identified areas for improvement including shortening and diversifying case stories as well as increasing printable resources. Conclusions: The results support the interest, use, and proactive benefits of ICBT among PSP with subthreshold symptoms. Implications: Overall, the current study contributes to a growing body of research supporting proactive mental health programs for those in high-stress occupations.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124755 - Paper within a symposium

Perfectionism, Distress, and Resilience: The Explanatory Role of Emotion Regulation Processes

Moderator(s): Dunkley, David M.

Abstract: *Over the past 30 years, an impressive body of research has accumulated indicating that perfectionism plays an important role in several psychological problems. This paper symposium involves four papers that examine the relations among perfectionism, emotion regulation, and distress in order to inform how intervention efforts might be improved for perfectionistic individuals. The first paper reports results using a cross-sectional self-report survey to show strong associations between self-critical perfectionism and decreased academic self-efficacy and academic self-concept, as well as increased academic burnout in undergraduate students. The second paper uses ecological momentary assessments to demonstrate reciprocal daily associations between perfectionistic cognitions and state self-compassion across seven days in a community sample of adolescents. The third paper uses a three-wave longitudinal design to demonstrate that experiential avoidance mediates the effect of self-critical perfectionism on depressive and anxious symptoms over two years for community adults with lower mindfulness or self-compassion. The final paper presents findings from a pilot test of a single-session explanatory feedback intervention on emotion regulation processes for reducing distress and bolstering resilience in perfectionistic individuals.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124569 - Symposium

Does Perfectionism Moderate the Relationship between Post-Secondary Student Stress and Academic Self-Efficacy, Self-Concept, and Burnout?

Main Presenting Author: Mackinnon, Sean P.

Additional Author: Hawkins, Sam

Abstract: *Self-critical perfectionism and stress are risks for maladaptive academic outcomes (i.e., decreased academic self-efficacy, decreased academic self-concept, and increased academic burnout). We investigated a vulnerability-stress model, testing whether self-critical perfectionism moderates the relationship between stressor severity (academic and interpersonal) and academic outcomes. Undergraduate students (N=384; 76.8% women) completed a cross-sectional self-report survey assessing the constructs of interest. Hypotheses and the analysis plan were preregistered: https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/EQUKY. In multiple regression models, stressor severity and self-critical perfectionism was associated with decreased academic self-efficacy, decreased academic self-concept, and increased academic burnout. No interaction effects were statistically significant, failing*

to support a vulnerability-stress model. Thus, a vulnerability-stress model may not explain why perfectionism is associated with maladaptive academic outcomes; however, there remains a strong association between self-critical perfectionism, stress, and negative academic outcomes for students. Educators might consider a curriculum with fewer stressors of the type measured in this study (e.g., heavily weighted exams, multiple simultaneous assignments) and might want to directly address issues of perfectionism in the classroom.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124618 - Paper within a symposium

Empowering Self-Critical Perfectionists: A Pilot Test of the Perfectionism and Emotion Regulation Processes Model - Explanatory Feedback Intervention (PERPM-EFI)

Main Presenting Author: Dunkley, David M.

Additional Authors: Tobin, Ryan ; Stoyanova, Iva S.

Abstract: *A recent study supported a single-session explanatory feedback intervention (EFI) on perfectionism and coping processes (Dunkley et al., 2023). The present study was a pilot test of the complementary Perfectionism and Emotion Regulation Processes Model (PERPM) - EFI over four weeks. Twelve university students with higher self-critical perfectionism completed daily measures of stress, emotion regulation, and affect for seven days. Individualized feedback was then delivered one-on-one by student trainees remotely through videoconferencing in a single 45 to 60-minute session. The feasibility of the individualized analyses of each participant's daily data was supported by identifying daily trigger patterns, maintenance tendencies, strengths, common triggers, and best targets for reducing negative mood and increasing positive mood across several stressors for each participant. Participant ratings indicated that the comprehensive feedback was coherent and functional. Participants reported moderate to large increases in empowerment, coping self-efficacy, self-compassion, and mindfulness, as well as decreases in depressive and anxious symptoms. The PERPM-EFI is being further tested and will be offered to universities, work places, clinical settings, and other organizations as a precursor or adjunct to self-help, counseling, or therapy for self-critical perfectionistic individuals.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124837 - Paper within a symposium

Self-Critical Perfectionism, Mindfulness, Self-Compassion, Experiential Avoidance, and Depressive and Anxious Symptoms over Two Years: A Moderated Mediation Model

Main Presenting Author: Tobin, Ryan

Additional Author: Dunkley, David M.

Abstract: *Self-critical perfectionism (SCP) is a transdiagnostic vulnerability factor linked to depressive and anxious symptoms over time. Given that research shows that experiential avoidance mediates the link between SCP and distress, research is needed to test whether mindfulness and self-compassion buffer the impact of experiential avoidance on distress for those higher in SCP. This three-wave longitudinal study followed 137 community adults. Participants completed baseline SCP measures and measures of distress (i.e., general distress, anxious arousal, anhedonic depression) at baseline and two years later (Time 3). One year after baseline (Time 2), participants completed*

measures of daily mindfulness, self-compassion, and experiential avoidance for 14 consecutive days. Moderated mediation analyses showed that aggregated daily experiential avoidance mediated the relations between SCP and general distress and/or anxious arousal for those with lower, but not average or higher, aggregated daily mindfulness and compassionate self-responding (i.e., self-kindness, common humanity, mindfulness). Results highlight how mindfulness and self-compassion may reduce the effect of SCP on depressive and anxious symptoms through daily experiential avoidance and may inform prevention and intervention efforts to decrease vulnerability to depressive and anxious symptoms among those higher in SCP.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124641 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding Daily Perfectionism and Self-Compassion in Youth: Results from a 7-Day EMA Investigation

Main Presenting Author: Molnar, Danielle S.

Additional Authors: Blackburn, Melissa ; Zinga, Dawn

Abstract: *Perfectionism is rising among young people and takes a serious toll on their mental health. Yet, the protective factors that may help mitigate these effects remain largely unexplored. Self-compassion may be a promising protective factor. However, its temporal relation with perfectionistic thinking remains unclear. To address this gap, the present study examined reciprocal daily associations between perfectionistic cognitions and state self-compassion across seven days. A community sample of adolescents (N = 95; ages 12-18; Mage = 15.1, SD = 1.7; 68% female) completed nightly ecological momentary assessments of perfectionistic cognitions and self-compassion. Random-intercept cross-lagged panel models accounting for age and gender showed that higher-than-usual self-compassion predicted lower-than-usual perfectionistic cognitions the following day. Higher average levels of perfectionistic cognitions were related to lower average levels of self-compassion. Follow-up analyses indicated that uncompassionate self-responding drove the lagged effects, whereas compassionate self-responding primarily accounted for within-day covariances. Collectively, the findings suggest that cultivating self-compassion in daily life may be a valuable strategy for clinicians working with adolescents struggling with perfectionism.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124629 - Paper within a symposium

Predicting Treatment Response in Personality Disorders: Insights from a Short- and Long-Term Program

Moderator(s): Dubé, Jonathan

Abstract: *The Personality Disorders (PD) Program at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) in Montreal, Canada, provides specialized treatment for adults with PD with short-term (12 weeks) and long-term (6-12 months) treatment approaches.This symposium will present findings from our research, assessing treatment effectiveness and identifying predictors of treatment response in an out-patient hospital setting. By blending research findings and clinical expertise, we aim to provide comprehensive insights into how personality factors and comorbidities influence treatment response and the maintenance of gains.In the first segment, Dr. Alexandra Richard, Clinical Psychologist, will describe the program structure, population demographics, and therapeutic approaches. She will*

introduce our research program and present data supporting treatment effectiveness in both the short- and long-term clinics at termination and six-month follow-up.The second segment, presented by Jonathan Dubé, Research Coordinator and Psychology PhD Student, will explore specific personality traits, such as narcissistic and obsessive-compulsive tendencies, moderate treatment outcomes. Using mixed-model research, he will discuss how these traits influence symptom improvement, functional outcomes and treatment retention.Next, Lori Isaif, occupational therapist and psychotherapist, will discuss the role of substance use, including alcohol and drug use, as a moderator of treatment outcomes. She will address how to tailor interventions to patients with comorbid substance use. Finally, Dr. Tanya Bergevin, senior staff clinical psychologist, will conclude with a discussion of key takeaways for clinical application and future research. By bridging research and practice in a real-world setting, this symposium will offer valuable insights for clinicians and researchers aiming to enhance treatment outcomes for individuals with personality disorders.

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 124933 - Symposium

Alcohol and Substance Use as Moderators of Treatment Outcomes in Stepped Care PD Programs

Main Presenting Author: Isaif, Lori

Abstract: *Background Comorbid substance use (SU) is common in personality disorders (PD) but its impact on the maintenance of therapeutic gains remains understudied. Method We investigated whether alcohol (AUDIT) and drug use (DAST) predicted outcomes after completion of a short-term (ST) or long-term (LT) PD psychotherapy programs. Outpatients with PDs diagnoses (ST n = 314; LT n = 102) completed the ZANBPD, SCL90R, DERS, WSAS, AUDIT and DAST at baseline, upon completion of treatment and at 6-month follow up. Linear mixed effects models included time, ST vs LT clinic, substance use scores and their interactions. Results Both clinics yielded large, short-term improvements for BPD symptoms and alcohol/substance use (all ps < .001). Alcohol use predicted BPD symptoms severity at every assessment particularly in the ST clinic (Clinic x Alcohol Interaction, p=0.001), but showed no time interactions. In contrast, higher DAST scores specifically post-treatment predicted greater BPD symptoms, global distress and emotion dysregulation post-treatment and persisted at six months follow-up (Time × DAST, ps ≤ .01). Of note, baseline DAST at intake did not predict therapy outcomes, indicating that initial SU alone is prognostic marker of limited validity. Conclusions Initial substance use does not hinder acute response but emerges as a moderator of outcome if not treated during treatment. Integrating SUD treatment and evidence-based addiction pharmacological interventions during the transition to follow up care may protect these gains in SU patients.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 125297 - Paper within a symposium

Evaluating Treatment Outcomes and the Maintenance of Gains in Short- and Long-Term Treatments for Patients with Borderline Personality Disorder at the McGill University Health Centre

Main Presenting Author: Richard, Alexandra

Abstract: *The Personality Disorders Program at the McGill University Health Centre in Montreal, Canada, delivers specialized treatment for adults with borderline personality disorder (BPD). The program offers both short-term (12 weeks) and longer-term (6-12 months) multimodal treatment programs in an outpatient hospital setting. Previous research conducted by the program has demonstrated the effectiveness of both BPD treatment programs when comparing pre-treatment to*

post-treatment symptom burden (Laporte et al., 2018). The current research aims to expand on these findings by including wait-list controls to assess the effects of naturalistic changes, as well as assessments at 6 months post-treatment to evaluate the maintenance of gains post-discharge. As an introduction to the symposium, this presentation will provide an overview of the program structure, patient demographics, the treatment modalities applied, and the research methods and measures used. We will also present preliminary findings from the ongoing research program. 416 outpatients completed waitlist, baseline, post treatment, and 6 month follow-up questionnaires assessing a variety of outcomes, including BPD symptoms (ZAN-BPD), general psychopathology (SCL-90-R), among others. Using linear mixed-effect models, preliminary results suggest that both short- and long-term treatment models lead to significant improvements across multiple patient outcomes (e.g., ZAN-BPD, SCL-90-R), even when accounting for changes observed during the waitlist period. Furthermore, gains were maintained at 6 months post-treatment in both the short- and long-term treatment programs. These findings highlight the lasting effects of even brief interventions that are tailored to BPD patients and may inform future treatment strategies, such as stepped-care approaches in the treatment of BPD.

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 125291 - Paper within a symposium

Narcissistic and Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Traits as Moderators of Treatment Outcomes and Maintenance of Gains in the Treatment of Borderline Personality Disorder

Main Presenting Author: Dubé, Jonathan

Abstract: *BackgroundSpecialized treatments for borderline personality disorder (BPD) are more effective than treatment as usual yet access is challenging. Determining which patients will benefit is crucial. Specific traits, such as narcissistic and obsessive-compulsive personality (OCPD) tendencies, may moderate outcomes and the maintenance of gains in outpatients completing short-term (ST) and long-term (LT) treatment for BPD.MethodsWe examined whether OCPD and narcissistic traits moderate symptom change and functional outcome across a stepped care pathway. 416 outpatients (ST n = 314; LT n = 102) completed waitlist, baseline, post treatment, and post-6 month questionnaires. Linear mixed effects models included Time, Clinic, OCPD (SCID PD) and Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI) scores, and interactions to predict BPD symptoms (ZAN BPD), global distress (SCL 90 R), emotion dysregulation (DERS), and work impairment (WSAS).ResultsPatients with greater OCPD traits demonstrated greater symptom severity at baseline, benefitted less from treatment, and were less likely to maintain gains post-treatment compared to those with lower scores, with a rebound in emotion dysregulation and global distress at follow-up (Time × OCPD, p = .01 and p=0.03). Results with narcissism varied. Compared to those lower in entitled-narcissistic traits, patients with higher entitled-narcissism scores showed less improvement in global distress at post-treatment and poorer maintenance of gains in emotion regulation (p=0.004) and BPD symptoms (p=0.03) at follow-up.ConclusionsThese findings suggest that specific personality traits play a significant role in moderating treatment outcomes for patients with BPD. Additional research and personalized treatment approaches should consider these traits.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 125294 - Paper within a symposium

Predicting Treatment Response in Personality Disorders: Clinicians' Perspective and Discussion on Research Results

Main Presenting Author: Bergevin, Tanya

Abstract: *Dr. Bergevin is the most senior psychologist clinicians on the team. She will provide an integrative discussion on research results and provide her perspectives on predictors of clinical outcomes based on her clinical experiences. Who thrives in the program and who do we struggle to assist? What do we do well and what do we need to improve upon? She will share her thoughts on how to incorporate research findings in a pragmatic way to help inform future modifications to the therapy program.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 125299 - Paper within a symposium

Prevention and Response to Sexual Offending against Children in Colombia: A Binational Partnership

Moderator(s): Stephens, Skye

Abstract: *Research on sexual violence against children has mostly been conducted in countries in the Global North. This body of research has led to significant evidence on prevalence, risk factors, and promising prevention initiatives. Research on sexual violence against children is more limited in countries in the Global South, including Colombia (middle income country located in South America). This symposium brings together three presentations by Canadian and Colombian academics working in partnership to examine the prevalence, risk factors, and prevention of sexual violence against children, addressing both victimization and perpetration. Our collaborative approach has enabled us to generate impactful research that deepens our understanding of sexual violence against children and highlights potentially promising strategies for assessment and intervention. Each individual presentation in the symposium addresses a unique angle of this complex social issue. Talk 1 relies on nationally representative data from Colombia (via the Violence Against Children Survey) to examine prevalence and risk factors for commercial sexual exploitation (CSEC) and sexual exploitation in travel and tourism (SECTT). Talk 2 is a qualitative interview study conducted with 31 Colombian stakeholders across diverse groups (e.g., child protection, government, policing) who provide critical information about the realities and prevention approaches used to address CSEC and SECTT. Talk 3 presents important data on the characteristics of a Colombian prison sample who have perpetrated sexual violence against children, including the role of pedophilic sexual interest. Together, our symposium provides highly novel, compelling, and unique data on the realities of sexual violence against children in Colombia, assessing whether correlates identified primarily in Global North research apply in the Colombian context. We will also discuss how we built our partnership and share practical guidance for those interested in conducting research in the Global South*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125687 - Symposium

Colombian Professionals' Perspectives on Risk and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism

Main Presenting Author: Vásquez Amézquita, Milena
Co-Presenting Author: Stephens, Skye

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: The sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism (SECTT; in which an adult traveler or tourist sexually abuses a child under 18) is a significant concern in Colombia, evidenced by the January 2024 curfew enacted by the mayor of Medellín that restricted children from certain tourist zones due to heightened exploitation risk. The present study aimed to*

better understand professional perspective on SECTT prevention. Method: We conducted semi-structured interviews on SECTT with 31 Colombian professionals representing a range of sectors, including but not limited to, child protection, government, tourism, and migration. The interview guide was designed to inquire about several different areas, including the interviewee's perceptions of the incidence of SECTT in Colombia, risk factors, and different prevention strategies. Interviews took from 45 min to 1 hour and were translated into English for the purposes of qualitative content analysis. Results: Preliminary findings highlight the importance of a public health approach to SECTT, despite structural challenges such as underreporting. Cultural permissiveness and damaging narratives contribute to normalization of SECTT. SECTT is intertwined with broader patterns of violence, organized crime, and systemic inequality, which are crucial in designing prevention initiatives. Prevention is widely seen as a co-responsibility across multiple sectors, though significant capacity-building challenges remain. Conclusion. Colombian stakeholders view SECTT prevention as crucial but outline many challenges. Notably, there was an almost exclusive focus on victimization and little discussion of preventing perpetration. Action/Impact: These findings have overarching implications for our understanding of prevention programs that can be mobilized into culturally appropriate prevention initiatives in Colombia.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125689 - Paper within a symposium

Pedophilic Sexual Interests Among Men Convicted of Offenses Against Minors in Colombia

Main Presenting Author: Rodríguez Padilla, Alexa Liliana
Co-Presenting Author: Vásquez Amézquita, Milena

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Epidemiological research reveals a lack of knowledge regarding the prevalence of Pedophilic Disorder with significant implications to the mental health of society. Rates of pedophilia range from 1% to 5% in countries such as Germany, Norway, and Finland (Seto, 2008); however, these figures are unknown in Colombia. The present study aimed to determine the frequency of pedophilic sexual interests among incarcerated men in Colombia using the Screening Scale for Pedophilic Interests (SSPI-2), an empirically validated instrument widely used to detect behavioral indicators of pedophilic interest. In samples of sexual offenders against minors, the SSPI-2 has demonstrated strong predictive and concurrent validity (Seto, Sandler & Freeman, 2017; Seto, Stephens, Lalumiére & Cantor, 2017; Schirfer et al., 2017). Additionally, to contextualize sexual interest patterns, the study compared SSPI-2 scores across three groups: (1) men convicted of sexual offenses against minors, (2) men convicted of sexual offenses against adults, and (3) men convicted of non-sexual offenses. Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted in collaboration with two Colombian prisons. A convenience sample of incarcerated men was recruited voluntarily through information sessions and institutional authorization. Participants provided informed consent and completed a structured questionnaire including sociodemographic information, criminal history variables, and the SSPI-2 scale. Data were collected between 2024 and 2025. The total sample included approximately $N \approx 449$ participants across the three target groups. Results (Planned Statistical Analyses): Descriptive analysis of sample characteristics and SSPI-2 score distribution across groups. Group comparisons using non-parametric tests (e.g., Kruskal-Wallis with Dunn post-hoc) or ANOVA if assumptions are met. Proportion estimates of participants meeting SSPI-2 thresholds. Logistic regression models to examine whether offense type predicts higher SSPI-2 scores after adjusting for age, education, offense history, and other relevant covariates. Sensitivity analyses to explore whether specific behavioral indicators disproportionately contribute to group differences. At the time of submission, data collection is complete, and statistical analyses are currently in progress. Conclusion / Action / Impact: Establishing the frequency and distribution of pedophilic sexual interests among incarcerated men in Colombia represents a critical contribution to national*

policy discussions on sexual violence against minors. Findings from this study may inform evidence-based risk assessment, differentiated treatment pathways, and resource allocation within the Colombian prison system. Furthermore, generating local empirical data addresses a major gap in forensic research in Latin America and supports the development of culturally grounded prevention and intervention strategies.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125695 - Paper within a symposium

Prevalence and Correlates of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism in Colombia

Main Presenting Author: Stephens, Skye
Co-Presenting Author: Cormier, Isaac

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: There is significant concern in Colombia about the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism (SECTT). Despite these concerns, there is limited empirical data on CSEC and SECTT victimization in Colombia, as most research has been conducted in countries in the Global North. The aim of the present study was to establish the prevalence of CSEC and SECTT in Colombian youth aged 13-17. Using an ecological framework, we examined demographic, individual, relational, community, and structural factors associated with these forms of sexual exploitation. Method: To accomplish our objective, we conducted a secondary analysis of the 2018 Colombia Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), which is a nationally representative survey of Colombian youth in a national (n = 1290) and priority stratum (n = 1246). Results. Less than 1% of Colombian adolescents aged 13-17 experienced CSEC and no one endorsed experiencing SECTT within the context of commercial exploitation. Thus, we were only able to explore potential correlates in relation to CSEC victimization. Several robust correlates emerged across both the national and priority stratum: demographic (older age, being in a relationship), individual (maltreatment), and relational (low parental monitoring) factors. There was less consistent support for community and structural risk factors. Conclusions. These findings provide critical prevalence data and assess whether correlates identified predominantly in research from the Global North are applicable to Colombia. Action/Impact: The findings also provide guidance for targeted prevention efforts.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125688 - Paper within a symposium

Racial Disparities in Mental Health

Moderator(s): Cénat, Jude Mary

Abstract: *This symposium brings together emerging evidence on racial disparities in mental health among racialized and Indigenous individuals, alongside a conceptual advance in the neuroscience of racism. The first presentation synthesizes prevalence estimates of anxiety, depression, and PTSD among Black adolescents in minority contexts. The second presentation presents pooled prevalence data among Black post-secondary students in North America, revealing substantial mental health burdens shaped by structural and psychological factors, despite mixed racial comparisons. The third presentation shows the national prevalence of current PTSD symptoms in Canada and identifies key determinants, revealing substantial racial disparities and the contribution of racial discrimination. The fourth presentation shifts focus to mechanisms, outlining critical gaps in understanding how*

racism affects the brain and proposing a hypothetical model integrating neurobiological, cognitive, and sociocultural processes. Together, these studies offer complementary evidence on prevalence, disparities, and mechanisms, underscoring urgent needs for culturally grounded research and interventions.

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126136 - Symposium

Introducing the neuroscience of racism: Gaps and research directions

Main Presenting Author: Moshirian Farahi, Seyed Mohammad Mahdi

Additional Author: Cénat, Jude Mary

Abstract: *Racism is a profound experience by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), which impacts their physical and mental health. Studies have documented sociocultural determinants of racism and identified neural correlates of bias, but the field has largely overlooked how racism shapes the brain of those who experience it. In particular, electroencephalography (EEG), a method well suited for capturing rapid cognitive-affective responses to discrimination, has been almost absent from studies involving Black participants. This paper outlines major gaps in the literature, including the limited focus on racial trauma as a neurobiological construct, the lack of EEG-based investigations, and the absence of integrative models that treat racism as a sustained exposure rather than isolated events. We propose a preliminary hypothetical framework linking racism with mental health outcomes through interconnected processes such as internalized racism, learned helplessness, and resilience. The model emphasizes the mediating role of brain structure and function and highlights the need for rigorous longitudinal, multimodal, and BIPOC-centered research designs. Advancing a neuroscience of racism requires conceptual reorientation and methodological expansion to capture how repeated exposure to racism alters neural systems and contributes to disparities in health and well-being.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126234 - Paper within a symposium

Prevalence and determinants of current post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms in Canada: Racial disparities and emerging challenges

Main Presenting Author: Darius, Wina Paul

Additional Authors: Moshirian Farahi, Seyed Mohammad Mahdi ; Dalexis, Rose Darly; Beogo, Idrissa; Cénat, Jude Mary

Abstract: *Background:Although trauma exposure is widespread, little is known about how PTSD prevalence varies across racial groups in Canada. This study examined the prevalence and determinants of PTSD symptoms among Arab, Asian, Black, Indigenous, White, and Mixed-racial individuals in Canada. Methods:A cross-sectional survey was conducted with a sample of 4,220 Canadian residents (55.9% women) aged 16 and older. Participants completed measures of PTSD symptoms, trauma exposure, racial discrimination, and resilience. Results:81.36% of participants reported at least one traumatic event, and 27.17% met the threshold for probable PTSD. Arab (37.91%), Indigenous (37.83%), Black (34.07%), and Asian participants (26.49%) reported higher prevalence compared with White individuals (19.28%). Youth across all racial groups showed*

particularly elevated risk. Traumatic events and everyday racial discrimination were the strongest predictors of PTSD symptoms, whereas resilience was consistently associated with lower symptom severity. Racialized and Indigenous individuals experiencing very high racial discrimination were 4.91 to 16.88 times more likely to present probable PTSD compared to those reporting low discrimination. Conclusions:Findings underscore the need to recognize racism as a traumatic stressor and to implement antiracist clinical practices and youth-focused mental health interventions.

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126230 - Paper within a symposium

Prevalence of anxiety, depression and PTSD among Black adolescents: A meta-analysis and systematic review of associated factors

Main Presenting Author: Jacob, Grace

Additional Authors: Moshirian Farahi, Seyed Mohammad Mahdi ; Cénat, Jude Mary

Abstract: *Background: Since the pandemic, reviews have shown worsening mental health among youth. Black adolescents face distinct challenges, including heightened exposure to racial discrimination, which contributes to negative outcomes. Despite growing concerns, no study has synthesized post-pandemic prevalence rates of anxiety, depression, and PTSD in this population. The aim of this systematic review and meta-analysis is to identify prevalence rates of these disorders, synthesize existing knowledge, identify patterns across studies and highlight research gaps. Methods: Following PRISMA 2020 guidelines, a search was conducted across seven databases to identify studies reporting the prevalence of anxiety, depression, or PTSD among Black adolescents aged 12-18 in countries where Black people are minorities. After removing duplicates, 15,645 articles were screened. A total of 908 full text studies were assessed for eligibility, of which 786 have been excluded. Data extraction is underway, which will be followed by analysis. Results: Data extraction and analysis are ongoing. Results will be presented at the conference. Conclusions: This review will provide evidence for understanding mental health among Black adolescents.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126203 - Paper within a symposium

Prevalence of mental health difficulties among Black post-secondary students in North America:A meta-analysis and systematic review of associated factors

Main Presenting Author: Mukunzi Ntunga, Joana

Additional Authors: Moshirian Farahi, Seyed Mohammad Mahdi ; Cénat, Jude Mary

Abstract: *Background: Black post-secondary students in minority contexts face academic pressures alongside structural challenges such as racism, which may increase vulnerability to mental health difficulties. Although research indicates elevated risks, findings on the prevalence of depression, anxiety, and PTSD remain mixed. This review synthesizes existing evidence to estimate pooled prevalence rates and correlates of mental health difficulties among North American Black post-secondary students in majority White countries. Methods: Following PRISMA 2020 guidelines, a systematic search across seven databases identified studies reporting prevalence of depression, anxiety, or PTSD among Black post-secondary students in the United States or Canada. Random-effects meta-analyses were used to estimate pooled prevalence. Results: In total, 15,020 Black students*

(7 studies) contributed to anxiety analyses, 23,995 (18 studies) to depression analyses, and 1,026 (5 studies) to PTSD analyses. Pooled prevalence estimates were 20.1% for anxiety, 22.2% for depression, and 19.3% for PTSD. Conclusions: Black post-secondary students experience substantial mental health burdens yet face considerable barriers to accessing appropriate services. This underscores the need for culturally grounded, antiracist strategies and improved access to care in educational settings.

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126208 - Paper within a symposium

Research on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in the Aftermath of the Mass Casualty Commission

Moderator(s): Watt, Margo C

Abstract: *In the aftermath of the spree killing in Nova Scotia (NS) in April 2020, an independent public inquiry was convened to determine how this tragedy could have been prevented and what role did intimate partner violence (IPV) play. The Mass Casualty Commission (MCC, 2023) issued its final report in 2023, which recommended that "All levels of government in Canada declare gender-based, intimate partner, and family violence to be an epidemic that warrants a meaningful and sustained society-wide response". In 2024, NS did that with the passing of Bill 482. This symposium reflects that call for a "society-wide response" by featuring three studies of IPV conducted by researchers in Atlantic Canada. STUDY ONE reports on findings derived from arrestee data collected between 2009-2022 at a small rural RCMP detachment in NS. Police are often the first responders to IPV incidents, so they ought to have good risk assessment tools at their avail, such as the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA; Hilton et al., 2004). STUDY TWO reports on how judges in Atlantic Canada understand and define IPV. This is a replication and extension of a previous study conducted in the Prairie Provinces (Bowns et al., 2024). STUDY THREE is an investigation of the use of ChatGPT to provide trauma-informed responses to IPV survivors who use Reddit forum for support. The collective findings of these three studies highlight the need for more knowledge production (risk assessment), translation (IPV definitions), and dissemination (survivor resources) of IPV research.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125352 - Symposium

Can ChatGPT Support Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)?

Main Presenting Author: Vadnai, Avery

Additional Authors: Watt, Margo C; Lively, Christopher J

Abstract: *Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a global public health and human rights issue (WHO, 2024). Most IPV incidents in Canada are unreported (Conroy, 2021). Survivors frequently face barriers accessing formal supports, including systemic discrimination and concerns about safety (Sanhueza-Morales et al., 2025). Increasingly, many survivors are turning to digital tools for help (Brailas & Tsolakis, 2025). While large language models, like ChatGPT, may have potential to offer guidance, evidence suggests its responses lack consistency in depth, safety, and trauma alignment (Zhang et al., 2025). The present study examined ChatGPT's capacity to provide Trauma-Informed Care (TIC; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA], 2014) when responding to advice-seeking IPV disclosures. Using a qualitative content analysis, responses sourced*

from the publicly available r/domesticviolence Reddit forum, which serves as a help-seeking community, will be coded using a TIC Index based on the six SAMHSA TIC principles. Thematic analysis will compare high and low scoring responses. It is hypothesized ChatGPT will show empathy and validation but fall short with safety planning, coercive control, and empowerment. Findings will contribute to IPV research and have the potential to inform ethical integration of artificial intelligence into survivor-centred support systems in Canada.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125705 - Paper within a symposium

How Provincial Court Judges in Atlantic Canada Define Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

Main Presenting Author: Oman-Miller, Dakota

Additional Authors: Lively, Christopher J; Watt, Margo C

Abstract: *Rates of intimate partner violence (IPV) have steadily increased in Canada reaching a peak of 346 per 100,000 in 2021 (Statistics Canada, 2023). Currently, there is no legal definition or Criminal Code offence for IPV, which may lead to differences in judges' understanding of IPV. A recent study by Bowns et al. (2024) explored how judges in the Prairie Provinces (AB, SK, MB) defined IPV. Results showed that physical violence was the most commonly identified form (51%), followed by psychological or emotional abuse (33%). The current study sought to replicate and extend Bowns et al.'s study by examining how judges in Atlantic Canada (NS, NB, PEI, NL) defined IPV. Also, of interest was whether male and female judges would differ in their definitions. Using the Canadian Legal Information Institute database, 103 provincial court cases from the four Atlantic Provinces were coded for IPV-related criminal code charges, IPV behaviours derived from the Divorce Act (1985), and judges' gender for a total of 34 variables. Preliminary results indicate that almost one-third (32%) of judges identify physical violence, followed by threats or intimidation (23.3%), and coercive controlling behaviour (13.6%). Findings from this study could provide support for greater IPV-specific legal mechanisms.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125703 - Paper within a symposium

Police Assessment of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Risk in Rural Nova Scotia

Main Presenting Author: Jessome, Abigail

Additional Authors: Lively, Christopher J; Watt, Margo C

Abstract: *Following the recommendation of the Mass Casualty Commission (2023), in 2024, Nova Scotia passed Bill 482, declaring intimate partner violence (IPV) an "epidemic". Nationwide, rates of IPV are the highest ever reported (Statistics Canada, 2024). Police officers are often the first to respond to IPV incidents (Campbell et al., 2018) so they should have valid tools to assess and prevent risk of IPV recidivism. The Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA; Hilton et al., 2004) is an actuarial tool used by police in three provinces (NS, NB, MB). Research suggests that the ODARA's predictive validity could be enhanced by complementing its static factors with more dynamic factors, such as emotional dysregulation; characteristic of borderline personality disorder (BPD; Hegel et al., 2022; Doyle, 2024). The present study examined police files from a rural NS RCMP detachment (N = 200, 95.2% males, Mage = 36.17, SD = 11.39). For cases where the ODARA was completed, dynamic*

factors were coded from the Coding Guide for IPV Incidents (Gryshchuk, 2020) and the Violence in Relationships Guide. Stepwise regression will be conducted to assess whether risk prediction is enhanced with addition of dynamic factors. This is the first study to investigate the ODARA's predictive value with a NS sample and will contribute to the larger body of research investigating IPV risk assessment.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125700 - Paper within a symposium

Self-compassion as a Protective Factor for Coping with Shame in Diverse Contexts

Moderator(s): Kocovski, Nancy

Abstract: *Self-compassion is associated with well-being in many domains, and can be assessed qualitatively, as a trait, and as a state, and can be induced through writing exercises and other interventions. Recent research has highlighted the benefit self-compassion may have on experiences of shame. This symposium contains three research talks on the role of self-compassion as a protective factor for coping with shame. These presentations use different approaches for the assessment of self-compassion (qualitative, trait, state) and diverse contexts (activism, menopause, social anxiety). The first presentation reports results from a qualitative study with socially progressive activists in which self-compassion was viewed as beneficial, but shame may be an inhibiting factor. The second presentation focuses on trait self-compassion among pre-menopausal and peri/menopausal woman. Trait self-compassion predicted lower feelings of shame, and this effect was strongest among peri/menopausal women. The third presentation reports results from a lab study examining the role of state self-compassion on shame during a stressful conversation, and how it protects against post-event rumination in the day following. The discussant will integrate these findings and provide direction for future research on self-compassion and shame.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125444 - Symposium

Caring for the Self to Care for Others: A Qualitative Exploration of Activists' Views on Self-Compassion, Shame and Self-Blame

Main Presenting Author: Hanson, Sophie

Additional Author: Johnson, Edward

Abstract: *Socially progressive activists play an important role in maintaining a democratic society through their work on behalf of marginalized communities. However, these individuals often face myriad stressors, including conflict within activist organizations, lack of progress on social issues, and difficulty coping with self-criticism in these aforementioned situations. As these pressures can lead activists to want to drop out of social justice work, solutions are needed to help them engage in activism from a healthy perspective. One possibility may lie in self-compassion. A series of qualitative interviews were conducted with 10 socially progressive activists on their attitudes towards and uses of self-compassion in activist work. Preliminary thematic analysis of this data suggests that activists perceive self-compassion as beneficial to them, particularly in helping them to engage in less self-blame around mistakes and failures in activist work. However, activists may also question whether the immediacy of their experiences with shame might inhibit their ability to be self-compassionate. These*

results support continued exploration of how self-compassion may benefit activists, including examining the efficacy of self-compassion interventions.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125742 - Paper within a symposium

Impact of State Self-compassion on Shame and Post-event Processing for a Stressful Conversation among those with Elevated Social Anxiety

Main Presenting Author: Szczyglowski, Kamila

Additional Authors: Brambell, Autumn ; Kocovski, Nancy

Abstract: *Those with social anxiety often engage in post-event processing, which is repetitive negative rumination after social events. Shame during social situations has been associated with greater post-event processing. Self-compassion (i.e., increased self-kindness, mindfulness, and common humanity) may help those with social anxiety feel less shame, and in turn reduce post-event processing. The purpose of the present study was to investigate the impact of state self-compassion during a stressful social interaction on shame during the situation and post-event processing 24-hours after. Students with elevated social anxiety (n = 111) were randomly assigned to complete a self-compassion or control writing task about a previously distressing conversation. Participants then had a 10-minute self-disclosure conversation with a confederate. Shame was assessed after the conversation. Post-event processing was assessed 24-hours later. Although there were no differences across conditions on shame or post-event processing, higher state self-compassion during the conversation was associated with lower shame, which in turn predicted lower post-event processing 24-hours later (Effect: -4.67, 95%CI[-7.47, -2.36]). Results indicate a further need to understand the possible protective role of self-compassion for experiences of shame in social anxiety.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125761 - Paper within a symposium

Self-Compassion and Shame in Peri/Menopausal and Pre-Menopausal Women

Main Presenting Author: Burnham, Cortney

Additional Author: Foster, Mindi

Abstract: *In a society where aging women are devalued, it is not surprising menopausal women often report shame (e.g., Dahlgren et al., 2023). Reducing this shame may come through self-compassion, given it reduces anxiety in menopausal women (Jones et al., 2021). As such, we examined how self-compassion relates to shame in peri/menopausal women. Moreover, given that pre-menopausal women report more negative views about menopause than women experiencing menopause (Tariq et al., 2023), we compared whether self-compassion would differentially affect shame across the two groups. Premenopausal women (n = 233) and peri/menopausal women (n = 204) were asked to report their trait self-compassion as well as their anticipated and current shame, respectively about menopause. There was a main effect of self-compassion ($p < .001$) such that greater self-compassion predicted lower shame, but there was no main effect of condition ($p = .057$). These effects were qualified by a significant interaction, $R2change = 0.02$, $F(1, 433) = 6.89$ $p = 0.009$. Among pre-menopausal women, greater self-compassion predicted lower feelings of shame, $B = -2.46$, $p < .001$. Among peri/menopausal women this effect was stronger, $B = -4.14$, $p < 0.001$. This work not only*

suggests self-compassion may help reduce shame among menopausal women but may also be an important buffer for young women as they age into menopause.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125746 - Paper within a symposium

The Female Addiction Research Gap: Understanding the Role of the Menstrual Cycle in Females' Substance Use and Substance-Related Reinforcement

Moderator(s): Ethier-Gagnon, Mikaela A.

Abstract: *Females remain underrepresented in addictions research, despite rapidly rising rates of substance use and substance use disorders (SUDs) that now approach those of males. Consequently, foundational theories of addiction have been shaped by predominantly male samples, overlooking potential sex differences in the development and maintenance of SUDs. Hormonal fluctuations across the menstrual cycle may modulate the reinforcing properties of substances and contribute to periods of heightened vulnerability, yet these mechanisms remain understudied. This symposium presents 3 studies and an integrative discussion led by Dr. Kayla Joyce from the University of Manitoba addressing this gap across substances: nicotine, caffeine, and cannabis-alcohol co-use. The first examines how subjective responses to nicotine and menthol in electronic cigarettes vary across menstrual cycle phases. The second uses EEG-indexed P3b responses to assess whether caffeine's cognitive effects differ by cycle phase. The third employs a daily diary design to identify menstrual-cycle-related increases in alcohol-cannabis co-use. Together, findings highlight subjective, behavioral, and neural processes that may underlie phase-specific patterns of substance reinforcement and co-use among females. Results emphasize the urgent need for female-specific addiction models to develop targeted intervention strategies.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123052 - Symposium

Electroencephalography (EEG)-Indexed Impacts of Caffeine on Attention to Task Relevant Stimuli Represented by the P3b Response Across Phases of the Menstrual Cycle

Main Presenting Author: Bissonnette, Jenna N.

Additional Authors: Olmstead, Lee-Ann P.; Puiras, Esther E.; Slaunwhite-Hay, Sydney; Fisher, Derek J.; Myles, Elizabeth M.; Newman, Randy L.; Perrot, Tara S.

Abstract: *Caffeine is the most used psychostimulant worldwide. EEG-derived event-related potentials (ERPs) objectively measure cognitive processes underlying arousal and attention and can help explore psychostimulant effects. The P3b reflects attention to task-relevant stimuli, and caffeine has been shown to enhance this response. Hormonal fluctuations across the human menstrual cycle (HMC) can influence cognition, but HMC effects on the P3b are mixed. The extent to which HMC phase interacts with the effects of caffeine on the P3b is unknown. This study examined the P3b elicited by auditory (novelty oddball) and visual (visual search) tasks in 86 participants. Participants were randomly assigned to undergo testing during their menstrual, follicular, or luteal phase. Using a placebo-controlled, double-blind, repeated measures design, each participant completed two EEG sessions, receiving 200mg caffeine or placebo in counterbalanced order. On the visual task, caffeine increased P3b amplitude, decreased latency, and improved accuracy. No effect of cycle phase emerged. On the auditory task, the follicular group had higher amplitudes than the luteal group. In the*

menstrual group only, caffeine increased P3b amplitude and improved performance. These findings highlight phase-specific effects of caffeine and the critical need for incorporating female participants in drug research.

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124626 - Paper within a symposium

Patterns of Alcohol and Cannabis Co-Use Across the Menstrual Cycle: Evidence for Increases During the Premenstrual Phase

Main Presenting Author: Tanner, Amelie

Additional Authors: Van Staden, Frank ; Sherry, Simon B.; Joyce, Kayla; Stewart, Sherry H.

Abstract: *Alcohol-cannabis co-users consume both substances more frequently and heavily, and simultaneous use of these substances produces synergistic effects, increasing their potential reinforcing and adverse effects. Alcohol and cannabis use are increasing in females, and compared to males, females escalate from initial to disordered use more rapidly. These sex differences may be attributable to menstrual cycle (MC)-related fluctuations in affect. We examined whether alcohol-cannabis co-use intensity varies across MC phases and whether negative mood accounts for these fluctuations. N = 44 female co-users (M age = 29.24) completed daily diaries over 32 days tracking their MC, mood, and cannabis and alcohol use. Changes in co-use intensity were calculated for each day relative to a participant's average co-use across days. A Tweedie generalized additive model tested phase differences in co-use intensity. Mood effects were tested via mediation analysis. Planned contrasts revealed significantly higher co-use intensity in the menstrual and premenstrual phases compared to the luteal phase, ps < .05. However, negative affect did not explain these effects. These findings suggest cessation of alcohol-cannabis co-use may be more difficult perimenstrually, highlighting the need for targeted interventions that account for cycle phase.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124651 - Paper within a symposium

Subjective Responses to Electronic Cigarette Ingredients Across the Menstrual Cycle

Main Presenting Author: Ethier-Gagnon, Mikaela A.

Additional Authors: Perry, Robin N.; Perrot, Tara S.; Stewart, H. Sherry; Good, Kimberly

Abstract: *Background: Use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) has increased substantially, partly due to their appealing flavours. Although menthol may enhance nicotine reinforcement, it remains exempt from ENDS flavour restrictions in several Canadian jurisdictions. Ovarian hormones may also modulate the reinforcing properties of nicotine and/or menthol. However, the role of the menstrual cycle in reinforcement remains largely unexamined.Methods: Female ENDS users (N = 27) were randomized to a menthol or menthol-free condition across two experimental sessions-one follicular and one luteal. Subjective craving, withdrawal, and inhaler effects were assessed before and after a standardized puffing procedure.Results: Nicotine reduced withdrawal and reward-related craving, and withdrawal was lower in the luteal phase relative to the follicular phase across conditions. Menthol increased inhaler palatability, stimulation, and desire for additional puffs, but did not alter craving or withdrawal, and no interactions with menstrual phase emerged.Conclusion: Menthol enhances sensory-driven aspects of ENDS use rather than nicotine's*

pharmacological reinforcement, while the luteal phase may mitigate withdrawal.Impact: Findings highlight menstrual cycle phases associated with reduced vulnerability and support evidence-based regulation of menthol in ENDS products.

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124621 - Paper within a symposium

The Independent and Interactive Impacts of Lifestyle Behaviours on Youth Mental Health: Leveraging Technology and A Novel Paradigm to Optimize Personalized Lifestyle Prescription

Moderator(s): Goldfield, Gary

Abstract: *Lifestyle factors, such as physical activity, sleep, and social media use, may have interdependent and bidirectional impacts on youth mental health, yet they are not widely integrated systematically in evidence-based assessment and treatment for youth mental health. To intervene optimally, clinicians require information on the nature of problems youth experience in these areas, and their clinical relevance. This symposium will present novel insights on the clinical relevance of lifestyle behaviours for youth mental health and will discuss implications for how clinicians can incorporate lifestyle topics in their assessment and treatment planning. Dr. Gary Goldfield will discuss how social media use contributes to youth mental health and will present data from his meta-analysis highlighting the psychotherapeutic effects of reducing social media use and who benefits most. Dr. Madison Aitken will discuss the types of sleep problems reported by youth seeking mental health services and how they relate to differences in youth symptom presentations and resilience. Dr. Marcus Lopes will highlight how wearable technology and statistical modeling elucidate the interdependency of movement behaviours and their impacts on mental health within a time reallocation epidemiology framework. He will also discuss how clinically applying this framework can inform personalized lifestyle prescriptions*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125979 - Symposium

Does reducing social media use reduce anxiety and depression among youth? Results from a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

Main Presenting Author: Goldfield, Gary

Additional Authors: Lopez, Marcus Veber ; Branje, Karina; David, Athourina; Gennara, Anamarie

Abstract: *Background: Social media use (SMU) is associated with mental health problems, but experimental trials are needed to determine causality. This study meta-analyzed the effects of experimentally reducing SMU on psychological outcomes. Secondary aims examined which sub-groups benefit most.Methods: A systematic search across Ovid/MEDLINE, Embase, PsycINFO, and Cochrane CENTRAL targeting mental health outcomes and interventions aimed at reducing social media use. Eligible studies were randomized controlled trials that restricted social media use for at least 24 hours and included an unconstrained control group. Multilevel meta-analyses were employed.Results: Thirty-seven original studies were included. Relative to controls, reducing SMU led to significant reductions in depression ($g = 0.20$, $k = 18$), anxiety ($g = 0.18$, $k = 13$) and increases in well-being ($g = 0.32$, $k = 12$). Sensitivity analyses showed these effects were stronger and clinically meaningful in those with higher baseline distress.Conclusion/Importance: This study highlights the*

causal role that SMU plays in youth mental health by demonstrating psychotherapeutic effects by its reduction. Given effects in those with elevated levels of psychological distress are large and clinically meaningful, clinicians should include SMU in comprehensive psychological assessment and treatment of youth with mood and anxiety disorders.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125994 - Paper within a symposium

Sleep Problems in Youth Seeking Mental Health Services: Identifying Patterns to Inform Care

Main Presenting Author: Aitken, Madison

Additional Authors: El-Houda Rarrbo, Nour ; Berman, Staci; McMurray, Jordana; Courtney, Darren; Cleverly, Kristin; Ameis, Stephanie

Abstract: *Youth with mental health conditions experience high rates of sleep problems. Understanding the types and patterns of sleep problems experienced and their associated clinical features would inform their incorporation in mental health treatment. We identified patterns of sleep problems among youth seeking mental health services and examined how these patterns are related to their mental health symptoms and resilience.Youth ages 11 to 25 (N = 598) seeking mental health services (early data from the Toronto Adolescent Youth Cohort Study) rated their internalizing and externalizing symptoms at baseline, and their sleep problems and resilience 6 months later. Patterns of sleep problems were derived with latent class analysis.A 4-class model fit best, with the largest class experiencing Multiple Sleep Problems (42% of sample). The Multiple Sleep problems class had more severe internalizing and externalizing symptoms and lower resiliency than the Few Sleep Problems class (27% of sample), as did youth who experienced Disrupted Sleep (27% of sample). Clinicians should routinely inquire not only about the presence, but also the nature of youth sleep problems given their association with lower resilience. Youth with internalizing and/or externalizing presentations may require support to improve multiple aspects of their sleep, including quality, duration, and continuity.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126022 - Paper within a symposium

Supporting mental health through the lens of the time-use epidemiology paradigm: Implications for informing precision-based lifestyle intervention.

Main Presenting Author: Lopez, Marcus Veber

Additional Author: Goldfield, Gary

Abstract: *Background: Movement behaviours (sleep, sedentary behaviour [SB], and light- [LPA] and moderate-to-vigorous-intensity physical activity [MVPA]) are interdependent, yet most mental health research treats them as isolated exposures. Advances in wearable technology within the time-use epidemiology framework show that the mental health impact of increasing time in one behaviour depends on which behaviour is reduced as a result. This presentation synthesised evidence from reviews on mental health effects of movement behaviour time reallocations.Methods: A PubMed search combined terms for mental health, movement or time-use behaviours, and systematic or scoping reviews. Reviews summarising studies that used compositional analyses to estimate reallocation effects were included.Results: Six reviews were included. Reallocating time to MVPA*

consistently benefits mental health, with stronger effects when time is taken from SB. Substituting MVPA with any other behaviour is linked to poorer outcomes, while reallocating time from SB to LPA or sleep shows smaller but generally favourable effects.Conclusion: Mental health benefits depend on the overall time-use composition, yet increasing MVPA at the expense of SB leads to greatest benefits.Importance: Findings support personalised interventions and highlight the role of wearables in guiding composition-aware lifestyle prescriptions.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126014 - Paper within a symposium

The Longitudinal Bidirectional Effects of Youth Screen Time on Psychosocial Development

Moderator(s): Al-Jbouri, Elizabeth

Abstract: *There is growing theoretical and empirical evidence supporting the importance of both usage and context when considering the role of screens in young people's lives. There is a growing need, therefore, to consider not only the plethora of ways that youth use screens, but also to centre the importance of developmental stage when considering the impact of screen use (Madigan & Reich, 2023). This symposium focuses on adolescent screen use (e.g., platform, frequency, context) and its longitudinal, bidirectional associations with adolescent psychosocial and cognitive outcomes. Bringing together international scholars and data from four robust, longitudinal cohorts, each presentation uses state-of-the-art Random-Intercept Cross-Lagged Panel Modelling (RI-CLPM; Hamaker, 2015) to test bidirectional associations between screen use and youth psychosocial development over time. The first presentation draws on Irish cohort data (N=10, 000) to examine associations between time spent on different screen types and adolescent peer relationships problems. The second presentation uses Canadian data (N=1500) to explore links between weekday versus weekend screen use and adolescent ADHD symptoms. The third presentation is based on American data, focusing on social media addiction and its associations with adolescent depressive and anxious symptomologies. The fourth study draws on a Canadian-based Quebec study (N=2100) to investigate how social media use relates to perceived mental health in emerging adulthood. Together, these studies highlight which screens are used, when they are used, and how they are used to inform understandings of the impact of screen time in youth.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125472 - Symposium

Bidirectional associations between early adolescents' screentime and ADHD symptoms during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

Main Presenting Author: Elizabeth Al-jbouri, Elizabeth

Additional Authors: Park, Joanne L. ; Plamondon, Andre; Moreno, Megan; Tough, Suzanne

Abstract: *Screen time nearly doubled within the first year of the pandemic (Madigan et al., 2022), and remained elevated after the return of in-person schooling, especially on weekdays (Plamondon et al., 2023). These increases paralleled rising ADHD symptoms (Madigan et al., 2023; Park et al., 2024; Rogers & MacLean, 2023). Although screen time has been linked to ADHD (Nikkelen et al., 2014), the direction of this association is unclear. We examine the bidirectional links between screen time and ADHD symptoms during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, distinguishing weekday and weekend use.*

Participants were 1,713 mother-adolescent dyads. Adolescents reported on weekday and weekend screen time, and mothers rated inattention and hyperactivity symptoms. RI-CLPM analyses indicated significant between-person associations: adolescents with higher weekday and weekend screen time had elevated inattention and hyperactivity symptoms. Within-person effects also emerged. Weekday screen time at Wave 10 predicted increased inattention at Wave 11. A reciprocal association was found for hyperactivity: higher hyperactivity at Wave 10 predicted less weekday screen time at Wave 11, which predicted greater hyperactivity at Wave 12. These findings suggest that screen time may relate differently to the expression or perception of inattention and hyperactivity symptoms in early adolescence.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126086 - Paper within a symposium

Bidirectional associations between screentime type and peer relationship problems in adolescence

Main Presenting Author: Al-Jbouri, Elizabeth

Additional Authors: Neville, Ross ; Madigan, Sheri

Abstract: *This study estimates the longitudinal bidirectional associations between screen time and peer relationships problems from middle childhood through adolescence and how these associations may vary based on screen modality. This study uses data from the Growing Up in Ireland Child Cohort at ages 9, 13, and 17. The sample includes 8568 Irish youth at age 9 (51% female). Between-subjects analysis supports a small to moderate association between screen time and peer relationship problems. Within-subject analysis suggests limited stability for screen time between ages 9 to 13, with a slight increase in stability between ages 13 and 17 years. Peer relationships problems demonstrated more consistent stability over time. Cross-lagged parameter estimates indicate a prospective association between peer relationships problems at age 13 and subsequent screen time at age 17 (β=.083 [95% CI .032 to .134]). These results are similar for the videogaming and internet use models with an additional prospective association between peer relationship problems at age 9 and internet use at age 13. The television viewing model suggests no association with peer relationship problems. These findings suggest that peer relationships problems may drive increased screen use, rather than screen use leading to problems interacting with peers.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125482 - Paper within a symposium

Examining Trait and State-Level Associations Between Adolescent Social Media Addiction and Internalizing Symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Otmar, Christopher

Additional Authors: Li, Elizabeth ; Nagata, Jason M.

Abstract: *While total screen time shows inconsistent associations with mental health, problematic or addictive social media use may more precisely capture clinically relevant risk. The current study estimates the associations between social media addiction and internalizing symptoms during adolescence. The sample includes 4,454 participants. Across five waves, constrained RI-CLPMs indicated bidirectional lagged associations between social media addiction and depression (ps < .001). For anxiety, one-way lagged associations were observed (social media addiction to anxiety: p =*

.012; anxiety to social media addiction: p = .190). Unconstrained RI-CLPMs identified significant lagged effects during mid-adolescence (Years 3-4 and 4-5). Females had higher trait levels of social media addiction and internalizing symptoms (ps < .001). Sex assigned at birth moderated effects for depression (p = .023) but not for anxiety (p = .074): among males, within-person associations were detectable (ps < .05); among females, no consistent lagged associations emerged. Overall, social media addiction and depression showed bidirectional lagged associations, whereas anxiety demonstrated a unidirectional association dependent on prior problematic use, with effects concentrated in mid-adolescence and partially moderated by sex.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126094 - Paper within a symposium

The Three Musketeers: Music in psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy, drug repurposing, and expanded scope of practice.

Moderator(s): Sepehry, Amir A

Abstract: *Here, we present 3 psychopharmacological projects that have led to distinct movements in the field in recent years and are relevant to psychology in Canada and other fields. The first explores the therapeutic function of music in psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy for substance use disorders, a novel approach with scarce data on its specific therapeutic functions. This study will integrate findings from clinical trials, neurobiological research, and qualitative reports. The second project is on the use of an existing method, yet a new approach, for classifying neuropsychological data in clinical trials and beyond to detect treatment effects. This study opens the door for drug repurposing and has both clinical and research implications. Lastly, we present a policy project on Prescriptive authority (RxP). With substantial impact, RxP for psychologists invites a broader scope of practice, and how we identify stakeholder roles, policy considerations, and applicable pathways across Canadian provinces. This project examines the feasibility, safety, and public health value of RxP when paired with structured regulatory oversight, interprofessional collaboration, and political will. We hope these projects invite discussion among the conference attendees.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 124454 - Symposium

From Research to Regulation: Translating RxP Evidence into Provincial Policy Pathways for Psychologists in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Bailey-Sawatzky, Erin

Additional Author: Velikonja, Diana

Abstract: *Background: Prescriptive authority for psychologists (RxP) has over three decades of evidence from U.S. jurisdictions demonstrating safety, efficacy, competency, positive patient/provider feedback, and improved access to care. As Canadian provinces consider scope expansion, guidance is needed on translating this evidence into regulatory, political, and stakeholder processes. Methods: This presentation integrates (1) results from a systematic review of 144 studies on RxP safety, competence, training, patient/provider feedback, and system utilization, and (2) experiential analysis from Ontario's RxP consultation and regulation process. Ontario's insights were combined with U.S. findings to identify stakeholder roles, policy considerations, and pathways relevant to Canadian provinces. Results: Findings highlight research valued by governments and colleges (e.g., safety,*

training, utilization impact), key stakeholders for advocacy, facilitators that advance RxP, and barriers including variable support and opposition from other professions. Political climate considerations are essential for planning. Conclusions: Evidence supports the feasibility, safety, and public-health benefits of RxP when paired with structured oversight, interprofessional collaboration, and political will. Impact: A provincial roadmap will outline stakeholder education strategies, approaches to managing opposition, mechanisms for surveying and educating psychologists, and practical steps for progressing RxP with regulators and ministries across Canada.

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 124616 - Paper within a symposium

Harnessing Music to Support Recovery: The Therapeutic Function of Music in Psychedelic-Assisted Psychotherapy for Substance Use Disorders

Main Presenting Author: Richard, Jérémie

Additional Author: Larochelle, Florence

Abstract: *Background:Although music a core element of psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy (PAP), its specific therapeutic functions remain insufficiently defined. For individuals with substance use disorders (SUDs), music may serve as an adaptive emotion regulation tool that enhances therapeutic depth, supports meaning-making, and promotes abstinence following PAP. Methods: This presentation integrates findings from clinical trials, neurobiological research, and qualitative reports examining the effects of music in PAP. In addition, case material from clinical experience in PAP for SUDs will be reviewed to illustrate therapeutic mechanisms and outcomes. Results: Evidence indicates that music modulates neural circuits related to emotion and reward, facilitates emotional release, and enhances self-awareness. Clinically, music-supported psychedelic dosing sessions appear to deepen engagement, foster self-compassion, and sustain motivation for recovery. Conclusions: Music may act as a catalyst for emotional processing and integration, strengthening adaptive emotion regulation capacities essential to recovery from addiction. Impact: Findings support the intentional selection and integration of music in psychedelic-assisted therapy protocols. Further research is needed to establish evidence-based guidelines for optimizing music's therapeutic use in addiction treatment contexts.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 124603 - Paper within a symposium

The use of C-H-C Broad Cognitive Abilities classification: A meta-analytic approach to Trazodone clinical trial data

Main Presenting Author: Sepehry, Amir A

Additional Author: Abdoulraman, , Yasmin

Abstract: *Background: Neurocognitive measures are often categorized into cognitive domains (attention, executive functioning, memory, and global IQ) for reporting meta-analytic studies. To our knowledge, no meta-analysis has classified the outcome measures according to the Cattell-Horn-Carroll (CHC) Broad Cognitive Abilities model to assess treatment effects. Aim: We hypothesized that this approach could uncover treatment effects veiled by overly broad cognitive domain groupings. Method: We used published Trazodone clinical trials and studies' cognitive data to run a meta-*

analysis using the CHC classification model, comparing Trazodone to a control at the endpoint using Hedge's g, and organizing cognitive tasks according to the CHC model. Results: Fourteen studies contributed to this preliminary data analysis. Emerging CHC categories were crystallized intelligence, fluid intelligence, visual processing, short-term memory, long-term storage and retrieval, processing speed, quantitative knowledge, and general intelligence. Conclusion: As predicted, our approach revealed a treatment effect that the broader cognitive classifications failed to detect. Impact: Grounded in empirically supported CHC latent constructs, we provide greater explanatory precision and implications for psychopharmacology and clinical trial design, particularly when testing treatment effects were previously limited.

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 124627 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: IMPROVING PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Highlights the ways in which psychological research - methods, analyses, design - can be improved and better used to inform the science, practice, and education of psychology

12-Minute Talk

A Multiple-Group Item Response Theory-based Reliable Change Index: Comparing Individual Change Across Heterogeneous Groups

Main Presenting Author: Campbell, Sarah

Abstract: *The Reliable Change Index (RCI) is a widely used measurement tool to assess individual symptom change. However, when comparing individual change scores across groups (e.g., treatment vs. control), the current method of calibrating each group on its own latent scale makes individual change scores non-comparable, leading to biased inferences about which individual experienced greater improvement.This talk introduces a Multiple-Group Item Response Theory (MG-IRT) extension of the RCI that resolves this comparability problem. By jointly estimating all item parameters while incorporating group-specific latent means through an empirical-Bayesian estimation method, the MG-IRT approach places all individuals on a shared latent scale. This enables more efficient and interpretable cross-group comparisons of individual change scores.Using Monte Carlo simulation, I evaluated MG-IRT's model and person parameter recovery. As well, I compared the performance of the MG-IRT RCI model against the alternative single-group IRT-RCI model and the CTT-RCI model in terms of Type I error and power. Results showed that the MG-IRT model performs well, even with small calibration samples, and has better rates of detecting true change, making it an attractive approach for treatment evaluation and program assessment when comparing individual change across heterogeneous groups.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125350 - 12-Minute Talk

A Regularized Extension of MOB-ERA-GEE to Address Overfitting in Multivariate Longitudinal Models

Main Presenting Author: Dupas, Rachel

Additional Author: Kim, Sunmee

Abstract: *The Extended Redundancy Analysis (ERA) framework constructs latent components from multiple coefficients and accommodates multiple outcomes. By adding Generalized Estimating Equations, ERA-GEE can model repeated measures while maintaining interpretability. To address its assumption of homogeneity, MOB-ERA-GEE incorporates Model-Based Recursive Partitioning (MOB), enabling data-driven subgroup detection through parameter instability testing. Despite its strengths, the current MOB-ERA-GEE relies on unregularized ERA, which increases its susceptibility to overfitting. This study introduces elastic-net regularization into the MOB-ERA-GEE framework to stabilize instability statistics and improve subgroup detection. Simulations will compare the*

regularized and unregularized MOB-ERA-GEE across varying subgroup structures and dependencies. Applying both models to the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) data will assess model performance on real-world outcomes and demonstrate practical utility. Preliminary analyses are underway, with expected findings of improved interpretability, model stability, and subgroup detection. My presentation will cover the research's methodological context, the incorporation of elastic-net penalties into the MOB-ERA-GEE framework, and detail the planned applications to simulated data and CLSA data.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125392 - 12-Minute Talk

A Summary of Five Reasons to Finally Abolish Multiplicity Control

Main Presenting Author: Celio, Victoria Maria

Additional Author: Cribbie, Robert

Abstract: *Psychological researchers are often interested in testing multiple hypotheses; however, the probability of a Type I error increases with each additional hypothesis tested, a phenomenon known as the multiplicity problem. Methodologists have discussed the multiplicity problem for decades, and a variety of solutions have been proposed (e.g., familywise error control). Yet, the solution of applying no multiplicity control has received little attention in the literature. The purpose of this presentation is to provide a comprehensive summary of reasons why researchers should consider implementing no multiplicity control in their research. The presentation begins with an overview of the multiplicity problem and a summary of popular methods for addressing it. The remainder of the presentation is dedicated to summarizing arguments against implementing multiplicity control in research. We argue that multiplicity control should not be implemented in research because Type I errors do not exist for many hypotheses tested in psychology, replication provides a stronger method for detecting Type I errors, multiplicity control methods reduce consistency across studies, the test of interest is the natural unit of analysis and effect sizes should be the primary focus of analyses. We end the presentation with recommendations for researchers and implications for the field of psychology.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126207 - 12-Minute Talk

Advancing Extended Redundancy Analysis via Generalized Estimating Equations (ERA-GEE): Integrating Model-Based Recursive Partitioning (MOB) for Subgroup Detection

Main Presenting Author: Sichkaruk, Samantha Paige

Additional Authors: Lix, Lisa ; Kruk, Richard; Kim, Sunmee

Abstract: *ERA-GEE provides a flexible framework for modeling associations between high-dimensional predictors and multiple correlated outcomes. However, its assumption of parameter homogeneity limits its ability to detect subgroup-specific effects when associations vary across covariates such as age or gender. This study addresses this limitation by introducing a methodological advancement that embeds MOB into ERA-GEE, resulting in a data-driven procedure that tests for covariate-dependent parameter instability and estimates subgroup-specific effects for the identified*

partitions. Results from simulation studies and an empirical application using data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging will be presented. These results will demonstrate that the proposed MOB-ERA-GEE method effectively identifies covariate-dependent heterogeneity and reveals nuanced subgroup differences in both simulated and real-world settings. This work advances ERA-GEE by providing a principled, data-driven approach for uncovering heterogeneous associations in multivariate analyses, with applicability to both cross-sectional and longitudinal data structures.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124848 - 12-Minute Talk

Assessing Content Validity in Rapidly Evolving Domains: A Large-Language-Model-Based Semantic Network Approach

Main Presenting Author: HE, XINYI

Additional Author: JI, FENG

Abstract: *Traditional approaches to assessing content validity can be slow, resource-intensive, and difficult to update when constructs evolve rapidly. We introduce a complementary computational method that uses large language models (LLMs) to evaluate content validity. Our framework embeds items into a shared high-dimensional semantic space, transforms this space into a weighted network, and applies community-detection algorithms to reveal its latent structure. Using AI literacy measurement as a case study, we validated the reliability of LLM-based embeddings and analyzed 36 related constructs, which were organized into 11 coherent semantic communities. The resulting semantic landscape showed a strong emphasis on applied competencies, along with identifiable gaps in analytical or critical dimensions. We also observed semantic convergence that suggests redundancy across scales, as well as cases of semantic fragmentation that signal conceptual omissions. Together, these findings illustrate how LLM-based semantic embeddings can serve as an efficient and scalable complement to traditional content-validity assessment, helping researchers refine conceptual boundaries and improve scale development in fast-changing domains.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125835 - 12-Minute Talk

Assessing Utility of Differentially Private Synthetic Data for Sharing Research Data with Latent Variables

Main Presenting Author: Sokolov, Misha

Abstract: *Open Government policies promote public release of research data to enhance research utility and trust. However, the released data must be protected against unauthorized disclosure of sensitive information. Differential privacy (DP) is a form of disclosure control which provably deidentifies data by creating a synthetic alternative, but the utility of DP synthetic data latent structures is understudied. Using simulations of plausible social science research datasets of varying length ($n = 100$ to 1500), loading strength ($\lambda = .20$ to .80), latent factors ($\theta = 1$ to 4), number of exogenous predictors ($X = 1$ to 8), and privacy budget ($\varepsilon = 1$ to 16), I investigate the utility of synthetic data created using a workload agnostic graphical DP synthesizer. Results indicate the number of records in a parent dataset is the primary determinant of synthetic data accuracy, with larger datasets ($n \geq 1{,}000$) showing error and non-convergence plateau. When holding dataset size constant, the*

privacy budget determined accuracy of variable means, while loading strength determined the accuracy of loadings. I conclude that sharing of potentially sensitive data with a focus on latent structures with a DP guarantee is possible under many social science research conditions. Practical recommendations are made for researchers considering implementing DP synthetic data as part of their workflow.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123171 - 12-Minute Talk

Bridging the Gap: Developing an Experimental Stimuli Set Depicting Individuals Who Use Wheelchairs

Main Presenting Author: Pejic, Samantha R

Additional Author: Deska, Jason

Abstract: *One way we navigate our complex social environment is through the categorization of others. To do this, we use multiple dimensions (e.g., race, gender, disability, or age) and rely on individuals' faces, bodies, and voices. Therefore, to fully understand how aspects of the body, such as physical disability, influence intergroup perceptions experimental stimuli are necessary. Problematically, there are no existing body stimuli sets depicting disabled bodies. The current project began to address this gap by creating a standardized stimulus set depicting individuals in wheelchairs for experimental intergroup research. Study 1 developed the stimulus set by photographing participants standing and in a wheelchair with varying expressions and poses. Study 2 (n = 244) provided norming data for the targets. Participants rated each image on six metrics: perceived attractiveness, race, age, gender, warmth and competence. The database includes 72 individual targets, totalling 1,116 unique images. Quantitative analyses were used to characterize the included targets in the stimulus set (i.e., age, race, gender, income, politics). Outside of gender, significant demographic diversity was achieved. For Study 2, participant responses were averaged or had probabilities calculated to characterize the perceived characteristics for each target. The current project aims to encourage intergroup research involving individuals who use wheelchairs.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124874 - 12-Minute Talk

Complete Case Analysis Is Not Always Bad and Can Even Be Surprisingly Good

Main Presenting Author: Wang, Siyi

Additional Author: Ji, Feng

Abstract: *Missing data are common in psychological research, and complete case analysis (CCA) is often dismissed as valid only when data are Missing Completely at Random (MCAR). Although this belief is widely held among psychologists, researchers in the missing data community have recognized that CCA can be robust in many regression settings. Many technical work on missing data show that CCA remains unbiased under several practically relevant Missing at Random (MAR) structures. CCA can even be unbiased in certain Missing Not at Random (MNAR) self masking situations where missingness depends on a predictor but is conditionally unrelated to the outcome. In contrast, widely recommended methods such as multiple imputation (MI) and full information maximum likelihood (FIML) can produce biased estimates when their assumptions are violated, especially in MNAR*

settings.Our study examines when CCA performs well compared to MI and FIML across a range of regression scenarios. The overall pattern is clear. CCA is more robust than many assume, performing well not only under MCAR but also under several MAR and MNAR structures that occur in applied research. When missingness is moderate and the sample size is sufficient, CCA can be a practical and defensible choice. In some situations, it even outperforms more complex methods that rely on stronger and less testable assumptions.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125158 - 12-Minute Talk

Designing Personalized Behavioral Interventions with Large Language Models

Main Presenting Author: Li, Zonghan

Additional Author: Ji, Feng

Abstract: *Behavioral interventions often face trade-offs among cost, scale, and personalization. Large language models (LLMs) offer new opportunities by reasoning about participant profiles and generating tailored responses at low cost. Yet current work rarely integrates psychological theories with LLMs and lacks clear validation metrics for LLM-generated intervention content. In this talk, I introduce a four-step framework for conducting and validating theory-grounded personalized behavioral interventions with LLMs. The framework covers data structuring, decision-logic design, quality control, and deployment. The data structuring step outlines how to select and organize participant information for LLMs. The decision-logic design step focuses on translating theoretical constructs into prompts that guide LLM reasoning. The quality-control step introduces rolling summaries, external judge models, and algorithmic fidelity checks that support content safety and theoretical alignment. The deployment step describes a repeatable session structure that generates analyzable records of change processes. A running example on intervening in academic procrastination will illustrate the workflow. Overall, this framework provides researchers with practical guidance for building theory-informed and transparent personalized interventions using LLMs.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125868 - 12-Minute Talk

Development and Validation of the Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) Literacy Scale

Main Presenting Author: Zhang, Yuchen

Additional Authors: Qi, Jia ; Ji, Feng

Abstract: *Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) tools such as ChatGPT are rapidly reshaping how people search for information, learn, and work, while also raising concerns about misinformation, bias, privacy, and academic integrity. These changes make GenAI literacy a critical competence. However, most existing AI literacy scales were developed before the rise of GenAI and focus on understanding broad AI technologies rather than GenAI-specific competencies such as prompt formulation and evaluation of GenAI-generated outputs. Additionally, emerging GenAI literacy measures are further limited by their focus on university students and non-North American samples, restricting their usefulness for identifying at-risk groups across age and occupation. The present study*

developed and validated the GenAI literacy scale in a diverse sample of North American adults. GenAI literacy is defined as the competencies needed to understand, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use GenAI tools. Items were constructed to capture three domains: (a) technical knowledge, (b) practical skills, and (c) ethical and legal understanding. A community sample of adults (N = 341; Mage = 39.00 years; 48% men, 52% women; 38% students, 42% employed, 20% freelancers) completed the GenAI literacy scale and measures of the AI acceptance scale and AI trust scale. The scale showed excellent internal consistency (α = .973, 95% CI [.968, .978]). Exploratory factor analysis supported a three-factor solution (KMO = .959; Bartlett's $\chi^2(561) = 5784.58$, $p < .001$) with acceptable fit, and confirmatory factor analysis further supported this model (CFI = .967, TLI = .965, SRMR = .058, RMSEA = .087). Convergent and discriminant validity were demonstrated by strong positive correlations with AI acceptance (r = .81) and moderate correlations with AI trust (r = .47). Findings suggest that the GenAI literacy scale is a psychometrically sound tool to assess GenAI literacy gaps in North American adults and inform educational and policy interventions.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125426 - 12-Minute Talk

Disenfranchisement of grief in East Asian women who have survived intimate partner violence: A reflection on the integration of constructivist grounded theory and intersectionality.

Main Presenting Author: Choo, Ping Ying

Abstract: *Women's experiences in intimate partner violence (IPV) extend beyond trauma and are inextricably connected with structural violence and their intersecting identity markers. Although Asian as a racial category encapsulates vastly diverse nations and ethnic groups with differing values and sociocultural rules, Asian women's experiences in IPV are often categorized as a monolithic group in the North American research, disregarding the cultural diversity and masking crucial differences within the Asian communities. This presentation is a part of an ongoing research that aims to examine the disenfranchisement of grief experiences among East Asian women who have survived IPV. This presentation will focus on the researcher's experiences and reflections regarding the integration of intersectionality and constructivist grounded theory as a social justice approach in IPV research, providing vital insights on the relevant challenges and recommendations when implementing such methodology. This presentation will also contribute to the feminist theorization on IPV which promotes future inquiries that can benefit underrepresented groups beyond East Asian women.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125022 - 12-Minute Talk

Evaluation of Generative Adversarial Imputation Nets' Performance in Handling Missing Data in Structural Equation Modeling

Main Presenting Author: He, Luqi

Additional Authors: Lu, Yingke ; Falk, Carl F.; Hwang, Heungsun

Abstract: *Missing data are a common challenge in structural equation modeling (SEM), potentially leading to biased estimates and reduced power. Full information maximum likelihood (FIML) and multiple imputation (MI) are widely used to address this issue. Recently, generative adversarial*

imputation nets (GAIN), a machine learning-based method, have shown promise under high missingness; however, their utility within SEM contexts remains largely unexplored. This simulation study compared GAIN, FIML, and MI across several experimental factors. Under correct model specification, all methods yielded comparable estimates, with GAIN exhibiting greater variability and poorer recovery of model fit. Under model misspecification, performance differences became more pronounced with increasing missingness. Below 50%, all methods performed similarly, though GAIN showed higher variability and poorer fit recovery. At 50%, MI and GAIN outperformed FIML with comparable accuracy. At 75%, GAIN produced more accurate estimates than MI but continued to show the greatest variability and poorest model fit recovery.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124116 - 12-Minute Talk

Examining Spontaneous Emotion Regulation Strategy Choice in the Research Laboratory in Clinical and Non-Clinical Populations: Insights and Challenges Based on Three Empirical Studies

Main Presenting Author: Fredborg, Bev

Additional Authors: Pimentel, Jordan ; Bernardin, Sara; Correia de Damasco Rodrigues, Gabriel; Girard, Todd A.

Abstract: *Emotion regulation (ER) refers the ability to modify one or more aspects of an emotional response and includes strategies such as changing the meaning of a negative event (e.g., cognitive reappraisal), distraction, and expressive suppression (e.g., changing one's facial expression). Research on ER strategy choice primarily uses forced-choice behavioral paradigms wherein individuals are forced to use specific ER strategies to regulate emotions while viewing emotional stimuli. Although studies have demonstrated that differential effects on momentary affect and memory are found when using these strategies, these forced-choice paradigms lack ecological validity, with participants often reporting using different strategies in life than in the lab. This talk explores the challenges and the insights gleaned from conducting three laboratory studies on ER strategy use, examining (1) the feasibility of allowing participants to freely choose ER strategies during behavioral tasks, (2) findings on the ER strategy choices that people tend to make when given free reign, and (3) the relationship between ER strategy choice and symptoms of common forms of psychopathology. This talk thus offers an exploration of alternative methods to studying ER strategy choice which can inform of both cognitive process research as well as clinical interventions.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124968 - 12-Minute Talk

Explained variance measures for generalized linear models and generalized linear mixed models

Main Presenting Author: Qi , Zhichun

Additional Author: Rights, Jason

Abstract: *Generalized linear models (GLMs) are often used in psychology to accommodate non-normal outcome distributions, and generalized linear mixed models (GLMMs) are increasingly used*

to further accommodate nested data structures. In both GLM and GLMM, however, effect size measures, such as R-squared, remain limited. Existing measures often ignore the full outcome variance decomposition, are typically not interpretable as "the proportion of outcome variance explained," and rarely have adjusted versions that account for upward bias. In this project, we extend the variance-decomposition framework of Rights & Sterba (2019) to GLMs and GLMMs, deriving components that separately quantify variance explained by within-cluster vs. between-cluster predictors and by fixed vs. random effects, and provide adjusted versions of these measures to correct for possible upward bias. We compare this framework to existing R-squared measures and discuss relationships among alternative measures, clarifying interpretational differences. Via Monte Carlo simulation, we assess how accurately adjusted and unadjusted measures of our framework can be estimated under a variety of conditions. We provide and illustrate the use of a new R function that can compute the full set of measures, with the goal of helping researchers report more informative effects sizes for GLMs and GLMMs in practice.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126319 - 12-Minute Talk

Fear of Cancer Recurrence and Cancer-Related Worries in Survivors of Childhood Cancer and their Parents: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Pizzo, Alex

Additional Authors: Galvin, Claire ; Langmuir, Tori; Tutelman, Perri; Gagnon, Michelle; Jibb, Lindsay; Nathan, Paul; Alberts, Nicole

Abstract: *Background: Fear of cancer recurrence (FCR) and cancer-related worries (CRW) are well characterized among adult-onset cancer survivors. Yet, few studies have examined FCR/CRW in childhood cancer survivors and their parents, and no reviews have synthesized this field to guide future research/clinical work. Methods: We followed the Joanna Briggs Institute guidelines for scoping reviews. Inclusion criteria: (1) English-language peer-reviewed, (2) quantitative or qualitive studies of FCR/CRW in childhood survivors and/or their parents. Articles were screened by two reviewers. Results: 55 articles met inclusion criteria. Most studies (80%) were published in the last 10 years. Parents were included in 51% of studies versus 65% including survivors. Among quantitative studies, 68% focused on adolescent and young adult survivors (mean age=15-35 years), and only 44% used a validated FCR/CRW measure. In the few qualitative studies available, FCR/CRW was often examined as a secondary topic; only 10% of qualitative studies focused on FCR/CRW directly. Conclusions: Although research on FCR/CRW in childhood cancer survivors and parents has grown in recent years, major gaps remain - including limited validated measures, few studies involving young survivors, and a lack of qualitative work focused specifically on FCR/CRW. Recommendations for future work will be provided.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125343 - 12-Minute Talk

How is Coercive Control Operationalized in Empirical Research: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Grajewski, Millena

Abstract: *Background: Coercive control (coercive, controlling behaviour) in intimate relationships is used to assert dominance over a partner and can involve verbal threats, manipulation, economic*

dominance, and many other tactics. A clear definition and operationalization of coercive control remains elusive. Method: A scoping review was conducted of the operationalization of coercive control in empirical research. Screening identified 131 articles. Data extraction involved identifying behaviours included in the study (e.g., economic control, isolation), as well as any details about how coercive control is operationalized (e.g., time span, number of behaviours). Results: Preliminary findings show that researchers include the majority of the theoretically identified coercive controlling behaviours in their studies of coercive control. However, less emphasis is placed on the details of the operationalization. Conclusion: This paper will present the final results of the scoping review project and offer a consensus definition of coercive control and how it is operationalized in empirical research. Action/Impact: A consensus definition and operationalization would help improve the research, measurement, and assessment of coercive control. Further research may focus on the details of coercive control beyond behaviours, such as time span, number of behaviours, survivor impact, and more.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124637 - 12-Minute Talk

Infinitesimal Jackknife Standard Errors for Indirect Effects: A Fast, Robust Alternative to the Bootstrap in Bayesian Mediation Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Luo, Nanyu

Additional Author: Ji, Feng

Abstract: *Indirect effects play a central role in mediation analyses in psychology and education, where researchers seek to understand how and why interventions affect outcomes through intermediate processes. Reliable uncertainty quantification for the indirect effect is crucial for drawing causal conclusions, comparing theories, and informing policy. Understated standard errors encourage overconfident claims and weaken the replicability of findings.We study an infinitesimal jackknife standard error (IJSE) for the indirect effect, treating it as a smooth functional of the parameter vector in a Bayesian mediation model. IJSE uses a single Markov chain Monte Carlo run and influence-function ideas: per-case log-likelihood contributions are correlated with the functional across posterior draws, and the sampling variance of the indirect effect is approximated by the empirical variance of these influence values. This yields a frequentist standard error while preserving a Bayesian workflow and avoiding repeated refitting as in bootstrap methods.In a simulation of a mediation model with indirect effect ab, we compare posterior standard deviation (PostSD), bootstrap with inner MCMC, and IJSE under correctly specified Gaussian data and under heteroskedastic, heavy-tailed misspecification, for multiple sample sizes. When the working model is correct, all three methods deliver similar standard errors. Under misspecification, PostSD underestimates uncertainty, whereas IJSE and the bootstrap yield larger and closely aligned standard errors. Runtime comparisons show that IJSE is only modestly slower than PostSD but more efficient than the bootstrap, making it attractive for mediation research.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125198 - 12-Minute Talk

Integration of a Postcolonial Indigenous Paradigm into Postgraduate Psychology Research Pedagogy

Main Presenting Author: Tse, Enoch Chi Lok
Co-Presenting Author: Zelman, Diane Carol

Abstract: *Rationale: Western research pedagogy often teaches students to view communities through a diagnostic lens. This shapes how research questions are formed, how research is conducted, and the dissemination of results, without significant involvement by the populations studied. Such strategy reinforces hierarchies of power wherein presumed expertise lies solely with the researchers, and the historically marginalized are seen as helpless, disorganized, or unknowing. The latter's knowledge systems are thus neglected, perpetuating stigma. There is a need to develop teaching practices that, while preserving the strengths of traditional research methods, are beneficial to the researched communities.Method: Drawn from literature on postcolonial indigenous research (Chilisa, 2020; Wilson, 2008), this presentation describes the application of two-eyed seeing in research pedagogy. Key concepts of the postcolonial indigenous research paradigm will be identified, and, using a typical research proposal example, opportunities to integrate this framework will be shown.Conclusion: The presentation will show how to integrate the postcolonial indigenous research paradigm into postgraduate psychology coursework and research mentorship.Action/impact: Attendees will learn pedagogical strategies that will help psychology research be more relevant and directly beneficial to communities across the world.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 123208 - 12-Minute Talk

Measuring the impact of lived experience engagement in research: A qualitative and psychometric development project

Main Presenting Author: Hawke, Lisa D

Additional Authors: Hou, Jingyi ; Sendanyoye, Claudia ; Hauer, Shoshana ; Munro, Charlotte ; Upham, Katie ; van Kesteren, Mary Rose

Abstract: *Background. People with lived/living experience of a health condition (PLLEX) and family/caregivers (-C) are often engaged in the design and development of health services, programs, and research. However, there is minimal work on the impacts of engagement, beyond qualitative studies and expert opinion. Purpose. This presentation will describe PLLEX-C engagement in research, discuss some of the impacts identified through literature review and qualitative research, and describe the development and validation of a new psychometric tool evaluating the impact of engagement on the research itself. Method. We conducted a qualitative descriptive study of the impacts of PLLEX-C engagement on the research. A total of 28 PLLEX-C and 12 researchers described the impact of engagement on research. The results provided the framework for developing a psychometric scale. From there, we developed a psychometric scale that aims to measure the impact of PLLEX-C engagement on research, across ten domains of impact. We have pilot tested the scale with PLLEX-C and researchers and conducted relevant refinements. Full psychometric testing is ongoing. Conclusions. PLLEX-C engagement is proposed to have positive impacts on the research in which they are engaged, but the impacts across projects are elusive. Impact. This psychometric tool will provide researchers with a concrete means of evaluating the impact of engagement on their projects, advancing the science of PLLEX-C engagement in research.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124577 - 12-Minute Talk

Model-Based Missing Management: Integrating Least Squares Imputation into ERA-GEE

Main Presenting Author: Phillips, Bryce

Additional Author: Kim, Sunmee

Abstract: *Extended redundancy analysis via Generalized estimating equations (ERA-GEE) is a novel statistical framework that is well-suited for modeling high-dimensional longitudinal (HDL) data. A key limitation of this framework is that it requires a complete dataset for estimation, and common missing management methods are naïve to ERA-GEE's complex structure as they are applied a priori. Least squares imputation (LSI) is an integration-based missing management method that jointly estimates missing values and model parameters. This dynamic approach is well-suited for ERA-GEE as it will allow the estimates of missing values and parameters to interact and co-evolve. This study introduces a methodological advancement that embeds LSI directly into ERA-GEE, creating a unified missing-data procedure tailored for HDL structures. Results from simulation studies-comparing the proposed LSI-ERA-GEE method with listwise deletion and multiple imputation-and an empirical application using data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging will be presented. Findings will demonstrate that LSI-ERA-GEE improves accuracy and reduces bias in parameter estimation, highlighting its utility for managing missingness in complex longitudinal data. By advancing missing-data methodology within ERA-GEE, this work strengthens the analytic toolkit available to researchers working with HDL designs.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124072 - 12-Minute Talk

Psychometric Evaluation of the PISA 2022 Social-Emotional Skills Measure: Evidence From a Large Canadian Sample

Main Presenting Author: Laham, Nicolas

Additional Author: Liu, Yan

Abstract: *The development of social-emotional skills (SS) is critical to adolescents' psychological well-being, yet robust measurement tools remain limited. In 2022, PISA introduced a comprehensive SS measure, comprising 10 subscales, but evidence for its reliability and validity is scarce. Given PISA's broad influence on educational policy and practice, this study aims to examine the measure's psychometric properties using a Canadian sample (N = 23,073). Our results showed that internal consistency reliability was strong across subscales (α = .78-.92). Multilevel exploratory factor analyses supported a single-factor structure for seven subscales, while persistence, cooperation, and stress resistance required two-factor solutions, suggesting greater construct complexity. Multilevel confirmatory factor analysis further supported the internal structure validity, with most scales showing adequate model fit when accounting for individual- and school-level variation. Criterion validity analyses aligned with our expectations: SS scores correlated negatively with bullying victimization and positively with school belongingness, while showing no association with academic achievement. Overall, the PISA 2022 SS measure demonstrates adequate reliability and validity using*

a Canadian sample, providing the first validation evidence to support its use in educational and psychological research.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124444 - 12-Minute Talk

Quantifying predictor-specific effect size in multilevel models

Main Presenting Author: Guo, Yingchi

Additional Author: Rights, Jason

Abstract: *Multilevel modeling (MLM) is widely used in psychology to account for hierarchical data structures. When applying MLM, researchers often report overall model effect size measures, such as R-squared, quantifying the proportion of variance explained by the model as a whole. Although these measures can be informative, they do not provide an indication of effect size for any individual predictor. In this project, we examine different ways researchers can compute predictor-specific effect size measures in MLM, clarify important interpretational differences among alternative measures, and extend certain measures developed for single-level regression to MLM. Two categories are considered and formally defined: (1) unique contribution measures (e.g., incremental R-squared), which quantify the magnitude of a predictor's effect over and above all other predictors, and (2) relative contribution measures (e.g., Shapley values), which quantify the magnitude of a predictor's effect in the context of all predictors. We will show that there are currently existing measures for MLM of both categories, but many are limited (e.g., cannot accommodate random slopes, do not provide information about level-specific variance), and demonstrate via both simulation and empirical example how our set of measures can help researchers better report predictor-specific effect size in practice.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126147 - 12-Minute Talk

Relative Importance of Predictors in Linear Mixed-Effects Models

Main Presenting Author: Liu, Yan

Abstract: *In social, behavioral, and psychological studies, researchers are often interested in identifying which predictors are most influential. Linear mixed-effects models (LMMs) are widely applied across disciplines, yet unlike multiple linear regression, methods for ranking predictor importance in LMMs remain limited. Existing methods are typically restricted to random-intercept models due to the statistical challenges involved in estimating and decomposing variance components when random slopes are present. The purpose of this study is to address this methodological gap by extending the Pratt index as a practical method for ordering predictors in LMMs with both random intercepts and random slopes. The Pratt index, well-established for multiple regression, decomposes explained variance into contributions from individual predictors while properly accounting for correlations among them. We first described the key statistical challenge posed by random slopes, then proposed a solution that allows decomposition of variance components, thereby enabling the application of the Pratt index to general LMMs. To demonstrate practical implementation, we presented two data examples spanning different research contexts, along with a step-by-step R tutorial. Our study provides a practical and accessible tool for answering "which predictors matter most?" in hierarchically structured data.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126025 - 12-Minute Talk

Research Engagement and Collaboration for Health: A survey and community engagement event on tools and resources to support lived/living experience engagement in research

Main Presenting Author: Hawke, Lisa

Additional Authors: Amartey, Abigail ; Cappe, Vivien ; Seiyad, Hajar ; Conway, Susan ; Orson, Joshua

Abstract: *Background. Engaging people with lived experience and caregivers in mental health and substance use health research has many benefits. A literature review revealed that more tools and resources are required to support authentic engagement. However, it is unclear tools and resources are required. Methods. We surveyed 46 people with lived experience or caregivers and 46 researchers to identify what tools and resources are needed to support engagement. Next, we led two consultations, where we discussed some of the most highly needed tools and resources. Our lived experience and caregiver working group then co-developed two tools. Results. People with living experience, caregivers, and researchers have access to a wide variety of tools and resources, but some are more needed than others. Participants helped give shape to five tools and resources in our consultations. We co-developed two meeting checklists, for scientists and people with lived/living experience and caregivers, as well as a career development tips sheet, which will be available to attendees. Conclusions. Many tools and resources are needed to help support authentic engagement, but most are available somewhere. Impact. Existing tools and should be collected and made available systematically to research teams to better support engagement in mental health and substance use research.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123752 - 12-Minute Talk

Statistical Consulting: Comparing AI and Human Experts

Main Presenting Author: Farkas, Evelyn

Additional Authors: Celio, Victoria ; Cribbie, Robert A

Abstract: *Psychological researchers have investigated how artificial intelligence (AI) can be integrated into research (e.g., literature reviews), yet little research has investigated whether AI can be an effective tool for statistical consulting. This study explored whether AI can consistently and accurately provide solutions to complex statistical consulting problems. We asked experts who specialize in specific forms of statistical methods to provide complex statistical consulting problems with solutions. The consulting problems were then given via a prompt to various AI chatbots (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini). The responses provided by AI chatbots were compared to the recommendations given by experts through comparative content analysis. Specifically, we assessed whether AI provides consistent responses to the same prompt and how closely the AI recommendation matches that of the experts. This study highlights both advantages and some important cautions regarding the use of AI for statistical consulting. Recommendations are provided for both applied researchers and statistical consultants.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126270 - 12-Minute Talk

The Impact of Configural Invariance Violations on the Performance of Alignment Optimization

Main Presenting Author: Alley, Lindsay J

Additional Author: Flake, Jessica K

Abstract: *Measurement invariance is a prerequisite for making valid comparisons of observed scores across groups or pooling data from different groups together. Alignment optimization offers a way to obtain comparable scores even when some items are non-invariant, but it assumes a correctly specified model that is the same across groups (configural invariance). In practice, this assumption is often violated, and existing guidance about how much misfit is tolerable remains unclear. Moreover, configural invariance can be violated in conceptually distinct ways (e.g., cross-loadings vs. correlated residuals), which may differentially affect alignment performance. Using Monte Carlo simulation, we systematically vary both the type and amount of configural non-invariance. To ensure comparability across violation types, we quantify the amount of non-invariance using the mean absolute discrepancy between the data-generating correlation matrices of the reference and focal groups. We evaluate how each violation pattern affects bias and coverage for factor means, variances, loadings, and intercepts, as well as power and Type I error for DIF detection. Findings highlight which forms of misspecification most undermine the use alignment. We conclude with practical recommendations to help researchers identify problematic configural violations before employing alignment optimization.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126253 - 12-Minute Talk

The Role of Global Motivation in Human Functioning: Development and Validation of the Global Motivation Scale (GMS-18)

Main Presenting Author: Bonfá Araujo, Bruno

Additional Authors: Rocchi, Meredith ; Pelletier, Luc G.; Vallerand, J. Robert

Abstract: *Within Self-Determination Theory, the Hierarchical Model of Motivation proposes that motivation functions at situational, contextual, and global levels. While measures exist for the first two, a detailed global-level instrument has been lacking. We present the development and validation of the Global Motivation Scale (GMS-18). Across four studies (N = 2,647), we offer strong evidence of its structure, reliability, and validity. In Study 1 (N = 653), we created items for six dimensions (Intrinsic, Integrated, Identified, Introjected, External, Amotivated). Exploratory and confirmatory analyses supported a clear six-factor structure with excellent reliability. Study 2 (N = 285) provided convergent and incremental validity, showing that the GMS-18 explains additional variance in academic motivation beyond the General Causality Orientations Scale. Study 3 (N = 619) replicated the structure in adults and showed that less self-determined forms predicted maladaptive outcomes (gambling, substance use, distress). Study 4 (N = 1,375) demonstrated that basic psychological needs predict global motivation, which in turn predicts affect, life satisfaction, vitality, and self-esteem. Overall, the GMS-18 is a concise and psychometrically sound measure of global motivation and its implications for well-being and vulnerability across life domains.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125796 - 12-Minute Talk

Thinking Clearly About Model Identification in SEM

Main Presenting Author: Zhang, Xijuan (Cathy)

Additional Authors: Wu, Hao ; Shi, Lianjie; Savalei, Victoria

Abstract: *In statistical modelling, model identification determines whether all model parameters can be uniquely estimated. For complex methods such as structural equation modelling (SEM), it is important to check model identification before analysis to ensure parameter estimates are feasible. In confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), identification determines whether model parameters-such as factor loadings, cross-loadings, and correlated errors-can be uniquely estimated from the data. Despite its importance, model identification is often only briefly addressed in SEM courses or textbooks. Consequently, when applied researchers encounter warning messages about a non-invertible information matrix-often a symptom of an identification problem-they are frequently unable to diagnose the underlying cause.One purpose of this presentation is to explain model identification in a way that is accessible to applied researchers. We clarify key concepts, including the distinctions between global, local, and empirical identification, and review common methods for establishing whether a model is identified. A second purpose is to propose and prove a set of practical identification rules that help researchers assess identification in CFA models that include correlated errors and cross-loadings.Together, these contributions aim to dispel common misconceptions and help researchers gain a deeper understanding of model identification in statistical modelling.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124171 - 12-Minute Talk

Visualizing magnitudes of effect size based on the Framework of graph perception and data visualization

Main Presenting Author: Zang, Shuo

Additional Author: Cousineau, Denis

Abstract: *Effect size is an essential statistic for scientific communication, and data visualization will assist observers in better graph perception. However, no optimal graph layout for visualizing magnitudes of effect size is known. To solve this, we propose a framework for graph perception and data visualization that connects numerical information to graph layout, grounded in aesthetics and intention. Based on the framework, we proposed ratios and formulas to set the y-axis range and to differentiate appraisal across magnitudes of effect size. Study 1 examined different combinations of ratios and established a baseline for matching perceived and actual magnitudes of effect size. In addition, the free parameter was determined from the baseline to optimize the y-axis range for each magnitude of effect size. Study 2 found that the optimal y-axis range outperformed three other alternatives in three graph layouts. The effect of dot and error bar layout was unaffected by the addition of jittered dots or red reference lines. Study 3 confirmed the impact of optimal layout and generalized the optimal graph layout to other sample sizes. In sum, this research developed a new methodology for visualizing magnitudes of effect size. The framework can be used to examine various graph perceptions in data visualization tasks and to create new visualizations for different intentions.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124980 - 12-Minute Talk

Who Publishes Psychology? Tracking Global Authorship Over 38 Years

Main Presenting Author: Thériault, Rémi

Abstract: *Background: Psychology aspires to be a global science, yet evidence suggests that published research remains dominated by a small number of high-income countries. Unequal authorship representation limits generalizability, reinforces epistemic inequities, and undermines the field's inclusivity goals.Methods: I developed the Missing Majority Dashboard, an open-access tool that tracks first-author affiliation patterns across leading psychology journals from 1987 to the present. Using the OpenAlex database, the dashboard extracts author-affiliation metadata and visualizes geographic trends. Analyses current cover 19 psychology journals and >80,000 articles.Results: First authors based in North America decreased from ~90% of publications in the late 1980s to ~50% today yet remain the dominant group. Europe and Asia show modest gains, while Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East consistently remain below 5%.Conclusions: Psychology's knowledge base continues to underrepresent the majority world. The dashboard provides a systematic, scalable method for monitoring authorship equity and identifying where progress is occurring and where it is not.Action/Impact: By making these disparities visible and trackable, the dashboard supports researchers and institutions in advancing a more globally representative psychological science (Ghai, Thériault, et al., 2025).*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 122957 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Co-creating Autism-Affirming Engagement in Psychological Research and Clinical Care

Main Presenting Author: Man, Louisa L. Y.
Co-Presenting Authors: Tien, Ingrid; Pace-Tonna, Carleigh

Additional Authors: Lunsky, Yona ; Lai, Meng-Chuan; Wozniak, A. Jan; Alexandrovsky, Mishel; Winge-Breen, Anna; Lacroix, Adeline; Alexander-Arias, Clare ; Hartman, Braxton; Cheung, Kennice K.N.

Abstract: *Research on psychotherapy for supporting autistic people has been criticized for not aligning with community needs or using a purely deficit-based model for understanding diversity. Aligned with the principle of inclusion, co-production (i.e., designing research with direct involvement from the autistic community) has been hailed as a necessary solution. Little is known about how co-production with autistic people can occur rigorously and effectively beyond focus on communication. This includes meaningfully capturing the diversity of autistic needs at all levels of research, avoiding tokenism.. The purpose of this discussion is to provide existing knowledge surrounding co-production and to synthesize these ideas across contexts and lessons learned from current psychological group programs. The discussion will be led with representation from autistic/neurodivergent clinicians/researchers. This roundtable will inform the creation of an engagement guide for knowledge translation. The engagement guide would include a list of strategies, considerations and questions to ask working groups of mixed neurotypes to tailor to the needs of the specific group. This*

will provide a tangible foundation for researchers and clinicians across Canada to identify how to meaningfully engage with autistic people and incorporate neurodiversity within diversity and inclusion frameworks in their work.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124999 - Conversation Session

Debugging the Internet Survey: A Discussion for Detecting Fraudulent Responses

Main Presenting Author: Raugh, Ian M

Additional Authors: Davies, Megan ; Paquin, Vincent; Ferrari, Manuela

Abstract: *Widely-distributed, online surveys remain an important tool in psychological research with utility for exploratory research, measure development, large-scale research, and other purposes. However, such surveys can also be vulnerable to completion by ineligible respondents (e.g., not members of the target group) and computerized agents ("bots", programs designed to complete a study for compensation), collectively considered fraudulent respondents. While curated platforms for research participation exist (e.g., Prolific), they may not include representation from particular niche populations or otherwise reflect a population of interest. As such, it is critical to consider how to detect and exclude fraudulent respondents in order to preserve data integrity and conserve research funding. However, the methods for doing so require consideration of survey platform (e.g., Qualtrics, REDCap, Pavlovia), the population of interest, recruitment methods, and analytic capabilities. In this discussion, we will consider a variety of methods in the literature to detect and exclude fraudulent responses. Implementing these techniques from the beginning of a study can limit study "infiltration" and maintain ethical responsibilities to participants. Discussion participants will be encouraged to reflect on their own research to enrich conversation and focus on practical application.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125732 - Conversation Session

Expanding Evidence-Based Practice: Including Qualitative Research in Canadian Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Luo, Houyuan
Co-Presenting Authors: Woodend, Jon; Van Vliet, Jessica

Additional Author: Kassan, Anusha

Abstract: *This roundtable focuses on the need to expand CPA's 2012 Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) of Psychological Treatments to more meaningfully integrate qualitative research into Canada's EBP framework. The existing hierarchy of evidence limits psychologists' ability to rely on the rich, context-specific knowledge generated through qualitative inquiry. Qualitative methodologies, such as narrative inquiry, grounded theory, IPA, discourse analysis, ethnography, and meta-syntheses, offer rigorous and systematic ways of understanding clients' lived experiences, cultural contexts, and treatment processes. These methods provide evidence directly relevant to practice, particularly in case conceptualization, intervention development, and implementation.This issue is timely as psychologists increasingly recognize the limits of narrowly defined "evidence" and the importance of pluralistic, contextually grounded approaches.Participants will discuss the initial draft of the document.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124387 - Conversation Session

Methodological Discomfort: Rethinking the Use of Method in Qualitative Research Through Poststructuralism

Main Presenting Author: Gao, Zed Zhipeng

Abstract: *Poststructuralist scholars are skeptical of method, seeing it as a stabilizing force that imposes fixed categories on phenomena and limits what kinds of knowledge can be produced. This concern becomes especially acute in qualitative inquiry, as the procedural nature of method may constrain the field's strengths-open-ended exploration, contextualization, and its subversive potential. It is therefore unsurprising that Elizabeth Adams St. Pierre calls for abandoning method altogether in qualitative inquiry. Yet, in practical terms, it is difficult to imagine the qualitative community giving up the use of methods entirely. Is it possible, then, to develop a pragmatic strategy that preserves the use of method in qualitative inquiry while still benefiting from poststructuralist insights?In this conversation session, I introduce the idea of "methodological discomfort", which carries a double meaning. First, as discomfort with method, methodological discomfort signals an informed skepticism toward how fixed procedures and embedded assumptions may limit what can be studied, obscure contingency, regulate interpretation, and reproduce social reality. Second, as discomfort as a method, methodological discomfort refers to an affective practice that unsettles the reassurance, certainty, and closure that one might expect from adherence to methodological procedures.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123386 - Conversation Session

Quantifying Success: Work Outcomes for Clients Leaving Intensive Mental Health Programming

Main Presenting Author: Harrington, Toni
Co-Presenting Author: Remers, Shannon

Abstract: *This session examines how to define and measure "success" following participation in an intensive mental health program, using retrospective data to evaluate clients' work outcomes after discharge. The discussion examines whether traditional clinical metrics alone are sufficient or whether sustained work participation, functional recovery, and quality-of-life indicators provide a more accurate reflection of meaningful outcomes.The topic is novel and contentious because employment and productivity are rarely used as primary indicators of recovery in mental health care-despite growing policy pressure to demonstrate real-world impact. This raises important questions about equity, program accountability, and the intersection of clinical and occupational outcomes.The session aims to generate dialogue on operationalizing work-related measures, interpreting retrospective data responsibly, and integrating psychological, occupational, and systemic perspectives.This topic is highly relevant to psychology in Canada, where evidence linking mental health treatment to vocational recovery remains limited.Risks include data-quality constraints, misinterpretation of work outcomes as proxies for wellness, and potential stigmatization of clients who cannot resume work.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 121307 - Conversation Session

Reconciliation in Action: Integrating Indigenous Ways of Knowing into CPA's Evidence-Based Practice Framework

Main Presenting Author: Luo, Houyuan
Co-Presenting Author: Wendt, Dennis

Additional Author: Sepehry, Amir Ali

Abstract: *This round table explores how CPA's 2012 Evidence-Based Practice of Psychological Treatments must be expanded to meaningfully include Indigenous ways of knowing. Psychology's Response to the TRC highlights the profession's historic harms, the need for cultural humility, and the ethical obligation to integrate Indigenous epistemologies-such as relationality, community responsibility, land-based healing, ceremony, holism, and Two-Eyed Seeing-into all aspects of practice. Current EBP guidelines do not reflect these knowledge systems, limiting the relevance and cultural safety of psychological services for Indigenous Peoples. The roundtable will include members of a task force focused on this topic, who will provide updates on their work and receive input from the audience.This discussion is urgent as psychologists across Canada work toward reconciliation, decolonizing practice, and developing community-driven models of wellness.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124581 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

Braiding Indigenous and Western Ways of Knowing: A Two-Eyed Seeing Dialogue on Quantitative Research Education in Psychology

Moderator(s): Kocum, Lucie

Panelists: Lochmelis, Christina; Gohier-Mossman, Chloe; Aabed , Yasmeen; Young, Katelyn; Nicchitta, Novella

Abstract: *This panel examines an emergent pedagogical model that integrates Indigenous ways of knowing into a graduate-level quantitative statistics and research methods course. Moderated by the course instructor, the panel convenes graduate students, Indigenous student collaborators, and our community service learning coordinator to share our experiences building relationally accountable experimental research projects in industrial-organizational and forensic psychology. Relational accountability, an Indigenous research principle emphasizing that knowledge creation is inseparable from relationships, responsibilities, and community benefit, treats Indigenous First Voice perspectives as valid and methodologically rigorous sources of knowledge. Students designed their projects to respond to at least one Call to Action or Justice of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission or National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Through dialogue across roles, the panel explores how students engaged with Indigenous-led priorities to shape their research questions, methodological choices, and evaluative criteria. The panel illustrates how Two-Eyed Seeing (Etuaptmumk), braiding Western and Indigenous ways of knowing, can unsettle and reconfigure quantitative research training toward more ethically grounded and contextually responsive inquiry.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 123213 - Panel Discussion

Moving Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Reconciliation Forward in Canada During Turbulent Times

Moderator(s): Lam, Janice Y

Panelists: Taylor, Aisha; Carter-Rogers, Katelynn; Anazodo, Kemi; Cheung, Ho Kwan; Murry, Adam

Abstract: *Canada's landscape regarding equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) is in flux. From Parliamentary reviews of research grant criteria to reported rising pushback against organisational initiatives, support for EDI seems to be taking a hit. Yet, Canadian science practitioners remain steadfast in their commitment to Reconciliation, Decolonization, Indigenization, and social justice, striving to inform and build more equitable and inclusive workplaces for all, despite these challenges. This proposed panel explores the realities of researching and practicing EDI within this shifting context. Our speakers work with a wide range of communities (e.g., those formerly incarcerated, Indigenous nations), to develop and implement evidence-based practices that foster equitable, diverse, inclusive, and accessible workplaces. Guided by a moderator, panelists will unpack the complexities of the relationship between EDI and Indigenization, demonstrating why these frameworks must be distinct yet complementary. The discussion will also examine how an organization's approach to EDI affects the effectiveness of related research and practice, and how to maintain practical relevance amidst resistance. An interactive question-and-answer session will allow attendees to engage directly with these critical topics.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125813 - Panel Discussion

Navigating AI Use in Research: Promise, Pitfalls, and Practice

Moderator(s): Lyubykh, Zhanna; Biricik Gulseren, Duygu

Panelists: Zoya, Zoya; Lukacik, Raye; Day, Arla; Granger, Steve; Daljeet, Kabir

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: A 2024 survey of SIOP members found that 72% use Artificial Intelligence (AI) at least once a week, and this number is likely even higher today. The topic of AI use, including its use in research, has generated a wide range of reactions from excitement, to cautious optimism, to skepticism, to predictions of the end of academia (or the world). This range of responses is, at least in part, driven by how and for which tasks AI is used. For example, AI applications in research can include literature searches and summaries, data simulations, analysis and coding, and writing and revising drafts. All with varying degree of AI immersion. Emerging research suggests that AI can make us more efficient, or potentially dumber, raising a critical question of how we maximize the former while avoiding the latter. In this panel, we will discuss how (and whether) to use AI in research in a responsible way that enhances research quality rather than undermines it. METHODS: I/O researchers will share their perspectives on how (and whether) AI should be used in research. Our goal is to facilitate a balanced discussion by bringing together both AI "enthusiasts" and "skeptics." We will also examine what constitutes responsible AI use in research.RESULTS: We will seek answers and advice through a panel discussion. CONCLUSIONS: Participants will leave this panel with a better understanding of how to use AI responsibility to produce high quality work. ACTION/IMPACT: This panel will inform researchers on opportunities, benefits, and pitfalls of the use of AI in research.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123190 - Panel Discussion

Questionable Discourse Practices? The role of discourse in methodological crisis and reform

Moderator(s): Slaney, Kathleen (Kate)

Panelists: Mailloux, Dominique ; Slaney, Kathleen (Kate); Yen, Jeffery ; Graham, Megan

Abstract: *For more than two decades, psychology has been embroiled in discussions and debates about the replication crisis. This has led to the identification of a set of "questionable research practices" (QRPs) and a range of proposed solutions for mitigating their impact on the validity and replicability of research findings. These methodological reforms have mostly focused on increasing the transparency of researchers' methodological choices (e.g., through preregistration) and the rigor with which methods are employed (e.g., through the establishment of journal article reporting standards). Yet, they have failed to assess how the specific styles of description, communication, theorizing, inference, and argumentation used by researchers might themselves contribute to replicability issues, QRPs, and other problems (e.g., overreliance on NHST, variance across measures, absence of strong theory) despite decades of work by theoretical and critical psychologists examining the particular discourses that dominate in psychological research. This panel discussion will consider the relevance of discourse practices for current deliberations on methodological crisis and reform in the discipline. Each panelist will present a particular perspective on the relationship between discourse practices and psychological research methods, findings, and interpretation and application of study results.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123068 - Panel Discussion

Reflections on the Application of Quantitative and Qualitative Methods in Psychology

Moderator(s): Tonks, Randal

Panelists: Chirkov, Valery; Arfken, Michael; Lévesque, Michel; Mackinnon, Sean P.; Zhang, Xijuan (Cathy)

Abstract: *This panel discussion features representatives from the quantitative and qualitative streams of psychological inquiry. They are invited to reflect on and answer two questions: Why do they think that the approach they represent is more appropriate for psychological research? And, is it possible to combine quantitative and qualitative approaches? The moderator of the panel will facilitate a dialogue among panellists and between panellists and the audience.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 123089 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

"It Felt Like the Institution Was Working Against Us": Challenges and Opportunities in Supporting Indigenous Research Sovereignty in Academia

Main Presenting Author: Blackmore, Sophie

Additional Authors: Gala, Natalia ; Fraser-Purdy, Hannah ; Moore, Ireland; Olaogun, Darah; Ovtsyn, Danielle; Wendt, Dennis

Abstract: *Universities increasingly express commitments to reconciliation and Indigenous inclusion, yet their research infrastructures often constrain Indigenous research sovereignty. This project examined how institutional systems, ethics review, contracting, finance, timelines, and evaluation metrics, shape the possibilities and limitations of Indigenous-focused research in academia. Using a collaborative, story-based methodology, Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers across Canada, the U.S., and Sweden shared experiences through facilitated conversations, surveys, and collective synthesis.Analyses identified five interconnected themes: governance, institutional misfit, researcher burden, limited capacity, and relational tensions. Across contexts, university systems centralized control, delayed or restricted community-led decision-making, and shifted administrative, emotional, and financial burdens onto individual researchers and Indigenous partners.Findings show that supportive structures such as Indigenous-governed ethics bodies, community-controlled funding pathways, flexible timelines, and Indigenous-led research units enable more ethical, efficient, and sovereignty-aligned research.We conclude that meaningful support for Indigenous research sovereignty requires universities and funders to redesign infrastructures, not simply adjust procedures, to align with Indigenous governance. We recommend concrete actions, including delegated authority to Indigenous communities, flexible administrative pathways, and institutional investment in relational accountability.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124476 - Printed Poster

"There's something magic about it." Participant descriptions of what it is like to take part in a co-produced photovoice study

Main Presenting Author: Hawke, Lisa D

Additional Authors: McKee, Shelby ; Harris, Holly; Patenaude, Sean; Hsieh, Amy ; Svoboda, James; Sahaguian, Maral ; Bellissimo, Gail

Abstract: *Background. Photovoice is a research method using photography. It is used to gain deep insights into sensitive topics. Photovoice is well suited to the practice of co-production, where people with lived experience and people with professional experience are equal partners at every stage-shaping, designing, and delivering the work together. This poster describes a qualitative study that assessed how participants experience their participation in a co-produced photovoice project. Methods. A total of 18 participants attended focus groups upon completing a photovoice study on co-production. We audio recorded and transcribed the focus groups for codebook thematic analysis. All aspects of the study were co-produced within a Recovery College setting. Results. We generated four themes from the focus group transcripts: 1) Benefits from socialization with peers. 2) New photography skills. 3) Thinking differently about the experience of co-production. 4) Appreciation for*

the co-produced aspects of the project. Conclusions. This study showed that participating in a co-produced photovoice project is experienced positively. Participants experienced personal growth and gains in recovery. Impact. This photovoice design could be replicated in future co-designed projects, particularly in Recovery College settings.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123750 - Printed Poster

A scoping review of assessment frameworks for identifying youth at risk for serious mental illness

Main Presenting Author: Tessier, Charles
Co-Presenting Author: O'Hara, Abigail

Abstract: *Background: The transdiagnostic staging model focuses on the evolution of mental disorders rather than relying on traditional diagnostic categories. A clinically critical period for prevention of severe mental illness in this model is Stage 1b, characterized by subthreshold yet impairing symptoms and functional decline. Yet, no standardized method for evaluating youth at this stage currently exists. Methods: This scoping review seeks to document evaluation methods used in clinical settings to identify youth at Stage 1b, and to synthesize common approaches used while highlighting gaps and differences in methodology. Results: A systematic literature search of PubMed, Embase and PsycINFO (2006-2025) identified 419 articles. Following screening procedures and eligibility, 51 results were yielded. Nine assessment models were identified, the most frequently reported being the Hickie et al., (2013) transdiagnostic model. Conclusions: A range of clinical scales were employed, though assessment processes predominantly relied on clinical interviews. Findings reveal substantial heterogeneity in assessment approaches and limited use of standardized tools. Action/impact: This review highlights the need for transdiagnostic assessment protocols that can be consistently applied across services to support early identification, guide intervention, and improve long-term outcomes for at-risk youth.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122280 - Printed Poster

A systematic review of the efficacy of psychosocial preventive interventions for youth at-risk for developing bipolar disorder.

Main Presenting Author: Harboun, Alexandra
Co-Presenting Author: Quintus-Bosz, Olivia

Additional Authors: Yong-Ping, Erin ; Ellenbogen, Mark A.

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Offspring of parents with bipolar disorder (BD) are at increased risk of developing mental disorders and poor psychosocial functioning. There is growing interest in preventative interventions in these at-risk youth. Methods: A systematic review of scientific databases was conducted to identify empirical research studies between January 1990 to August 2024. 33 articles from 19 studies including a psychosocial prevention or intervention for youth at familial risk for BD and/or exhibiting early prodromal BD symptoms were included. Studies consisted of randomized controlled trials (n=9), open trials (n=5), and quasi-experimental designs (n=5). Results: Overall, at-risk youth and their caregivers stand to benefit from preventive interventions with respect*

to improved mental health outcomes, psychosocial functioning, sleep, and neuroendocrine function. However, results were not always consistent nor replicated across studies. Most studies were limited by small sample sizes, short follow-up periods, and weak research designs. Conclusions: Preventive interventions have the potential to improve mental health and psychosocial outcomes in youth at-risk of developing BD. Actions/impacts: Several prevention programs require replication using larger RCT designs with extended follow-up periods. Future programs should explore cost-effective brief online interventions.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126293 - Printed Poster

ADHD and Emotion Dysregulation in Adulthood: Latent Profiles and Transitions Across a 15-Year Period

Main Presenting Author: Henning, Colin T

Additional Authors: James, Dylan R W; Summerfeldt, Laura J; Parker, D A James

Abstract: *Background/rationale: There has been growing research attention towards broad deficits in emotional and social competencies (ESCs) among many adults with ADHD, including in emotion recognition and regulation. However, previous studies on deficits in ESCs have typically been limited to variable-centered analyses and cross-sectional data. Methods: Using longitudinal data from a university student sample on ADHD and trait emotional intelligence (TEI), a collection of ESCs, this study aimed to identify and test the stability of latent ADHD-TEI profiles across a 15-year follow-up period. Results: The results of a latent profile transition analysis identified two latent ADHD-TEI profiles at Time 1 in emerging adulthood (Attentive-Resilient and Moderate ADHD-Dysregulated) and four profiles at Time 2 in early middle adulthood (Attentive-Resilient, High ADHD-Dysregulated, Restless-Undercontrolled, and Inattentive-Low TEI). Profiles also differed in their stability across the 15-year period. Conclusions: The findings underscore unique, developmentally related patterns of TEI and ADHD symptom dimensions in adulthood. Action/impact: Clinical and developmental implications of the findings are discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125314 - Printed Poster

ADHD Symptoms and Peer Relationship Difficulties: Transdiagnostic and Cross-Diagnostic Associations in Children with Autism and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Main Presenting Author: Francoeur, Catherine

Additional Authors: Chilliak, Shayla ; Vanlian, Nicholas ; Patrick, Cynthia; Montreuil, Tina; Bertone, Armando

Abstract: *Background. Peer relationship difficulties (PRD) are common in youth with autism (ASD) and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), who experience higher rates of peer rejection and poorer-quality friendships compared to neurotypical (NT) peers. Aim. Assess how ADHD symptoms contribute to PRD in autism and NT groups, and whether subclinical symptoms play a role. Methods. Autistic (n = 44; 38M-6F; Mage = 12.87) and ADHD (n = 56; 41M-15F; Mage = 13.46)*

participants were recruited through alternative learning schools, and 135 NT (77M; 58F; Mage = 11.18) participants aged 5-20 (M = 12.02; SD = 2.71; range 5.6-20) were recruited through existing databases and online advertisements. All participants completed Conners' CPT-3, while their parents completed Conners-3 Parent-Report Short Form to assess ADHD symptoms and PRD. Results. Hierarchical regression analyses revealed incremental associations between ADHD symptoms and PRD in all participants. ADHD symptoms better predicted PRD in autism than in ADHD and NT participants ($p < .001$). Discussion. ADHD symptoms predicted PRD at clinical (diagnosis) and subclinical levels (attentional challenges) differently in autistic, ADHD, and NT participants. Using continuous/composite measures of attention (e.g., CPT 3 + Connors 3 subscales) may more accurately capture real-world impacts of attention difficulties in neurodivergent youth.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125620 - Printed Poster

AI-Assisted Thematic Analysis in Psychology: A step-by-step guideline

Main Presenting Author: Jafarian, Mandana

Abstract: *We presents a validated framework for conducting AI-assisted thematic analysis of large-scale, unstructured text data. Grounded in inductive thematic analysis, the approach integrates large language models (LLMs) into a transparent, human-in-the-loop workflow designed for researchers in the social and behavioral sciences. The method offers an accessible, replicable guide to combining human expertise with computational scalability. The process includes three phases: (1) manual analysis of a small test set to build the initial codebook and confirm data relevance; (2) pilot validation using LLM-generated coding of the same test set to assess feasibility, prompt design, and alignment with human themes; and (3) full-scale implementation in which GPT-4o analyzes 3,000 Reddit posts from the r/misophonia community using iterative coding, clustering, and human verification. Results showed strong convergence between human and AI-generated coding, with high thematic agreement and inter-rater reliability (Cohen's $\kappa = 0.9$). This framework demonstrates that LLM-supported thematic analysis can produce interpretable and trustworthy results when paired with systematic human oversight. It enhances methodological transparency and transferability across qualitative traditions, offering a practical model for integrating AI into data-intensive research in psychology, education, and health.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125789 - Printed Poster

Analyse psychométrique du Hamilton Program for Schizophrenia Voices Questionnaire (HPVSQ)

Main Presenting Author: Bucur, Mara-Cristina
Co-Presenting Author: Carrière, Padmé

Abstract: *Les hallucinations auditivo-verbales (HAV) sont un symptôme commun des troubles psychotiques (Wilkinson & Alderson-Day, 2016) et jusqu'à 30 % des patients sous traitement antipsychotique continuent de présenter des hallucinations auditivo-verbales (HAV) (Nathou, et al., 2019). Ce symptôme peut avoir des effets importants sur le quotidien ainsi que sur le bien-être des individus atteints. Le Hamilton Program for Schizophrenia Voices Questionnaire (Van Lieshout & Goldberg, 2007) a été conçu afin de quantifier la présence et la sévérité des HAV. Cet outil se démarque des autres instruments de mesure, notamment par sa nature auto-rapportée ainsi que sa*

facilité et brièveté d'administration. Toutefois, cet instrument n'a pas été l'objet d'énormément de validation et sa validation préliminaire présente des lacunes méthodologiques et analytiques importantes, particulièrement quant à la taille et à la représentativité de l'échantillon ainsi qu'à l'absence de précisions par rapport à la population cible. De plus, ces lacunes peuvent avoir eu des conséquences quant à la validité et à la fidélité de l'instrument. Dans la validation préliminaire, seule la validité de convergence a été évaluée (comparée avec le PSYRATS-AH). En effet, aucune validation de construit n'a été rapportée, ce qui représente une problématique importante. Dans une recherche ultérieure (Berry, et al., 2021), une critique majeure a été mise de l'avant. Alors que la validation préliminaire semble accepter le modèle à un facteur, la recherche menée par Berry et al. (2021) soutient que le modèle à deux facteurs serait beaucoup plus approprié. Malgré cette avancée, aucune modification n'a été apportée au test. Ainsi, la forme initiale (et possiblement erronée) de l'instrument semble perdurer alors qu'une réforme serait peut-être justifiée. Avec cette critique psychométrique, nous souhaitons mettre de l'avant les failles au sein de la validation initiale (et de celles ultérieures) afin de faire progresser les recherches sur ce test et ainsi l'améliorer et de communiquer nos suggestions formulées à partir de la littérature existante. Également, nous souhaitons mettre en valeur la nature transdiagnostique possible de cet instrument, dimension qui a été négligée dans la validation préliminaire. Cet instrument témoigne d'une avancée importante quant à la possibilité de quantifier rapidement la présence et la sévérité des HAV, soit un sujet peu abordé. En effet, grâce à ses nombreux avantages, ce serait un outil précieux dans le contexte clinique qui devrait être mis au point afin de permettre son utlisation.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 123326 - Printed Poster

Are We Really Thinking About Sex? Exploring Validity Evidence Based on Response Processes in the Global Measure of Sexual Satisfaction

Main Presenting Author: Hay, Andrew

Additional Authors: Ryan, Michaela E.M.A.; Santos-Iglesias, Pablo

Abstract: *The Global Measure of Sexual Satisfaction (GMSEX) is widely used to assess sexual satisfaction, but the validity depends on participants evaluating the sexual aspects of their relationship when completing it. We tested two validity assumptions: (1) respondents think of the sexual aspects of their relationship when answering the GMSEX, and (2) cisgender men and women focus on similar sexual aspects of their relationship. 498 adults in relationships (54.6% women; M = 36.8, SD = 11.9) completed the GMSEX and an open-ended probe about what they were thinking of when they responded to the GMSEX. Content coding and code frequencies showed that 79.9% of the sample reported thinking of only sexual aspects (e.g., sexual activity, sexual script, and quality of sex). However, 16.1% thought solely of nonsexual aspects (e.g., partner feelings) while 4.6% thought of both sexual and nonsexual aspects. Chi-square analyses showed men and women thought of the same dimensions, except women were less likely to mention nonsexual partner feelings than men. The results partially support the assumptions. A substantial minority who did not focus solely on sexual aspects suggests that GMSEX scores may not always reflect sexual satisfaction. While similar response patterns across men and women suggest that comparisons between genders remain largely interpretable, the overall validity seems compromised.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124281 - Printed Poster

Assessing Bot-Screening Outcomes and Accessibility Barriers in Online Research with Neurodivergent Adults

Main Presenting Author: Zanette, Sophie A
Co-Presenting Authors: Kostenas , Zoe ; Tafarodi, Asha

Additional Authors: Man , Louisa ; Edelstein, Laura; Lee, Ching-Hua Julie; Alexandrovsky, Mishel; Ai, William ; Lai, Meng-Chuan

Abstract: *Neurodivergent adults often face barriers to research participation due to diverse communicative/sensory needs. Bot screening is crucial as scam requests rise, but may create accessibility barriers that affect completion. Understanding these challenges helps design studies that recruit real participants and stay accessible. Our objectives were to understand a) bot screening outcomes and b) accessibility barriers. Screening data from 156 respondents were analyzed to determine pass, fail, flag outcomes. 97 passed participants were analyzed to test if any mental health diagnoses predicted self-rated accessibility or completion rates using linear regression. Open-ended feedback was qualitatively coded. 80% of participants passed screening; 20% were excluded due to flagging/failing. Of those excluded, 21% failed the qualitative screening question, 18% the multiple-choice question, and 60% due to other factors (e.g. duplicates). To examine accessibility, we found no differences across diagnoses on accessibility and completion rates (all ps > 0.59). Participant feedback suggested adding progress bars, reducing repetition, increasing multiple-choice items, and providing clear instructions/examples. Our findings suggest that screening is key for identifying bot participants. Accessibility needs including clarity and length must be considered to balance screening with accessible design.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124642 - Printed Poster

Associations between Psychopathic Traits Dimensions and Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration and Victimization in at-risk Young Men and Women.

Main Presenting Author: Daigle, Félicia

Additional Authors: Le Corff, Yann ; Bégin, Vincent; Marquis-Pedneault, Sarah; Lapalme, Mélanie

Abstract: *Psychopathic traits (PT) refer to four dimensions which characterize the interpersonal and affective functioning of the individual, as well as their lifestyle and antisociality. While these traits have been consistently associated with intimate partner violence (IPV) perpetration, little is known on the associations between these traits and IPV victimization, as well as on the relative contributions of each PT dimensions in explaining both types of IPV. The objective of this study was therefore to explore the associations between the four dimensions of PT and both forms of IPV in a sample of 379 young adults (56% women, mean age = 21 years), drawn from a larger study on the development of conduct problems. The moderating role of sex was also explored in these associations. Correlational analysis showed moderate positive associations between all dimensions of PT and types of IPV. Further, regression models showed that only the lifestyle dimension remained associated with both forms of IPV when controlling for the effects of all other PT dimensions. However, moderation analyses revealed that the interpersonal and affective dimensions were associated with IPV victimization, specifically in men. Results will be discussed from the perspective of sex-specific mechanisms that could be at play and contribute to personalized interventions for men and women.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124148 - Printed Poster

Beyond "No Difference": Equivalence Testing in a Randomized Controlled Trial of Career Counselling Interventions

Main Presenting Author: Maynes, Teresa
Co-Presenting Author: Bedi, Robinder

Abstract: *Research on counselling interventions often interprets statistically nonsignificant differences as evidence that two treatments are equally effective. However, "no significant difference" does not indicate that interventions share similar mechanisms of change or produce comparable outcomes. Equivalence testing offers a more rigorous approach by determining whether outcomes are statistically similar within predefined bounds. This study evaluated the nonsignificant comparative outcomes from a randomized controlled trial of two career counselling interventions. In the trial, 104 adults with a history of problematic substance use (PSU) completed an 8-week Hope-Action Theory (HAT) or Standard Employment Skills (SES) online group program. Pre- and post- assessment outcomes without significant group differences included hope-action competencies, task performance, turnover intention, and job satisfaction. Using the two one-sided tests (TOST) method, equivalence testing assessed whether these nonsignificant results reflected meaningful similarity between groups. Equivalence testing indicated that the competencies of visioning, goal-setting and planning, and implementing as well as task performance, turnover intention, and job satisfaction were equivalent across groups within prespecified bounds ($\Delta = 0.95$). In contrast, the competencies of hope, self-clarity, and adapting were not equivalent, with the HAT group outperforming the SES group. These findings demonstrate that equivalence testing can distinguish true similarity from apparent similarity due to nonsignificance, allowing researchers to identify meaningful group differences that traditional analyses may overlook. By clarifying which interventions genuinely produce comparable outcomes and when the do not, equivalence testing improves the precision of counselling intervention research and supports more confident clinical and theoretical conclusions.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123625 - Printed Poster

Beyond Behaviour: How Teacher Bonds Influence Social-Emotional Development in Students with ADHD

Main Presenting Author: Unrau, Carlie M

Additional Authors: Simoneau, Ashlyn ; Climie, Emma A

Abstract: *Students with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) often experience challenges with social-emotional (SE) functioning, such as management of emotions and social awareness. These difficulties may lead to academic and social challenges, posing a risk to the overall well-being of these students. Positive teacher-student relationships have been observed to support SE skill development in neurotypical populations. However, less is known about the specific impact of this relationship on the SE skills of students with ADHD. The present scoping review aimed to identify the available literature surrounding SE outcomes of kindergarten to grade 12 students with ADHD, as a function of the student-teacher relationship. Comprehensive searches of four databases identified 10 relevant primary articles since 2013. A preliminary review of studies revealed that the majority of research has*

been on individuals aged 6 to 15, with predominantly male samples. All but one article conceptualized the student-teacher relationship on the dimensions of closeness and conflict. Further data extraction will reveal which SE domains (i.e., self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, social awareness) have been studied in the literature, and key findings across articles. Results from this scoping review will provide an understanding of the available literature surrounding student-teacher relationships and the associated social-emotional outcomes of students with ADHD, shedding light on knowledge gaps and areas for future investigation.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123897 - Printed Poster

CANCELLED A latent profile analysis on "barriers" to engaging in nonsuicidal self-injury in emerging adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Salman, Soha

Additional Authors: Hamza, Chloe ; Goldstein, Abby

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Nonsuicidal self-injury (NSSI) is highly prevalent among adolescents and young adults. Although research suggests that NSSI offers emotion regulation "benefits," developmental perspectives on NSSI suggest that specific "barriers" (i.e., lack of exposure, high self-worth, low pain tolerance and aversion, and low perceived acceptability), may prevent most individuals from accessing these benefits. However, there is a lack of research exploring how these barriers work in combination to delineate distinct subgroups of individuals with varying risk of NSSI engagement. For example, individuals high in self-worth may not engage in NSSI, even if they have high pain tolerance. To address this research gap, the objectives of the present study were to examine: 1) distinct subgroups of individuals based on the proposed barriers, and 2) associations between these subgroups and NSSI engagement. Methods: Participants included 1214 university students who completed a survey. A latent profile analysis will be conducted, including the five barriers as indicators and NSSI engagement as the outcome. Results: Data analysis is ongoing, and results will be presented at the conference.Conclusions: Understanding how barriers work in combination to delineate risk for NSSI can inform theory and research on the development of NSSI and inform targeted prevention and intervention.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124714 - Printed Poster

Confirming the Factor Structure, Concurrent Validity, and Testing the Measurement Invariance across Sexual Orientation and Gender for the Process-Based Consent Scale

Main Presenting Author: Goruk, Kayla Joy (KJ)

Additional Authors: Blais, Julie ; McArthur, Jennifer L

Abstract: *The Process-Based Consent Scale (PBCS; Glace et al. 2021) was developed to reflect contemporary consent attitudes and practices, with three subscales (Ongoing Consent, Subtle Coercion, and Communicative Sexuality) emerging through exploratory factor analysis and*

subsequently confirmed through confirmatory factor analysis. However, its measurement invariance across key sociocultural groups has not been evaluated, limiting confidence in group-based comparisons. This study confirmed the PBCS's bi-factor structure, evaluated its measurement invariance across gender (men vs. women/gender-diverse) and sexual orientation (LGB+ vs. heterosexual), and assessed its concurrent validity with sexually aggressive behaviours in a representative Canadian sample (N = 1046). Multi-group confirmatory factor analysis supported full configural, metric, and scalar invariance across gender and sexual orientation. LGB+ participants showed more prosocial responses across all three subscales, and women/gender-diverse participants endorsed Subtle Coercion significantly less than men. Higher PBCS scores, particularly lower endorsement of Subtle Coercion, were associated with fewer sexually aggressive behaviours, supporting the scale's concurrent validity. Findings indicate that the PBCS is a robust and invariant measure of process-based consent across gender and sexual orientation.

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123111 - Printed Poster

Constraints in Automated Implicit Motive Coding: A Cross-Validation Using U.S. Inaugural Addresses

Main Presenting Author: Carruthers, Calvin

Additional Author: Lajoie, Denis

Abstract: *Background: Implicit motives research traditionally focused on three motives: power, achievement, and affiliation. A dominant practice in the field has been to manually assess implicit motives in stories from the Picture Story Exercise (PSE; McClelland, 1989) using Winter's method (1994). Recently, an automated approach to scoring such stories has been developed (Nilsson et al. 2024). This study examines the generalizability of this approach to political speeches. Methods: A RoBERTa-large language model trained on expert-scored PSE data (Nilsson et al. 2024) was applied to 45 American presidential inaugural addresses. Person-level results were correlated with scores manually generated by Winter (2002, 2018).Results: The model reliably predicts affiliation motive (r = .80) but shows reduced accuracy for achievement (r = .57) and power (r = .47). Following Winter's (1994) recommendation to simplify linguistic complexity, we applied a round-trip French-English translation using DeepL. This modestly improved model performance: r = .83 for affiliation, r = .55 for achievement, and r = .54 for power.Conclusions: Fine-tuning with domain-specific text may improve the reliability of power and achievement motive predictions. Impact: Researchers should exercise caution when applying automated implicit motive assessments to domains differing from the training data.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124854 - Printed Poster

Core Dimension Profiles of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder: Evidence from Latent Profile and Cluster Analyses in a Clinical Sample

Main Presenting Author: James, Dylan R W

Additional Authors: Henning, Colin T; Summerfeldt, Laura J

Abstract: *Background: Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is a mental disorder characterized by high symptom heterogeneity. Empirical evidence supports two affective-motivational dimensions of harm avoidance (HA) and incompleteness (INC) that may explain this heterogeneity. However, past studies investigating patterns of combined severity across the core dimensions have been constrained by a lack of robust person-centred analyses and cross-validation. Method: Using a clinical sample of 242 OCD patients from a hospital-based outpatient clinic, this study aimed to identify and replicate core dimension profiles using three person-centred analytic strategies: Latent Profile Analysis (LPA), Hierarchical and K-means clustering analyses. Results: All three analyses replicated a four-profile model of core dimensions: 1) moderate INC and HA, 2) low INC and moderate HA, 3) high INC and HA, and 4) high INC and low HA, with consistent individual-to-profile assignments found across all analyses. Conclusion: Findings revealed strong replication of core dimension profiles across multiple person-centred analyses. These profiles reflect robust patterns of INC and HA severity that may usefully capture symptom heterogeneity. Actions/Impact: Implications for investigating dimensional models of OCD and heterogeneity through person-centred analytical approaches are discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125293 - Printed Poster

Crisis and reform: Examining the relationship among replicability, validity, and discourse.

Main Presenting Author: Dhillon, Ruby S

Additional Authors: Slaney, Kathleen (Kate) L; Sackman, Shae L; Graham, E Megan

Abstract: *Over the past decade, scientific psychology has called for methodological reforms aimed at resolving the widespread failure to replicate research findings. The most prominent of reforms attempt to repair the empirical machinery of the hypothetico-deductive model and null hypothesis statistical testing. Registered Reports, and preregistration have improved transparency and helped to limit the potential for questionable research practices. However, such reforms have not solved the issue entirely, and critical scholars have noted that little has been done to consider deeper epistemic issues that may underlie the replication crisis. For instance, current methodological reforms have failed to investigate the impact of specific styles of scientific writing on the interpretability of research findings. In this study, we investigate the intersection between discourse in psychological research reports, construct validity, and replicability. Construct validation ought to provide a blueprint for researchers to examine a specific construct of interest. Yet, critical scholars have highlighted ambiguous and inconsistent ontological interpretations of psychological constructs in published research. We present data from a sample of N=29 recently published articles to illustrate how specific discourse practices contribute to this problem.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124149 - Printed Poster

Determining the Smallest Effect Size of Interest: Identifying Necessary Information and Developing Practical Methods for Psychological Research

Main Presenting Author: Riesthuis, Paul

Abstract: *Researchers often rely on statistical significance, which obscures whether effects are theoretically or practically meaningful. To improve interpretation and replication, scholars recommend determining the smallest effect size of interest (SESOI), yet many struggle to do so in practice. This study aimed to identify what information researchers need to determine a SESOI and to develop an efficient SESOI-setting method grounded in cost-benefit reasoning. We compiled key information types (e.g., theoretical rationale, design features, measurement properties, costs/benefits) and embedded them in a hypothetical eyewitness-memory study. Memory researchers (N=57) were asked to specify a SESOI and justify it via a cost-benefit analysis. SESOI estimates clustered between 0-1 units (39%) and 1-2 units (32%), and 58% reported that the provided information was sufficient. Requests for additional details largely overlapped with information already included, suggesting that the identified information set offers a strong foundation for SESOI determination. We conclude that researchers can meaningfully determine SESOIs when given structured guidance. We propose a generalizable framework and recommend consensus-based discussions within research groups to finalize SESOIs. We also outline future work evaluating whether large language models can support efficient, accessible SESOI determination.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123740 - Printed Poster

Development of a software framework for studying the psychological reality of keystroking dynamics

Main Presenting Author: Zhao, Zirui

Additional Authors: Gosselin, Leah ; Iniesta, Antonio; Gullifer, Jason; Titone, Debra

Abstract: *Typed communication (e.g., texting, social media, emails) pervades our increasingly digitized society (Bradbury, 2021). Much like incremental speech, keystroking dynamics (e.g., typing rate, press time, backspaces) reveal characteristics and processes beyond what can be gleaned from a final written output. Although predictive models can successfully identify demographic and linguistic attributes of typists (gender: Tsimperidis et al., 2015; native language: Brizan et al., 2015), little is known about the psychological reality of keystroking patterns. Do humans perceive fine-grained typing behaviours? Do they make judgments about typists based on this covert information? Such questions are methodologically complex for psychologists, as the richness of raw typing data makes them difficult to manipulate and reuse across studies. As such, we introduce a software framework that imports keystroke logs in popular formats (e.g., .txt, .idfx), extracts timing and revision features, and converts these traces into watchable 'live typing' videos. The program allows users to manipulate temporal variables from the raw data (e.g., slow-down, speed-up, noise-augmented), thereby enabling stimulus generation suitable for perceptual judgment tasks. Overall, our tool lowers the barrier to working with keystroke data and bridges the gap between relevant work in computer science and psychology.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124995 - Printed Poster

Early Adolescent Borderline Personality Symptoms as Predictors of Disordered Eating in Young Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Rigaud, Lily S

Additional Authors: Turner, Brianna ; Ryan, Jessica

Abstract: *Adolescence is a key period for the emergence of borderline personality (BP) symptoms and disordered eating, two conditions linked through shared emotional, interpersonal, and behavioural vulnerabilities. This study tests whether BPD symptoms at age 12 predict disordered eating behaviours at age 18 in a population-based birth cohort of twins. Using data from the E-Risk Longitudinal Twin Study, we will estimate prospective associations between early BPD symptoms and later disordered eating using a series of population-level regression models that progressively adjust for sex, socioeconomic status, and age-12 internalizing and externalizing symptoms. To strengthen causal inference, discordant monozygotic twin analyses will isolate whether associations persist after accounting for shared genetic and familial environmental factors. We expect that higher BPD symptoms in early adolescence will predict greater disordered eating in young adulthood, even after adjusting for covariates, and that this association will remain significant within discordant MZ pairs. Findings would suggest that early borderline symptoms confer unique, environmentally mediated risk for later disordered eating. This work has implications for early identification of at-risk youth and highlights the importance of targeting emotion regulation and interpersonal functioning in prevention and intervention efforts.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126158 - Printed Poster

Effects of Weight-Related Self-Esteem on Weight and Shape Concerns 3 Years After Bariatric Surgery

Main Presenting Author: UnRuh, Lauren

Additional Authors: Gerbeza, Matea ; Patel, Stuti; Telfer, Jo; Campbell, Travis ; Williamson, Tamara

Abstract: *Background: Higher weight-related self-esteem (WRSE) has been linked to lower depressive symptoms and improvements in weight and shape concerns (WSC) 12-months following bariatric surgery, independent of weight loss. Research is needed to understand whether these effects persist long-term. Aims: This longitudinal cohort study will examine whether baseline WRSE and depression predict WSC 3-years post surgery. Methods: Adults (18+) with obesity approved for bariatric surgery self-reported BMI and completed validated measures of WRSE, WSC, and symptoms of depression pre- and 3-years post-surgery. Paired-sample t-tests analyzed changes in weight from pre-surgery to 3-years. Multiple regression will be applied to examine the association between baseline WRSE and depression and WSC at 3 years. Results: Data for 74 patients (62± 11 years old, mean BMI = 45.81 ±8.29 kg/m2) were available for analysis. Preliminary results indicate that patients lost an average of 13 ±7.72 BMI units at 3 years post-surgery (BMI = 32.9 , SD = 8.19, p < .001). Patients displayed improvements in WSC and WRSE at 3-years post-surgery (p's < .001). Depression did not significantly improve. Regression analyses results will be available Spring 2026.Impact: Understanding the long-term impact of WRSE on WSC will inform interventions to improve psychological outcomes in bariatric samples.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123955 - Printed Poster

Evaluating Bootstrap Methods for Confidence Intervals of TLI and CFI: A Monte Carlo Simulation to Improve Model Fit Assessment in Structural Equation Modeling

Main Presenting Author: Robert, Aurora

Additional Author: Li, Johnson

Abstract: *Structural equation modeling (SEM) relies on goodness-of-fit indices to evaluate how well theoretical models represent latent constructs, yet only RMSEA has a widely implemented method for constructing robust confidence intervals (CIs). Because interval estimates provide essential information about precision, the absence of validated CI procedures for TLI and CFI limits researchers' ability to evaluate model fit. The present project is conducting a Monte Carlo simulation study-currently underway-to examine naïve and YHY bootstrap methods across 144 conditions varying in distributional form, sample size, model complexity, and model type. For each condition, 1,000 resamples will be used to compute TLI and CFI and construct 95% CIs, with coverage rates serving as the primary accuracy criterion. Although analyses are ongoing, it is anticipated that no single method will perform best across all conditions: YHY is expected to outperform in large samples and non-normal data, whereas naïve bootstrapping may perform better for highly complex models. Once completed, findings will guide the development of an open-source R package that generates robust CIs for TLI and CFI, ultimately improving the accuracy and interpretability of SEM in psychological research.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124580 - Printed Poster

Evaluating Confirmatory Factor Analysis with Dynamic Fit Indices: Integrating Statistical and Conceptual Approaches

Main Presenting Author: Boivin, Thomas
Co-Presenting Author: Veilleux, Charles

Additional Authors: Egerton-Graham, Maya ; Caron, Pier-Olivier; Gaudreau, Patrick

Abstract: *Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) allows researchers to quantify how well the hypothesized factorial structure of a psychological measure fits the data. Fit indices are statistical measures that evaluate the factorial structure by quantifying the degree of model/data fit or misspecification. Researchers have generally used fixed cutoff values of the fit indices to judge the appropriateness of their CFA models. However, many authors have discussed the limitations of using these cutoffs, given that they cannot be generalized to all models. Recently, McNeish and Wolf (2023) developed the Dynamic Fit Index approach (DFI), an approach that generates cutoff values of the fit indices that are tailored to the characteristics of a specific model. We conducted a CFA of the Attainment of School Achievement Goal Scale (A-SAGS) using the lavaan package in R. Then, cutoff values for the fit indices were generated using the dynamic package. The model fit of the A-SAGS was mostly satisfactory when basing our interpretation on fixed cutoff values. In contrast, the hypothesized model did not reach the dynamic cutoff values and prompted a more careful examination of sources of model misspecification. The DFI approach is easy to implement, highly promising, and offers valuable insights to help researchers in their attempt to iteratively improve the construct validity of psychological measures.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124867 - Printed Poster

Evidence for Whom? Transparency, Sampling Bias, and Generalizability in Meta-Analyses of Psychological Interventions

Main Presenting Author: Ghuman, Ashley K

Additional Author: Slaney, Kathleen L

Abstract: *Meta-analyses of psychological interventions are central to evidence-based practice, yet little is known about how they report sample characteristics or communicate sampling limitations, cultural context, or generalizability. Broader psychological and clinical research has documented unrepresentative sampling and inconsistent reporting, and some interventions show differential outcomes across marginalized groups, underscoring the need to examine how meta-analysts describe the representational boundaries of synthesized evidence.A dataset of 50 published meta-analyses (2020-2025) has been identified, and analyses are underway. Using a framework informed by APA JARS/MARS, Level 1 coding documents reporting of demographics, eligibility criteria, generalizability statements, and equity- or bias-awareness. Level 2 qualitative template analysis examines how authors frame sampling, representation, cultural limitations, and applicability. An integrative step will connect descriptive patterns with thematic framing.Analyses will describe reporting patterns and interpretive framing across studies. Findings will clarify how these practices shape readers' understanding of who is represented in intervention evidence and how far conclusions may be generalized, supporting more transparent and equity-aware research synthesis.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 126043 - Printed Poster

How Self-Enforced Priors Influence Pain Intensity Ratings.

Main Presenting Author: Goodson, Sacha Jack

Additional Authors: Roy, Mathieu ; Guglietti, Gianluca; Lozano-Beckman, Amelia

Abstract: *The Reinforcement Learning (RL) model of pain suggests that pain perception is optimized to minimize future pain. Through perceptual modulation based on the informational value of stimuli. This study aims to investigate the relationship between certainty and prediction error in relation to changes in subjective pain intensity. We hypothesize that during periods of high certainty in the relationship between cues and predicted pain, differences in stimulus intensity will result in assimilation toward expectations. We recruited 40 healthy adults (aged 18 years or older) to participate in this study. Participants performed a behavioural task in which they chose between two visual cues that probabilistically controlled thermal stimulations (either 46.5 or 47.5 degrees) to learn their associations. During each trial, participants rated their certainty about the painful outcome based on their choice and assessed the intensity of the pain after experiencing it. To quantify the learning patterns, we applied the Rescorla-Wagner model. The model describes how associations strengthen or weaken after each trial, represented by the Q-value. Higher Q-values represent greater preference for a given visual cue. Using a mixed linear model across participants, we observed a significant negative association between Q-values and pain intensity ratings stratifying for temperatures (low temp: β=-4.770, $p<0.001$; high temp: β =-5.648, $p<0.001$). We also observed a significant interaction between uncertainty ratings and Q values on pain ratings (β = -0.148, $p <$*

0.001), with higher levels of certainty being associated with greater assimilation effects of the Q value. The overall findings indicate that self-enforced priors influence people's pain ratings, indicating that perception of pain is influenced by information value associated with certainty. Future work will apply Bayesian models, which treat pain expectations as beliefs that are continuously updated, allowing us to model uncertainty and volatility computationally.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 123543 - Printed Poster

Investigating Confidence Intervals for Effect Sizes in One-Way ANOVA: A Comprehensive Analysis of Eta Squared, Omega Squared, and Epsilon Squared

Main Presenting Author: Abeykoonge, Kasuni Maheeshi

Additional Author: Li, Johnson

Abstract: *Background: Although estimation-based approaches are increasingly emphasized, confidence intervals (CIs) for effect sizes are still rarely reported or examined, particularly when data deviate from ideal assumptions such as normality. Purpose: To evaluate the precision and coverage of three commonly used CI methods-noncentral F, percentile bootstrap, and bias-corrected and accelerated (BCa) bootstrap-for three ANOVA effect sizes (eta squared η^2, omega squared ω^2, and epsilon squared ε^2).Methods: A Monte Carlo simulation with 10,000 replications will be conducted under varying population effect sizes (0, 0.010, 0.059, 0.138), group sizes (n = 5, 30, 100), three groups (k = 3), and normal, positively skewed, and uniform distributions.Results: Analyses are ongoing and will be completed by April 2026, with full results presented at the conference. It is anticipated that BCa CIs will perform better under skewed data, and that intervals for ω^2 and ε^2 will be preferable to those for η^2, which is known to be a biased effect-size estimator.Conclusion and Implications: These findings aim to guide best practices for reporting and interpreting effect sizes and their CIs, strengthening the credibility of quantitative results, particularly when normality assumption is violated.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125108 - Printed Poster

Investigating how Psychology Students and Researchers Interpret Non-Significant Findings

Main Presenting Author: Celio, Victoria M

Additional Authors: Martel, Tatijanna C; Martin, Jodi; Cribbie, Robert

Abstract: *Non-significant p-values from difference-based null hypothesis significance testing (D-NHST) are commonly misinterpreted as evidence of no effect. There can be many reasons why students and researchers make these errors. This study investigates how psychology students and researchers from Canadian and American post-secondary institutions interpret non-significant findings within the D-NHST framework. Participants completed an assessment where they identified the null hypothesis and determined whether to reject it across three research scenarios, two of which were based on non-significant findings. Participants who correctly answered these questions were asked to choose the most appropriate interpretation of the results, given the response options.*

Consistency in the interpretation accuracy of non-significant findings was assessed by summing the number of correct responses to these items (ranging from 0 to 6). Descriptive statistics will be used to evaluate whether education level is related to consistency in interpretation accuracy. Preliminary results suggest that graduate students (M = 3.32) and those with a PhD in psychology (M = 3.53) are inconsistent in interpreting non-significant results. These findings will shed light on potential gaps in the existing psychology statistics education and possible solutions to minimize these errors.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126219 - Printed Poster

Investigating the relationship between daily social events and positive affect depending on depressive symptoms: A multiverse analysis of ecological momentary assessment data

Main Presenting Author: Savchenko, Elizabeth

Additional Authors: Shaw, Mairead ; Argiros, Alexandra; Weinberg, Anna; Flake, Jessica K.

Abstract: *Psychological research cannot inform clinical practice if it is not robust. Many findings in the literature are inconsistent, which may be due to analytical flexibility in the research process, where researchers choose among several equally defensible data processing and analysis options. While many combinations of decisions could be justifiable, each path could potentially lead to a different outcome and a different conclusion about significance. We used a multiverse analysis on ecological momentary assessment (EMA) data to investigate if multilevel model-building decisions (estimator, optimizer, centering method, random slope/covariance inclusion) impacted results. This project explores if we can expect to get the same results using different, but reasonable analysis options. Specifically, we investigated the robustness of the effect of positive and negative daily events on individuals' positive affect, depending on the severity of their depressive symptoms. We found that the magnitude, significance, and direction of the effects differed, especially across centering methods and the inclusion or exclusion of random slopes and intercept-slope covariance terms. The outcome was robust to the choice of estimator and optimizer. This variability in results across model-building choices provides one possible explanation for the mixed results reported in the literature.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126157 - Printed Poster

Le rôle de la passion pour le hockey dans la perception des joueurs de hockey accusés dans un procès criminel

Main Presenting Author: Sotse, Yangchen

Additional Author: Vallerand , Robert J

Abstract: *Le modèle dualiste de la passion distingue la passion harmonieuse (PH) de la passion obsessive (PO) selon que la passion est sous le contrôle de la personne ou non (Vallerand, 2015). Peu d'études ont étudié le rôle de la passion dans la perception sociale. Cette étude visait à analyser le lien entre la passion des fans de hockey et leur perception sociale d'un événement impliquant des joueurs de hockey accusés dans un procès criminel. Nous posions l'hypothèse que les fans présentant une*

passion obsessive auraient tendance à percevoir les joueurs de hockey comme plus innocents car ils les percevraient plus compétents et chaleureux. Un profil inverse était prévu pour la passion harmonieuse. Un échantillon de 303 fans de hockey passionnés canadiens a répondu à un questionnaire en ligne portant sur les variables à l'étude. Les résultats préliminaires ont tendance à soutenir le modèle proposé. Les résultats permettront d'amener de nouvelles connaissances sur le rôle important de la passion dans la perception sociale.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 126255 - Printed Poster

Lights, camera, action! A photovoice study of the impact of co-production in Recovery College settings

Main Presenting Author: Hawke, Lisa

Additional Authors: McKee, Shelby ; Harris, Holly; Hsieh, Amy; Sahaguian, Maral ; Bellissimo, Gail; Rovet, Jordana; Donner, Kayle

Abstract: *Background: Recovery Colleges are co-produced education-based programs that support people with mental health and/or substance use challenges. While the literature alludes to the positive effects of co-production in Recovery Colleges, there is a lack of research on this. This photovoice project explored the personal impacts of co-production in Recovery Colleges.Methods: The photovoice process involved seven photography workshops, weekly photo submissions, ongoing discussions, and final photo submissions. It concluded with focus groups where participants reflected on how co-production impacted them. The study was co-produced. Results: Five themes were extracted from the data. Participants found that co-production 1) Provided a space to share lived experience; 2) To be stigma reducing; 3) Helped them develop a sense of belonging, 4) Helped them advance their personal wellbeing and recovery, 5) Supported personal growth. The study concluded with a printed photo book, a web page, and a virtual gala. Conclusions: This study demonstrates the value of co-production by illustrating its impact on the people involved. Impact. Results will be used to inform the creation of a psychometric tool to assess the impacts of co-production. Co-production with PWLE is a transformative means of developing health services programming with a range of positive impacts on those involved.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123748 - Printed Poster

Longitudinal Trajectories of Parent-Teacher Communication: Investigating Child Externalizing and Internalizing Behaviors, and Parenting Correlates

Main Presenting Author: Julien , Catherine

Additional Authors: Roy, Maggie ; Gobeil-Bourbeau , Jasmine ; Nadeau , Marie-France; Fitzpatrick, Caroline; Garon-Carrier, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Parent-teacher communication is essential for children's school functioning. Identifying children most vulnerable to the development and accumulation of low parent-teacher communication is therefore important. This study establishes longitudinal trajectories of parent-teacher communication in a population-based cohort of school-aged children and investigates the child and*

parenting correlates of these trajectories. Data were drawn from a large population-based cohort survey (N= 1486). Mothers reported the quality of their communication with teachers at ages 6, 7, 8 and 10 years, as well as children's externalizing (ex., hyperactivity) and internalizing behaviors (ex., anxiety), and parenting characteristics (ex., ineffective parenting) when children were age 5. Latent growth analysis revealed three trajectories of parent-teacher communication: high (60.9%, n= 906), moderately-high (34.4%, n= 512), and low-quality (4.7%, n= 68). Scores of inattention/ hyperactivity, opposition and non-aggressive behaviors as well as child's depressive symptoms were positively associated with the low trajectory of parent-teacher communication. The low trajectory also had the highest association with ineffective parenting and lower scores of positive interaction and consistent parenting, in comparison with the other two trajectories.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123651 - Printed Poster

Measuring Intimate Partner Violence in Sexual and Gender Minority Populations: A COSMIN Psychometric Review

Main Presenting Author: Palachi, Aaron

Additional Authors: Beljo, Vesna ; Martin, Sarah L; Vong, Joey; Hossain, Shania S; Day, David M

Abstract: *Background: Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a significant concern in society, yet research and measurement practices have been shaped by a cisgender, heterosexual lens. Sexual and gender minority (SGM) populations experience IPV at equal or higher rates, but limited SGM-validated measures raise concerns about accuracy and inclusivity, contributing to inconsistent prevalence estimates of the extent of the problem.Methods: This study reviews self-report IPV measures for SGM populations. First, we used the COnsensus-based Standards for selecting health Measurement INstruments (COSMIN) and then we examined the broader application of IPV measures in research. Eligible studies were original, English-language research measuring IPV in SGM populations, scale development or validation or reported a reliability statistic. Results: Nine scale development/validation studies and 72 application studies met criteria. Structural validity and internal consistency were adequate across scales, but evidence for content validity, cross-cultural validity, reliability, and hypothesis-testing was often limited or indeterminate, with no measure achieving full COSMIN recommendations. SGM-specific measures remain underutilized with most studies continuing to rely on heterocentric measures.Conclusions & Impact: While promising SGM-specific IPV tools exist, further validation is needed. Developing a coordinated set of consensus-driven gold-standard measures is critical to improving assessment accuracy, prevalence estimates, research comparability, and intervention design for SGM communities.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123304 - Printed Poster

Measuring Perinatal Sleep at home : Preliminary results of a wearable EEG validation study

Main Presenting Author: Pilon, Méghan Isabelle

Additional Authors: MacKinnon, Anna ; Touchette, Évelyne

Abstract: *Sleep disturbances affect nearly one in two pregnant individuals during the third trimester, with potential implications for maternal and fetal health. Objective measures such as polysomnography are costly and lack ecological validity. The Muse™ EEG headband, validated in adults, may offer an innovative, portable alternative for characterizing perinatal sleep. This sub-study, embedded within the PRÉVENTION cohort, aims to evaluate concordance between Muse™ and actigraphy, the gold standard for home-based sleep assessment, among third-trimester pregnant participants. A sample of up to 80 participants are being recruited to wear the Muse™ headband and an actigraphy watch for three consecutive nights at home, and complete sleep diaries. Cross-validation will compare sleep parameters (duration, efficiency) across devices. Analyses will include sensitivity, specificity, concordance (Cohen's Kappa), correlation coefficients (Pearson) and ICC for continuous variables. Data collection concludes December 2025; preliminary findings are expected to show high concordance between Muse™ and actigraphy on shared qualitative metrics (e.g., total sleep duration, number of awakenings), supporting the use of portable EEG in perinatal sleep research. This approach could transform ecological sleep measurement during pregnancy and clarify its links to maternal and infant health.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123826 - Printed Poster

Mother-Child vs. Father-Child Synchrony in a Playful Task: Revisiting the Gender-Match Hypothesis

Main Presenting Author: Chouki, Fatima Ezzahra
Co-Presenting Author: Waters, Steven

Additional Author: Bureau, Jean-François

Abstract: *Although parent-child play is often associated with fatherhood, previous studies (Bureau et al., 2014) have shown similar synchrony with mothers and fathers during a playful context. Several studies have examined whether child sex shapes parent-child behaviors, but very few have compared mothers and fathers within the same family. Based on the gender-match hypothesis (Eccles et al., 1990), we expected girls to show better synchrony with their mothers and boys with their fathers. Fifty children (23 boys; mean age = 49.4 months, SD = 9.15), completed a Laughing Task with both parents (counterbalanced visit order). Dyadic synchrony was coded across ten dimensions by trained coders blind to other variables. Paired-sample t-tests showed that for boys, mothers were more sensitive, more intimate, and more respectful of the child's rhythm than fathers, although both parents' efforts to elicit laughter were strongly correlated. For girls, parents showed no correlation, and fathers were marginally more respectful of their daughters' rhythm. These findings contrast with gender-matched expectations and may suggest that fathers tend to be more intrusive with their sons, but not their daughters in such an arousal play context. Such an explanation would be in line with evidence that fathers differentiate more by child gender than mothers do (Lytton & Romney, 1991).*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124037 - Printed Poster

Multiverse CFA: a new method for understanding the impact of analytic decisions in scale development

Main Presenting Author: Ward, Adrien

Additional Author: Flake, Jessica K

Abstract: *Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) is used in scale development to select items, model factor structure, and is necessary for later bias testing. The results of CFA inform how our scales are constructed, and thus how variables are measured . From choosing which data points to exclude to assessing model fit, researchers must make many decisions throughout the process of conducting CFA. As many analysts projects have shown, different choices lead to different, even contradictory, results. Multiverse Analysis is a way to see what results would arise from different combinations of choices, allowing researchers to explore the ramifications of particular decisions. However, Multiverse Analysis has yet to be applied to CFA or other Psychometric models, which pose unique challenges for implementation due to their complexity. We present a first-ever Multiverse CFA. First, we describe common decision points in CFA, which are subsequently used to construct the Multiverse. We then demonstrate the steps of a Multiverse CFA, from initial planning to interpretation, and provide an example with openly available data and materials. By developing Multiverse CFA, we provide a tool to inspect the robustness of results and the impact of different choices in CFA, and further pave the way for the application of Multiverse Analysis to other Psychometric models and SEMs more broadly.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126268 - Printed Poster

Piloting an ADHD Observational Rubric for Preschool Children

Main Presenting Author: Brokl, Carlye

Additional Authors: Gottardo, Alexandra ; Wood, Eileen

Abstract: *Most studies examining attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children focus on school-aged children. This is because ADHD is often not diagnosed until age six, and many informant-report methods to assess symptoms are not rated for preschoolers. It is ideal to identify children at risk of ADHD before school entry, as associated behaviors tend to arise during this transition. The aim of the current study was to pilot an ADHD observational rubric based on diagnostic criteria from the DSM-5-TR appropriate for children under six. To our knowledge, no such rubric currently exists for experimenter use. Children (N = 123, 45% female) aged 54 to 79 months were drawn from seven Canadian provinces to participate. Children's ADHD symptoms were reported by parents using the Conners 3-P(S) and observed by experimenters using our rubric during a video-conference session. We found excellent internal consistency for our ADHD rubric (α = .917) and no correlation with child age (r = -.10, p = .26), indicating this method appears to be appropriate for preschool and young school-aged children. Additional psychometric properties of the measure will be explored. This study provides preliminary evidence supporting a new, easy to administer method to measure ADHD symptoms in preschool children, which could be used by researchers, school screeners, or clinicians for early identification.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123875 - Printed Poster

Positive Affect as a Predictor for Emotion Regulation Self-Efficacy in Daily Life

Main Presenting Author: Park, Juhyun

Additional Author: Armstrong, Grace T

Abstract: *Emotion Regulation Self-Efficacy (ERSE) refers to one's perceived competence in regulating emotions. Greater ERSE is linked to psychological well-being, but the affective processes underlying ERSE remain unclear. Research shows that ERSE predicts negative affect (NA), but has rarely tested its relation to positive affect (PA). Affect is often treated as the outcome of ERSE, though affect may also contribute to ERSE. Most studies rely on dispositional measures, limiting insight into daily processes. Addressing these limitations, we tested whether PA and NA during intense emotional events are associated with ERSE for positive and negative emotions in daily life. We conducted multilevel structural equation modelling with data from 154 adults who completed a 10-day daily diary study reporting affect and ERSE separately for their most intense positive and negative emotional events each day. PA during the day's most positive event was associated with ERSE for positive and negative emotions (Within-person βs=.05-.06, ps<.001; Between-person βs=.13-.15, ps<.001). NA during the day's most negative event was associated with ERSE for negative emotions only at the within-person level (β=-.04, p=003). These findings advance understanding of ERSE, suggesting that PA may play a key role regardless of valence, whereas NA may influence ERSE in a valence-specific manner.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123719 - Printed Poster

Probing Associations: Links Between Dissociation, Emotional Dysregulation and Social Media Use and Trichotillomania

Main Presenting Author: Sutherland, Tobias

Additional Authors: Desrosiers, Isabelle M ; Slattery , Amanda Eve; O'Neill, Melanie

Abstract: *Trichotillomania (TTM), or hair-pulling disorder, significantly impacts one's quality of life and often goes unrecognized (Bezerra et al., 2021; Grant & Chamberlain, 2021; Valle & Grant, 2022). Symptoms may be driven by dissociation (DSS) and emotional dysregulation (ED; Crisp & Grant, 2025), which may worsen TTM (Crowe et al., 2024). Previous studies have examined associations between DSS, ED, and TTM, yet no studies have explored the relationships among DSS, ED, and SMU in predicting TTM sequelae (Gundogdu & Eroglu, 2021). This study examined whether increased ratings of dissociative symptoms, emotional dysregulation, and social media use would reinforce beliefs related to trichotillomania (BiTS). Participants completed the dissociative symptoms scale (DSS-B; Macia et al., 2022), the difficulties in emotion regulation scale (DERS; Gratz & Roemer, 2004), and the social media use scale (SMU; Xanidis & Brignell, 2016). A hierarchical regression revealed the model was significant, F3, 39 = 28.42, p = <.001, accounting for 69% of the variance in BiTS, with only ED (β = .99, SE = 1.77, p = <.001) as a positive predictor of BiTS. Data analysis is ongoing, future research should investigate the relationship between social media use and different types of emotional dysregulation. Increased awareness of TTM's impact may enhance treatment modalities for those affected.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124939 - Printed Poster

Qualitative Evaluation of a Novel Cursor-Tracking Method to Enhance Readiness-for-Change Assessments

Main Presenting Author: Siemers, Nellie

Additional Authors: Gao, Xinran ; Mazaheri, Alaleh; Knäuper, Bärbel

Abstract: *Background:Accurately assessing readiness for change is essential for tailoring behavior-change interventions. This qualitative study examined the feasibility, usability, and acceptability of a novel cursor-tracking procedure embedded in an online readiness-for-change questionnaire, designed to capture real-time decision-making to enhance the accuracy of readiness assessments.Methods:Twenty-six Canadian adults completed the readiness assessment with integrated cursor-tracking software, followed by open-ended feedback questions. Thematic, frequency, and sentiment analyses were conducted, and adhered to the Standards for Reporting Qualitative Research. Results:Ten themes captured participants' understanding, engagement, and impressions of the procedure. Most found it clear, intuitive, and user-friendly, noting that the instructional video and system alerts supported comprehension and adherence. A few reported initial distraction or confusion about timing or purpose, which decreased with practice. Technical issues were rare and minor. Frequency data suggested moderate adherence, and sentiment analysis showed predominantly positive/neutral evaluations.Conclusions:The results indicate that the cursor-tracking procedure is feasible, usable, and acceptable. Action/Impact:The findings are actively guiding refinements to improve clarity and strengthen adherence to the procedure in future studies.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 121505 - Printed Poster

Questionable Research Practices - Do reporting practices reflect established standards?

Main Presenting Author: Sackman, Shae L

Additional Authors: Dhillon, Ruby S; Graham, Megan E; Slaney, L Kate

Abstract: *Questionable research practices (QRPs) can be found in our methods, our statistical interpretations, and in the reporting of our findings. Despite ongoing developments in tackling methodological reform in psychology (such as the APA's Journal Article Reporting Standards (JARS), professional groups such as the Society for the Improvement of Psychological Sciences (SIPS), working groups, etc.), these efforts aim to formalize standard research practices and emphasize research transparency rather than examine theory. The philosophical foundations at the core of our psychological research methods and the discourse practices researchers use when communicating their study findings have not been investigated to any great extent. The members of the present study have reviewed and coded a sample (N=29) of peer-reviewed published research from psychological science journals. We aim to identify: 1) if the discipline's normative reporting standards are being met, 2) the most and least frequently committed QRPs, and 3) the more conceptual, philosophical roots of QRPs that may factor into psychology's methodological crisis that cannot be addressed by focusing on research practices alone. We will present data that will aid in asking if establishing reporting standards and striving for transparency are enough to achieve methodological reform.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 122793 - Printed Poster

Resilience as a Moderator of Discrimination-Related Cortical Thinning: A Neuroimaging Investigation of Social Determinants of Health

Main Presenting Author: Cluett, Rachel G

Additional Author: Hai, Tasmia

Abstract: *Background: Social determinants of health (SDOH), particularly perceived discrimination, profoundly affect brain structure. Perceived racial discrimination is associated with reduced cortical thickness in the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) while resilience is associated with increased cortical thickness. Despite evidence linking discrimination to neurological impairment and resilience to protection, our understanding if resilience buffers discrimination-related cortical thickness is limited.Method: Parents and youth (n=34) completed questionnaires assessing discrimination, resilience, and mental health. Cortical thickness was obtained through FreeSurfer 7.4 and CBRAIN. Recruitment is ongoing. Data will be analyzed using linear regression models to examine discrimination, resilience, and their interaction with cortical thickness of the ACC.Results: We expect that more discrimination relates to a thinner ACC, while more resilience relates to a thicker ACC. Conclusion: This study will demonstrate whether resilience serves as a neurobiological protective factor that buffers discrimination-related cortical thickness reductions in the ACC among youth.Action/Impact: Resilience may offset cortical thinning linked to discrimination. This research may show the neuroprotective role of resilience and could have implications for interventions for youth facing discrimination.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124596 - Printed Poster

Second-order structural equation modeling with both factors and components

Main Presenting Author: Baek, In-Hyun

Additional Authors: Cho, Gyeongcheol ; Schuberth, Florian; Hwang, Heungsun

Abstract: *In structural equation modeling, second-order models are frequently used to represent constructs at hierarchical levels, with second-order constructs reflecting broader traits and first-order constructs capturing more specific facets. These constructs can be modeled as (common) factors or components. Partial least squares path modeling and consistent partial least squares are widely advocated and used for estimating second-order models, particularly when they involve both factors and components across levels. However, these methods have limited flexibility in accommodating such models. To address this limitation, we propose a method termed second-order integrated generalized structured component analysis. This method can deal with all commonly encountered types of second-order constructs, including (1) second-order factors paired with first-order factors, (2) second-order components paired with first-order factors, (3) second-order factors paired with first-order components, and (4) second-order components paired with first-order components. We evaluate the performance of the proposed method through simulation studies and illustrate its practical applicability using real-world data.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 126222 - Printed Poster

Sharing success under watchful eyes: The emotional and social costs of evil eye belief.

Main Presenting Author: Aryaie, Mina

Additional Author: White , Cindel J. M.

Abstract: *The Evil Eye, the belief that an envious glance can cause harm, can shape how individuals manage success and social recognition. While sharing achievements often enhances well-being by boosting pride and self-esteem, it may also elicit fear of envy, especially among Evil Eye believers. In a culturally and religiously diverse sample of Canadian university students (N = 598), we investigated how Evil Eye belief and experimental reminders influenced emotional responses to sharing success and expectations of others' envy. A stronger belief in the Evil Eye was associated with a preference for passive yet supportive responses to good news, greater expectations of destructive reactions, and increased expectations of malicious envy from others. Believers also reported heightened negative affect-including socially engaged (e.g., shame), disengaged (e.g., anger), anxious (e.g., guilt), and hostile (e.g., distress) emotions-as well as greater generalized anxiety. Experimental reminders of the evil eye did not have any significant effects. These results suggest that Evil Eye belief intensifies perceived social threat around sharing success and may undermine relational and emotional well-being. Findings offer insights into cross-cultural variation in responses to success and identifying factors that may hinder relationship quality and well-being among those who believe in the evil eye.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123801 - Printed Poster

Short Form Development of the Frontal Systems Behavior Scale

Main Presenting Author: Penheiro, Romeo

Additional Author: Woods, Steven Paul

Abstract: *Background: The 46-item Frontal Systems Behavior Scale-Self-Report (FrSBe-SR) assesses apathy, disinhibition, and executive dysfunction but is lengthy for high-burden clinical settings. Item response theory (IRT) offers a data-driven approach to reducing respondent burden while retaining measurement precision. This project applies multidimensional IRT to evaluate item performance and identify a shorter, psychometrically robust version. Methods: Participants were 435 adults (M age = 50.7; M education = 13.8; 78.6% male; 59.1% Caucasian). A 3-factor graded response model was estimated. Internal consistency was strong across subscales (α = .82-.85). Model evaluation incorporated global fit indices, item-level S-X², discrimination parameters, and threshold structure to characterize redundancy and information coverage. Preliminary Results: Most items show moderate to very high discrimination (0.29-2.74). Item-level S-X² values indicated good fit (p > .05; RMSEA ≈ 0-.03) despite poor global indices (CFI/TLI ≈ .73; RMSEA ≈ .09). Narrow θ cluster (-0.5 to 1.5) indicates redundancy and support short form development. Analysis plan: Planned steps include evaluating item information curves, comparing full versus reduced test information, and conducting differential item functioning across sex and clinical subgroups. Candidate items will be selected to maximize construct coverage while*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 123212 - Printed Poster

Social Media Health Content Quality Scale: Assessing ADHD Information Across Digital Platforms

Main Presenting Author: Ghassemi, Padina
Co-Presenting Author: Chavoshi, Saeid

Additional Author: Bartels, Olivia

Abstract: *ABSTRACTBackground: ADHD content on TikTok reached 4.3 billion views by 2021, yet 52% of top videos contain misleading information (Yeung et al., 2022). Healthcare providers encounter patients whose understanding is shaped by social media, yet no validated tools exist to assess digital content quality.Methods: We analyzed 200 ADHD posts across TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube using stratified random sampling. We developed the Social Media Health Content Quality Scale (SMHCQS), a 15-item instrument grounded in Stigma Reduction Theory and Health Belief Model, plus an ADHD misinformation taxonomy. Two trained coders independently coded content (κ≥0.80).Results: Data collection completed December 2025 (N=200). Analyses include exploratory factor analysis, hierarchical regression, and platform comparisons. At CPA June 2026, we will present SMHCQS psychometric properties, quality distributions, stigma-reduction prevalence, and misinformation patterns.Conclusions: This develops the first validated assessment tool for social media mental health content, providing empirical data on content reaching millions.Action/Impact: SMHCQS enables systematic assessment of digital content exposure; the taxonomy addresses misconceptions. Both will be freely available to support 1.8 million Canadians with ADHD.Ethics: Public content; no approval required (TCPS2 Article 2.2).*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126413 - Printed Poster

Testing the Tests: Examining the Ecological Validity of Performance Validity Tests

Main Presenting Author: Radlmeier, Sage

Additional Authors: Sepehry, Amir A; Schultz, Izabela Z

Abstract: *Background: Ecological validity in neuropsychological testing refers to how well test performance predicts real-world functioning, and concerns the inferences drawn, not the test itself. The literature on the ecological validity of Performance Validity Tests (PVTs) is scant. Much of the research on performance validity relies on simulated feigning, a method that fails to reflect real patient realities and leaves tests validated against other measures rather than real-world behavior. Aim: This paper evaluates the ecological validity of commonly used PVTs and identifies where functional data is lacking. We expected that most PVTs would show strong classification accuracy in simulated settings but limited alignment with real-world functional outcomes. Method: We conducted a systematic review, drawing on findings from simulation studies, clinical samples and forensic research to examine whether PVT performance relates to everyday cognitive or behavioral functioning. Results: Findings show diagnostic accuracy in controlled simulation contexts, yet little evidence linking PVT scores to functional outcomes like daily functioning or work capacity. Conclusion: PVTs guide diagnosis and, treatment planning but, limited ecological evidence increases*

the risk of misclassifying effort and functional ability, highlighting the need for ecologically grounded validation of PVTs.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 123397 - Printed Poster

The Act of Reporting to Authority: Investigating Differences in Digital Harassment and Perceived Control

Main Presenting Author: Arbabi, Reza

Additional Authors: Taylor, Faith Allison; O'Neill, Melanie; Snaychuk, Lindsay

Abstract: *Research on digital harassment (DH) shows that victims report lower perceived control and greater distress (Snaychuk & O'Neill, 2020). These experiences often reflect broader dynamics of power, coercion, and authority found in cyber harassment (Baak et al., 2023). At the same time, trust in institutions can reduce sensitivity to further harm, offering a sense of protection (Ro, 2023). Although banning DH offenders and removing content are seen as fair, differing justice expectations can lead to punishment-focused responses that reproduce inequalities (Snaychuk & O'Neill, 2020; Schoenebeck et al., 2021). Current research has not directly examined whether the act of reporting affects victims' perceived control in digital contexts. This study examined whether reporting, non-reporting, or non-disclosure of digital sexual violence corresponded with differences in perceived control (GPCS-M). A one-way ANOVA revealed a significant effect of reporting status, $F (2, 100) = 3.13$, $p = .048$, $\eta^2 = .06$. Post hoc analysis showed that participants who reported demonstrated significantly higher perceived control ($M = 25.77$) than those who preferred not to disclose their reporting status ($M = 19.50$), $p = .019$. No significant difference was found between reporters and non-reporters. These findings suggest that help-seeking may relate to a stronger sense of control.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125958 - Printed Poster

The Association of Social and Emotional Learning Skills Related to Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Symptoms in Early Childcare

Main Presenting Author: Calderon, Luce

Additional Author: Schanding, Thomas

Abstract: *Early childhood (ages 3-5) is a critical period for the development of social-emotional and cognitive skills, and a period where children may begin to exhibit symptoms of ADHD, yet go undiagnosed. Social and emotional learning (SEL) has been recommended in early learning frameworks and may support children at risk, by fostering self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. This study will recruit 30-50 Early Childhood Educators to rate 3- to 5-year-old children ($N \approx 165$) using the SSIS-SEL and ADHD-RS-IV-P. Multilevel regression analyses will be used to examine the relationship between ADHD symptomatology (inattention, hyperactivity, impulsivity) and SEL competencies, controlling for age, gender, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. It is expected that SEL competencies will significantly predict ADHD symptomatology and potentially support the use of SEL programming to support early learners evidencing difficulties with attention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123281 - Printed Poster

The Importance of Informal Mental Health Help-Seeking and Support: The Predictive Value of Past Help-Seeking

Main Presenting Author: Awan, Mahd

Additional Author: Boyce, Melissa A

Abstract: *By the age of 40, roughly half of Canadians will experience having a mental illness- however many will not seek help. Most help-seeking models emphasize formal help-seeking (FHS) and neglect informal help-seeking (IHS), despite individuals using both. The current study examines if past experience with FHS and IHS is associated with (a) intentions to seek formal care; (b) established factors of help-seeking (HS), specifically self-stigma, mental health literacy, tendency of disclosure, and perceived barriers. Canadian post-secondary students (n=301), completed a questionnaire collecting demographics, past help-seeking experiences, and validated scales including, the Mental Health Literacy Scale (MHLS), Self-Stigma of Seeking Help scale (SSOSH), Distress Disclosure Index (DDI), Barriers to Adolescents Seeking Help scale (BASH). Analyses used linear regressions to test whether help-seeking history (none, FHS-only, IHS-only, both) predicted help-seeking intention; as well as if it predicted MHLS, SSOSH, DDI, BASH. It was hypothesized that participants reporting FHS and ISH, would have higher help-seeking intentions. Secondly, it was hypothesized that past HS will predict higher MHLS, and lower SSOSH, DDI, BASH. Results indicated participants who had engaged in combined FHS and IHS reported significantly higher help-seeking intentions, contrasted to those who used only one, or none.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126369 - Printed Poster

The Missing Middle: A systematic review of ADHD and endocrine dysfunction in midlife women

Main Presenting Author: Sudbury , Kirsten M.J.

Additional Authors: Zeller, Rachel L.; Fenrich, Mandy C. ; Jewell, Joanna ; MacDonald, Heather K.

Abstract: *Background:ADHD in midlife women remains insufficiently studied, despite evidence that hormonal transitions influence attention, executive functioning, and emotional regulation. Perimenopause, menopause, and endocrine disorders such as PCOS alter estrogen, progesterone, and androgen activity, which modulate dopaminergic systems essential for self-regulation. Existing reviews focus on short-term hormonal variability but do not address broader endocrine and biopsychosocial mechanisms affecting impairment in midlife.Methods:A systematic review was conducted following PRISMA guidelines across PsycINFO, PubMed, Google Scholar, and ProQuest (2010-2025). Eligible studies included adult women aged 40-60 or women with endocrine disorders characterized by hormonal dysregulation; assessed endocrine function; and reported ADHD-relevant cognitive, emotional, or executive outcomes. Six studies met the inclusion criteria. Quality appraisal followed established criteria for observational and clinical research, and findings were integrated using thematic synthesis.Results:Endocrine dysregulation was consistently associated with ADHD-related symptoms. Women with PCOS showed elevated impulsivity and attentional difficulties.*

Menopause-related estrogen decline was linked to new-onset executive dysfunction, with lisdexamfetamine improving working memory and organization. Lifespan studies indicated that ovarian hormone fluctuations influence impulsivity and externalizing behaviours.Conclusions:Endocrine dysfunction exerts meaningful effects on ADHD-related cognition and emotion in midlife women. Findings highlight the need for endocrine-informed assessment, hormone-sensitive measurement tools, and clinical trials stratified by sex, age, and hormonal status to guide more precise and equitable care.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122958 - Printed Poster

The Power of Letting Go: How Goal Disengagement Influences Coping with Chronic Illness Across the Adult Lifespan

Main Presenting Author: Dagher, Alexandra

Additional Author: Barlow, Meaghan

Abstract: *Living with a chronic illness can negatively affect psychological well-being. One's ability to disengage from unattainable goals (GD) is theorized to help them cope with major life stressors. Therefore, we examined how GD relates to well-being both following a chronic illness vignette manipulation (Study 1) and in day-to-day life (Study 2). In Study 1, participants (n = 147) reported their chronic illness diagnoses, read a vignette imagining their condition progressing to the point of losing mobility, and then completed well-being measures. Multiple regression analyses revealed a significant interaction between GD and number of chronic illnesses predicting negative affect (B = -0.08, p =.01), such that among individuals with more chronic illnesses, higher GD was associated with lower negative affect. In Study 2, participants (n = 138) reported their chronic illness diagnoses and then tracked their daily health symptoms and well-being over 14 days. Multilevel analyses revealed a contrasting pattern. Specifically, a marginal interaction (B = 0.05, p =.06) suggests that as daily health symptoms increased, higher GD was linked to relatively lower negative affect among individuals with less (vs more) chronic illnesses. These results have important implications for theory and intervention development by highlighting the nuanced role of goal disengagement in chronic illness contexts.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125769 - Printed Poster

The Relationship Between Thin Slice Judgments of the Alliance and Treatment Outcome on a Session-by-Session Basis

Main Presenting Author: Fung, Curtis

Additional Authors: Daljeet, Sarena ; Milovanov, Alex; Oakman, Jonathan

Abstract: *Observational measures of the working alliance currently require behavioral coding of entire psychotherapy sessions, which can be time-consuming. Thin slice coding of the alliance presents an efficient and novel alternative that reduces the coding burden on researchers. Previous research has demonstrated that thin slice judgments of the alliance can be used to predict post-treatment outcome. However, the relationship between a thin slice measure of the alliance and client-*

rated outcome has not been investigated over the course of treatment. Clients (N = 43) filled out the Outcome Rating Scale before each session. Independent observers watched and rated one minute video clips of client sessions using the Thin Slice Measure of the Alliance. The data has been collected and behaviorally coded. Multiple regression models will be used to analyze the session-to-session relationship of the thin slice measure of the alliance and client-rated outcome over the course of psychotherapy. Regression with cluster robust standard errors will be conducted to account for therapist variability in the alliance to determine a clearer estimate of the client alliance-outcome relationship. Analysis is currently in progress and will be completed before March 2026. The current study will illustrate the utility of thin slice judgments of the alliance in examining the alliance-outcome relationship.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126146 - Printed Poster

The Roots of the Wound: Reasons for Perpetrating an Attachment Injury in a Current Romantic Relationship

Main Presenting Author: Sirois , Rafaelle

Additional Authors: Bisson , Camille ; Yilmaz, Ece; Lamontagne, Gloria; Lonergan , Michelle; Lafontaine , Marie-France

Abstract: *Young adult romantic relationships rely on trust and mutual care, with partners expected to be responsive during distress. Yet, hurtful relational events still occur, including attachment injuries, which arise when one partner fails to offer expected support at a critical time, leaving the injured partner feeling betrayed or abandoned. While the definition and impacts of these injuries have been examined, less is known about why injuring partners act in ways that inflict such hurt. To address this gap, this online study examined young adults' reasons for perpetrating an attachment injury and how these reasons relate to injury severity and stress symptoms. Young adult injuring partners (N=394) provided written reasons for the injury and completed measures on study variables. A standardized thematic analysis grouped the reasons into 15 themes. Subsequent multiple regression analyses showed that attributing the injury to the partner's actions or feelings was linked with perceiving the injury as less severe, whereas citing being under the influence of substances was associated with greater stress symptoms. These findings offer a unique window into the thought processes underlying attachment injuries and highlight the potential importance of integrating injuring partners' reasons into theory and models to better understand how these relational ruptures unfold and are resolved.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125155 - Printed Poster

The Why Behind the Wound: Perceived Reasons for Experiencing an Attachment Injury in a Current Romantic Relationship

Main Presenting Author: Lamontagne, Gloria

Additional Authors: Yilmaz, Ece ; Bisson, Camille; Sirois, Rafaelle; Lafontaine, Marie-France; Brassard, Audrey; Godbout, Natasha; Lonergan, Michelle

Abstract: *An attachment injury occurs when a partner fails to provide needed support at a critical moment, leaving the other partner feeling betrayed or abandoned. Such relational rupture is known to have numerous negative consequences for the injured partner, making its resolution essential to support their healing and well-being. A key step in resolving an attachment injury is understanding the context behind the partner's perpetration of the injury. This study aimed to identify young adults' perceived reasons for a specific attachment injury they experienced, organize them into themes, and examine how they relate to the severity of the injury and associated stress-symptoms. A total of 385 young adults completed an online open-ended question on the perceived reasons for the injury and self-report questionnaires on outcome variables. Thematic analysis was used to identify the themes of reasons and multiple regressions to assess their associations with the outcome variables. Ten themes were identified such as "My partner wanted to hurt me". While some themes were associated, either positively or negatively, with injury severity and stress-symptoms (e. g., partners lack of communication skills), others were not. Implications of these results will be discussed, such as the possible development of a questionnaire assessing injured partners perceived reasons for an attachment injury.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125264 - Printed Poster

Triangulating Evidence: A Multi-Wave Approach to Interpreting Mixed Well-Being Findings Among Self-Employed in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Naimi, Azadeh

Abstract: *This study extends initial doctoral research on acculturation stress among immigrant entrepreneurs in Canada. The foundational analysis of a cross-sectional dataset revealed significant main effects of sociodemographic status (immigrant status, gender, cultural background) on well-being, presenting a mixed pattern of psychological resilience and social strain. To validate and strengthen these results, this study compares findings across three independent Statistics Canada datasets (CCHS 2012, CCHS 2014, CCHS 2017-2018). Consistent mean differences across all waves for key comparisons (women vs. men, immigrant vs. Canadian-born, white vs. non-white) and well-being measures confirm the robustness of this complex profile. The central discussion is methodological: this triangulation framework demonstrates how moving beyond single-dataset p values to assess consistency across waves, and integrating effect sizes with theoretical context, provides a stronger basis for claims about practical significance. This approach guards against overinterpreting isolated results or dismissing replicable small effects, offering clearer guidance for translating statistical findings into meaningful psychological insights and practical support for diverse entrepreneurs.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125021 - Printed Poster

Using Replication as a tool for Multiplicity Control

Main Presenting Author: Martinez Gutierrez, Naomi

Additional Author: Cribbie, Robert

Abstract: *Researchers test a median of 76 hypotheses per article (Gutierrez, 2025), which raises concern for the multiplicity issue (i.e., the rate of Type I errors increases with the number of*

hypotheses tested). This risk is traditionally managed using a familywise error (FWE) or false discovery rate (FDR) procedure. However, replication is a theoretically superior alternative for Type I error detection, yet its utility as a replacement for traditional multiplicity control is underexplored. We conducted a Monte Carlo simulation in an ANOVA framework (comparing 4 and 7 groups) to evaluate Type I error detection rates of common FWE and FDR procedures against frequentist and Bayesian replication metrics. We simulated 5000 original-replication pairs across two sample size conditions (N=25,100) and two population mean configurations (complete null, partial null). The Type I error detection rate of traditional procedures decreased as sample size and number of true effects increased; neither of which influenced the Type I error detection rates of replication metrics. The nominal sceptical p-value was the top performer, detecting nearly all Type I errors across conditions. We recommend that instead of researchers focusing on traditional multiplicity control procedures, that they focus on conducting more replications and adopting the nominal sceptical p-value for detecting replication success.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123215 - Printed Poster

Validating the Couples Affect-Intensity Rating System (CAIRS)

Main Presenting Author: Morgan, Sean

Additional Authors: Spargo, Emily ; Breen, Lorna; Woodin, Erica; Hamilton, Sierrah

Abstract: *Background: Observational measures of couple conflict are often atheoretical and unwieldy. The Couples Affect-Intensity Rating System (CAIRS) was developed to capture two dimensions of conflict, affect (positive to negative) and intensity (low to high), in a more theory-driven way. This study examined its preliminary reliability and validity.Methods: 96 mixed-sex couples completed questionnaires and two 10-minute conflict interactions in the third trimester of pregnancy, followed by surveys at 1, 2, and 4 years postpartum. Interactions were coded by trained research assistants using CAIRS Likert-scale ratings.Results: Factor analyses supported four dimensions: hostility, withdrawal, problem-solving, and intimacy. Longitudinal multilevel models showed that hostility uniquely predicted lower relationship satisfaction and higher psychological and physical intimate partner violence (IPV). Intimacy, problem-solving, and withdrawal were associated with lower IPV in early parenthood.Conclusions: CAIRS provides a concise, theoretically grounded approach to capturing conflict behaviour. High-intensity negative affect (hostility) predicted poorer outcomes, whereas positive or lower-intensity behaviours predicted better functioning.Impact: Findings support CAIRS as a useful tool for identifying both harmful and protective conflict behaviours during the transition to parenthood.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125274 - Printed Poster

Validating the Partner Rumination Scale (PRS) in Romantic Dyads

Main Presenting Author: Urbach, Alli

Additional Authors: Rain , Sarina ; Dozois, David

Abstract: *Partner rumination, a repetitive, negatively biased pattern of thinking about one's partner or relationship, is linked to depression and poor relationship outcomes. The Partner Rumination Scale*

(PRS) is a novel measure that captures these maladaptive thought processes; however, it requires validation in romantic couples. The present study validates the PRS within romantic dyads, enabling investigation of partner-focused cognition in close relationships. Seventy-three couples completed self-report measures of depression, relationship quality, and other relationship-related variables. Preliminary analyses suggest the PRS demonstrates excellent internal consistency ($\propto$ = 0.96), test-retest reliability (r = 0.81), and construct validity, with strong associations with depressive symptoms (r = 0.54) and relationship satisfaction (r = -0.61). Importantly, higher PRS scores predicted future depressive symptoms above existing rumination measures, isolating the unique contribution of partner-focused rumination. Although these analyses support the psychometric properties of the PRS, ongoing analyses will confirm factor structure and test measurement invariance. These findings support the PRS as a reliable, valid measure of partner rumination in romantic couples, providing a unique tool that can be used in research and clinical practice to assess maladaptive, partner-focused cognitions.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124670 - Printed Poster

Valued Living Questionnaire Under Review: Is the Composite Score Meaningful?

Main Presenting Author: Wawrzyczek, Karolina Maria
Co-Presenting Author: Keefer, Kateryna V

Abstract: *Acting consistently with one's values (Valued living) is central to Acceptance and Commitment Theory (ACT), yet its measurement remains debated. The Valued Living Questionnaire (VLQ) is unique in that it assesses both the strength of one's values (Importance) and how often one's behaviour aligns with those values (Consistency), in addition to a Composite score reflecting their interaction (Valued Living). Although ACT proposes that the interaction between Importance and Consistency best predicts adjustment, no study has directly examined the incremental predictive validity of the VLQ Composite score beyond Importance and Consistency alone. This study tested the interaction hypothesis using data from 732 undergraduates who completed the VLQ along with outcome measures of resilience and distress. Hierarchical regressions (controlling for age, gender, and stressful life events) showed that Importance uniquely predicted greater resilience, whereas Consistency uniquely predicted lower distress. Incrementally, the VLQ Composite added significantly to the prediction of resilience, but not distress. These results provide novel evidence for the predictive utility of the VLQ Composite score in alignment with ACT. The findings also suggest that resilience and distress represent distinct adjustment outcomes, and that valued living may operate differently across outcome types.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125660 - Printed Poster

When trauma triggers craving: Meta-analytic evidence for the mediating role of negative affect in substances users with trauma history

Main Presenting Author: Ethier-Gagnon, Mikaela A.

Additional Authors: DeGrace, Sarah ; Smith, Martin M.; Sherry, Simon; Bird, Brian; Tibbo, Phillip G; Yakovenko, Igor; Stewart, Sherry H.

Abstract: *Classically conditioned substance craving is a well-documented response to trauma cue exposure in substance users with trauma histories in experiments using the cue reactivity paradigm (CRP), but overall effect sizes, moderators, and mechanisms remain unclear. We conducted a meta-analysis to quantify trauma cue-induced craving and identify moderators and used two-step meta-analytic structural equation modelling to test whether negative affect mediates the effect of trauma (vs. neutral) cues on craving. Our literature search returned n=32 studies involving a total of k=21 unique datasets. Results supported our hypothesis that trauma cues would induce greater substance craving relative to other cue types/controls (neutral cues, substance cues, pre-cue baseline), with effect sizes proving small to medium in magnitude. Moderators included CRP method, study quality, and proportion with PTSD. Additionally, results supported our proposed mediational model with negative affect indirectly explaining the relationship between trauma cue exposure and substance craving. Findings show that trauma cue-elicited craving is robust and partly driven by heightened negative affect, underscoring the need to address trauma-related emotional responding in interventions and to target negative affect to reduce cue-triggered craving in trauma-exposed substance-using populations.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 123156 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

Understanding Functional Impairment in PTSD: The Role of Affective Sensory Sensitivity and Emotion Dysregulation

Main Presenting Author: Parise, Vanessa

Additional Authors: Mirabelli, James ; McKinnon, Margaret

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Individuals with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) often experience difficulties across multiple areas of daily functioning. Recent findings have implicated atypical affective sensory sensitivity as a factor that may amplify emotion dysregulation and functional difficulties. However, the processes through which sensory sensitivity impacts functional outcomes in PTSD are still not fully understood Methods: A cross-sectional online survey of trauma-exposed adults meeting presumptive PTSD criteria (N = 112; PCL-5 ≥ 33) was conducted. Participants completed the Highly Sensitive Person Scale (HSP), Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Scale (DERS), WHO Disability Assessment Schedule 2.0 (WHODAS 2.0), and PTSD Checklist for DSM-5 (PCL-5). Bivariate correlations and mediation analyses (PROCESS for R; Model 4; 10,000 bootstraps) were performed.Results: Affective sensory sensitivity correlated with PTSD severity (r=.42, p<.001) and functional impairment (r=.26, p<.01). Mediation revealed a significant indirect effect of affective sensory sensitivity on functional impairment via emotion dysregulation (β=.08, 95% CI [.01,.18]) and a remaining direct effect (β=.22, p=.016), indicating partial mediation.Conclusions: Elevated affective sensory sensitivity contributes to functional difficulties in PTSD directly and through emotion dysregulation, highlighting the importance of integrating sensory modulation and emotion-regulation strategies in trauma-informed care.Action/Impact: Routine screening and integration of sensory modulation with emotion-regulation strategies may reduce sensory overload and improve functioning in PTSD.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 122355 - Virtual Poster

Review Session

Implementing prospective, a priori, compromise, sensitivity, and criterion power analyses using Monte Carlo simulation methods: An overview and brief tutorial

Main Presenting Author: Chalmers, R. Philip S.

Abstract: *This talk provides a theoretical and practical overview of five distinct power analysis criteria (prospective, a priori, compromise, sensitivity, and criterion) evaluated using Monte Carlo simulation techniques. After briefly discussing the theory and inferential properties involved, the concepts are presented using the software package Spower (Chalmers, 2025); an R package designed as a general-purpose Monte Carlo simulation tool for performing power analyses. As will be demonstrated, Spower provides flexibility for researchers to define tailored simulation experiments or, if the power analysis requires less flexibility, provides a selection of predefined simulation experiments which themselves may be modified if necessary. To facilitate comparability and further extensibility, a small set of simulation counterparts from the popular stand-alone software G*Power 3.1 (Faul et al., 2009) will be presented, along with other useful simulation experiment subroutines for improving estimation precision and creating visualizations.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125718 - Review Session

Researchers' Positioning: Untangling Emic/Etic Perspectives and Insider/Outsider Roles

Main Presenting Author: Chirkov, Valery

Abstract: *Recent standards for qualitative research emphasize the need for researchers to clearly state and justify their perspectives and positions regarding their studies and participants. Two commonly discussed dimensions are the etic vs. emic perspective and the outsider vs. insider position. These are often conflated-for example, treating an etic perspective as equivalent to an outsider position and an emic perspective as synonymous with an insider stance. This presentation will analyze and compare these four orientations, arguing that etic vs. emic reflects a methodological standpoint, whereas insider vs. outsider indicates the researcher's relationship to the participant community. A 2×2 framework combining these dimensions will be introduced, along with illustrative examples. The session will conclude with recommendations for accurately applying these concepts to describe researchers' positions.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 122991 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

Between Perpetual Foreigner and Model Minority: Why Many Asian Youth Experience Lower Happiness?

Main Presenting Author: Zhao, Xu

Abstract: *Recent data highlight elevated mental health risks among Asian Canadian and American youth, including a doubling of self-reported "fair/poor" mental health from 12% in 2019 to 26% in 2023 among Canadian adolescents (Statistics Canada, 2025), and higher suicide attempt rates among Asian American high schoolers (CDC, 2024). Public discourse often reduces these disparities to "tiger parenting" or inevitable costs of the model minority stereotype, rarely examining deeper sociocultural, historical, and biological influences. In this presentation, I draw on empirical research and my lived experiences as a Chinese immigrant and a cultural psychologist researching youth development to explore why Asian youth face disproportionate mental health burdens. My presentation will examine eight related themes: 1)perpetual foreigner syndrome and belongingness threats2)pressures of the model minority myth3)intergenerational transmission of historical trauma4)limited civic and community engagement5)parentalization and role reversal in immigrant families6)parental sacrifice narratives and the cultural value of "eating bitterness" (chi ku)7)normative emotional restraint and suppression8)genetic and epigenetic influences on stress responseBy synthesizing sociocultural, historical, and biological perspectives, this talk aims to move beyond simplistic explanations and offer culturally grounded pathways for clinical practice, prevention, and policy in Canadian and North American contexts.*

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 124506 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Advance Psychological Methods

Main Presenting Author: Ji, Feng

Abstract: *Psychological science increasingly relies on complex measurement models, large data structures, and multi-site collaborations-yet many traditional methodological tools face limitations in scalability, validity, and data accessibility. This presentation highlights how artificial intelligence (AI) can meaningfully expand the methodological toolkit available to psychological researchers. I first introduce a deep generative adversarial algorithm for high-dimensional item factor analysis that improves latent variable recovery in challenging measurement conditions. I then present a federated item response theory framework that allows researchers to estimate psychometric models across institutions without sharing individual-level data, addressing privacy concerns central to contemporary psychological research. Next, I discuss new evaluations of large language models for automated evidence synthesis and for conducting statistical power analyses, illustrating both their potential and their current methodological constraints. Finally, I examine recent work comparing structural equation modeling with targeted maximum likelihood estimation, showing how AI-driven estimation strategies can clarify causal estimands and strengthen inference. Together, these projects demonstrate how AI can enhance the precision, interpretability, and reproducibility of psychological methods.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123425 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

Au-delà de la carrière : comment la passion et les raisons de retraite façonnent le bien-être des athlètes à travers la poursuite du sport

Main Presenting Author: Fortin, Maude

Additional Author: Bonneville-Roussy, Arielle

Abstract: *Contexte théorique. 16 à 26 % des athlètes retraités éprouvent des difficultés psychologiques (anxiété, dépression), après leur carrière sportive (Gouttebarge et al., 2019). Alors que certains quittent pour des raisons volontaires (choix), d'autres quittent pour des raisons involontaires (blessures) (Wippert et Wippert, 2010). Puisque les athlètes valorisent et investissent énormément de temps et d'énergie dans leur sport, la manière dont ils l'intériorisent influence le type de passion qui les anime : harmonieuse ou obsessive (Vallerand et al., 2003). Comme les raisons de retraite, la passion pourrait motiver les athlètes à poursuivre leur sport à la retraite. La poursuite du sport (domaine connexe, récréatif) pourrait favoriser le bien-être chez les athlètes retraités. À notre connaissance, aucune étude ne l'a observé jusqu'à maintenant. Méthodologie. 250 athlètes retraités, âgés de 18 à 45 ans, ont complété un questionnaire. Résultats. Les analyses acheminatoires de médiation avec Bootstrap (N = 1000) révèlent que la passion harmonieuse est liée positivement au bien-être via une poursuite récréative ou dans un domaine connexe (ex: entraîneur). Les retraites volontaires favorisent la poursuite sportive, tandis que les retraites involontaires la diminuent. Discussion. Abordera les liens entre passion, raisons de retraite, poursuite sportive, bien-être et les implications.*

Section: *Sport and Exercise Psychology*
Session ID: 125149 - Snapshot

Data-Driven Radiomic Subgroup Discovery for Equitable AI in Glioblastoma Imaging

Main Presenting Author: Espinoza, Giovanni

Additional Authors: Laflamme, Nicholas ; Nikolla, Albino; Ajenkar, Anass; Chartier, Sylvain

Abstract: *Glioblastoma MRI datasets often contain hidden imbalances that limit the fairness and generalizability of AI models, and demographic variables alone do not capture the biological heterogeneity that drives outcomes. This study identifies data-driven radiomic subgroups as a more meaningful foundation for equitable AI in glioblastoma research. Using 432 radiomic features from UPENN-GBM FLAIR scans, we sequentially applied PCA, UMAP, and HDBSCAN to derive phenotype clusters. Cluster robustness was tested across random seeds using Adjusted Rand Index analyses, and subgroup distinctiveness was assessed with Kruskal-Wallis tests. Clinical relevance was evaluated using Log-rank, Chi-square, and Kruskal-Wallis tests against key prognostic and demographic variables. Results showed that the cluster structure remained stable across PCA and UMAP configurations and that most radiomic features differed significantly across clusters. Survival analyses revealed prognostic differences while showing no associations with age, gender, IDH1, or MGMT. Together, these findings indicate that the clusters capture intrinsic tumor morphology rather than demographic or molecular artifacts. This study provides a robust framework for stratifying heterogeneous imaging datasets and a practical method for identifying underrepresented tumor phenotypes to support fairer, more generalizable AI systems.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 122947 - Snapshot

From Data to Distortion: Confronting the Validated Invalidity Undermining Clinical Research

Main Presenting Author: Lowe, Catherine T

Additional Authors: Simoneau, Ashlyn A; Lowe, Matthew

Abstract: *Community-centric clinical, health, and psychological research increasingly relies on online surveys to assess functioning, risk and protective factors, and to inform intervention. However, automated non-human responses threaten the validity of these findings. Platforms such as Qualtrics offer bot-detection tools, yet as automation evolves, the reliability of these safeguards remains uncertain, and the validity of clinical findings is unclear.Among 1,531 online survey responses, 971 were identified as false (63%). The accuracy of identifying false responses was compared between built-in Qualtrics bot-detection tools (59%) and a customized JavaScript-based screening protocol using survey metadata (84%). The customized protocol was 3.71 times more effective (OR = 5.22) than Qualtrics tools (OR = 1.41), and discrepancies between the two procedures showed significant differences in accuracy (χ^2 = 108.2, p < .001).Discrepancies between widely used and customized detection procedures raise serious validity concerns for published psychological research using online surveys. Knowledge dissemination and mobilization based on such data may misrepresent and misinform clinical populations. Future online survey-based research must use a combination of available detection technologies and layered screening tools to maximize the identification of automated or bad-faith responses.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125661 - Snapshot

Structural and Convergent Properties of Structured Assessment of Protective Factors (SAPROF) Ratings in a Treated Sexual Offending Sample

Main Presenting Author: Alawes, Leezan

Additional Author: Olver, Mark

Abstract: *Prior research supports the predictive validity of Structured Assessment of Protective Factors (SAPROF) ratings, however, its factorial and convergent validity have been underexamined. Thus, we examined these properties in a treated sample of 461 men with sexual offense conviction histories, analyzing the SAPROF's factor structure and its convergence with measures of relevant constructs across ethnocultural groups. The SAPROF was rated from institutional files pre-and posttreatment. Results of exploratory structural equation modeling of pre and post SAPROF item ratings identified a temporally stable three-factor model that was invariant across ethnocultural groups; however, it departed from the developers' original subscale structure. The factors were termed Internal-Prosocial, Motivational-Lifestyle, and External-to reflect continuity with, yet departure from, the current subscale structure. SAPROF ratings were correlated in theoretically and clinically meaningful ways with scores on relevant risk-need-responsivity measures. Overall, results support the structural and convergent validity of SAPROF ratings and identified a modestly revised subscale structure in the present sample. This study carries significant implications for the use of the SAPROF in forensic risk assessments, diverse correctional settings, and treatment planning effectiveness.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124857 - Snapshot

The Perfect Pairing: Two-on-two Interviewing and Demographic Matching in Research on Young Women's Friendships

Main Presenting Author: Chawla, Tanisha

Additional Authors: Siminiuc, Maria ; Cameron, Catherine Ann

Abstract: *While many studies have sought to examine the nuanced social dynamics of young adult relationships through in-person interviews, online interviewing methodologies have expanded rapidly since COVID-19, offering new benefits and challenges. Traditional interviews typically involve a single interviewer and participant, but more flexible formats may reduce the prescriptive structure that can limit authentic dialogue.This methods case study presents a "two-on-two" online interviewing approach for relational research with young adults. We designed the study to capture the social dynamics among college-aged women across Canada as they navigate developmental milestones and transitional periods of early adulthood.Our approach involved two research assistants interviewing a dyad of women about their friendship and about girls' friendships more broadly. Topics discussed included preferred communication methods, strategies for handling relational conflict, and opinions on the differences between boys' and girls' friendships. Research assistants asked guiding questions, yet the interview followed a semi-structured, conversational format as the participants were free to discuss issues beyond the prepared topics. Our preliminary findings suggest that girls' friendships are influenced, and sometimes even defined by such themes as mutual nurturance, social media communications choices, and their conflict management communicative tools.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125491 - Snapshot

When What's Missing Matters: a meta-analysis on the completion rate of self-report measures in youth mental health settings

Main Presenting Author: Cowan, Tovah

Additional Authors: Ferrari, Manuela ; Iyer, Srividya N.

Abstract: *Rationale: Self-report measures allow clinicians and youth mental health services to assess outcomes and experiences to optimize treatment and policy. However, they are often not completed. As of yet, there is no comprehensive understanding of typical response rates or factors that improve response rates. Methods: This ongoing meta-analysis (PROSPERO #CRD42024501250) identifies the overall rate of response and factors that impact the response rate of self-report measures by youth (aged 11-30) in mental health settings. Results: Across 257 effects in 97 studies of outpatient youth settings, completion rates ranged from 7-100%, with a meta-analytic proportion of completed measures of 92%. However, a lack of reporting of missing data resulted in 853 studies being excluded. Included studies were highly heterogeneous. Length and content of measure do not appear to effect completion rate. Meta-regressions exploring other predictors of completion rate are ongoing. Conclusions & impacts: Completion rates are variable, but high - potentially reflecting that studies with low completion rates elide missing data. Intuitive strategies like shorter length measures or measures assessing specific topics may not improve youth completion rates, highlighting need for*

systematic research into reasons for and ways to address poor completion of self-reports by youth in mental health settings.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125738 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

Introduction to Pavlovia Surveys: A low-cost, flexible online survey tool

Main Presenting Author: Lo, Ronda

Abstract: *The goal of this workshop is to introduce Pavlovia Surveys as a flexible, powerful tool for creating and deploying online surveys. While Pavlovia.org is widely known for hosting online cognitive tasks (such as response time experiments), it also includes integrated features for building and running online surveys. In this workshop, we will cover how to get started with Pavlovia Survey. First, we will highlight the pros of using Pavlovia Surveys, especially in consideration of other common survey tools (e.g., Qualtrics, QuestionPro, Google Forms, LimeSurvey). Next, we will cover how to import existing questionnaires (e.g., from Qualtrics), and customize surveys using common features often desired for advanced surveys, such as display logic, condition randomization, piping responses between questions. We will also demonstrate how to link Pavlovia Surveys with common data collection platforms (e.g., SONA, Prolific). Finally, we will also demonstrate how to easily link existing PsychoPy experiments (e.g., reaction time task) with Pavlovia Surveys, enabling workflows that combine survey data with precise stimulus presentation and response measurement. By the end of the workshop, participants will be equipped to design, deploy, and integrate surveys within broader experimental pipelines.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 125842 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

(Mis)Use of Mediation Analysis in Psychology: Persistent Problems and Practical Solutions

Moderator(s): Knox, Connery

Abstract: *Statistical mediation analysis is both intensely contested and widely used in psychology as a means to test theories about causal chains of sequential processes. The first talk reviews the current state of mediation analysis in psychology publishing based on a scoping review (following PRISMA-ScR standards). We survey strengths and limitations of mediation reporting in leading journals from 2023 to 2024 across clinical, cognitive, developmental, and social psychology, plus general outlets (e.g., Psychological Science). The next two talks each address distinct threats to causal inference-affecting even experimental and longitudinal designs-then use simulations to develop and evaluate user-friendly statistical solutions. The second talk examines variable ordering, proposing a framework for longitudinal designs to determine appropriate sequencing of mediator and outcome. The final talk illustrates how omitted moderators can create illusory indirect effects and describes relevant diagnostics for uncovering this issue in existing datasets. We then introduce a new individual-level mediation index to quantify causal heterogeneity and detect overlooked moderators. Collectively, we*

offer recommendations and tools to help researchers avoid common pitfalls when using mediation analysis for causal inference, enhancing theory.

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123766 - Symposium

From Illusory Indirect Effects in Mediation to Underlying Moderators

Main Presenting Author: Yee, Shawn

Additional Authors: Knox, Connery ; Yzerbyt, Vincent; Bergsieker, B Hilary

Abstract: *We extend models of causal heterogeneity to identify a new concern in mediation analysis: illusory indirect effects arising from omitted moderators. Our simulations confirm that significant indirect paths can emerge at the level of the sample yet not exist within any subsets of individuals. These illusory indirect effects satisfy popular mediation criteria: index-only methods with bootstrap CIs and joint-significance tests. We ran 100,000+ simulations in R to distinguish datasets with versus without hidden moderators, varying path effect sizes, binary or continuous X, and subgroup ratios for binary moderators. We explain how researchers can detect this problem by integrating established regression metrics: total effect significance, exposure-mediator interaction, and correlations between influence statistics. We then introduce a new individual-level index of mediation to discover omitted (yet measured) variables that moderate sample-level mediation patterns. We use regression diagnostics to quantify cases' influence on indirect paths, correlating this index to potential moderators. We discuss implications for model misspecification and detection of demographic moderators that enhance theory in diverse populations.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125446 - Paper within a symposium

The Cross-Lagged Mediation Approach: A Simple Method to Test X -> M -> Y Against X -> Y -> M

Main Presenting Author: Redd, Kamila

Additional Author: Brauer, Markus

Abstract: *Researchers are often quite confident about some variable coming first in a causal chain. For example, the predictor (X) should be first when it is experimentally manipulated or cannot possibly be caused by other variables in the datafile (e.g., participant gender, events occurring before those variables were measured). In such cases, researchers often want to know if one measured outcome (M) mediates the effect of X on another outcome (Y). Some proposed solutions are blatantly incorrect. For example, showing that the data are consistent with X -> M -> Y but inconsistent with X -> Y -> M does not provide evidence for the first mediational model (Lemmer & Gollwitzer, 2017). Other proposed solutions require multilevel structural equation modeling and at least three measurements of all three constructs (Deboeck & Preacher, 2016). We propose a user-friendly approach, which only requires measuring each outcome twice and involves a relatively simple path-analytic model. Using simulations we show that our data-analytic framework allows researchers to determine if the data support (a) X -> M -> Y, (b) X -> Y -> M, or (c) neither. The latter result is likely when both outcomes are indicators of the same underlying construct, the two outcomes represent two independent effects of X (neither outcome mediates the effect of X on the other), or the influence between M and Y is bidirectional.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125445 - Paper within a symposium

The State of Mediation Analysis: A Scoping Review of Good (and Bad) Mediation Practices in Canada and Abroad

Main Presenting Author: Knox, Connery

Additional Authors: Yee, Shawn ; Bandari, Bhumika; Ireland, S Timothy; Zientarska-Kayko, Agnes; Bergsieker, Hilary B

Abstract: *Our PRISMA-ScR scoping review examined use of statistical mediation in 16 leading psychology journals (2023-2024). Of their 3889 eligible recent empirical articles, we screened 502 that either used mediation-related terminology (e.g., "mediator", "indirect effect") or cited any of ten influential mediation methods papers. Mediation was used in every subfield examined-social (25%), clinical (9%), developmental (8%), and cognitive (2%) psychology-plus general outlets (6%). Most (74%) tested mediation via linear regression; those using SEM were not coded further. Although 62% of coded papers experimentally manipulated the theorized predictor or mediator, the remaining 38% reported only correlational data (18% fully cross-sectional). Claims of mediation typically relied on tests of indirect effects, sometimes without reporting component paths (17%), total effects (11%), or direct effects (22%). Most mediations were reported without alternate models (70%), moderation (71%), or power (86%). Results were no better for papers with Canadian (vs. foreign) authors or samples. We found some improvements in mediation practices (e.g., larger samples, median N = 402) but also overreliance on index-only approaches that can mask the presence of misspecified models (e.g., misordered variables, competitive mediators, omitted moderators). We suggest practical steps to improve causal inference.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123768 - Paper within a symposium

Addressing Symptom Heterogeneity in Psychopathology Using Dimensional Models: Findings from Variable-Centered and Person-Centered Approaches

Moderator(s): Henning, Colin T

Abstract: *Symposium topic: Considerable symptom heterogeneity is frequently reported within psychological disorders. Two illustrative disorders are obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Using data from dimensional models, presentations in this symposium illustrate the utility of dimensional models for capturing heterogeneity in OCD and ADHD. Why CPA: CPA is an ideal venue for this symposium since symptom heterogeneity is a key issue for psychologists who attend CPA, and many leaders in the areas of OCD, ADHD, and dimensional models are Canadian researchers. Content details: A key issue in the OCD literature is the identification of stable dimensions that capture symptom heterogeneity. In presentation 1, Till et al. will present variable-centered analyses examining interconnections between models of manifest OCD symptoms and core affective-motivational dimensions. In presentation 2, James et al. will present person-centred analyses identifying core dimension profiles in a clinical OCD sample. Given growing interest in emotion dysregulation for addressing heterogeneity in ADHD, in presentation 3 Henning et al. will present latent profile transition analysis across dimensions of emotional intelligence and ADHD. The symposium will conclude with a discussion by Dr. Christine Purdon highlighting dimensional models of heterogeneity.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125320 - Symposium

ADHD and Emotion Intelligence in Adulthood: Addressing Heterogeneity using Latent Profile Transition Analysis Across a 15-Year Period

Main Presenting Author: Henning, Colin T

Additional Authors: James, Dylan R W; Summerfeldt, Laura J; Parker, D A James

Abstract: *Background: There has been growing research attention towards broad deficits in emotional and social competencies (ESCs) among many adults with ADHD, including in emotion recognition and regulation. However, studies using deficits in ESCs to address heterogeneity in adult ADHD symptoms have largely been limited to a single global dimension of emotion regulation and cross-sectional data. Method: Using longitudinal data on ADHD and trait emotional intelligence (TEI), a collection of ESCs, from a university student sample, this study aimed to identify latent ADHD-TEI profiles across a 15-year follow-up period. Results: The results of a latent profile transition analysis identified two ADHD-TEI profiles at Time 1 in emerging adulthood which differentiated into four profiles at Time 2 in early middle adulthood. Conclusion: The findings underscore the utility of dimensional models of ADHD and TEI for capturing heterogeneity in adult ADHD symptoms. Actions/Impact: Theoretical and clinical implications for ADHD symptom heterogeneity in adults, including models of ADHD and emotion dysregulation, are discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125366 - Paper within a symposium

Core-Dimension Profiles of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

Main Presenting Author: James, Dylan R W

Additional Authors: Henning, Colin T; Summerfeldt, Laura J

Abstract: *Background: OCD is characterized by notable symptom heterogeneity. A large body of research has evaluated this through manifest-symptom models. However, this approach has several significant limitations, including replicability and predictive validity. Alternatively, identifying blends or profiles of severity across core affective-motivational dimensions (i.e., Incompleteness [INC] and Harm Avoidance [HA]) may provide a more robust assessment of OCD presentation. Method: Using Latent Profile Analysis (LPA), a person-centred approach, our study aimed to identify distinct core dimension profiles in a clinical sample of 242 OCD patients. We evaluated profile models using a combination of statistical criteria and conceptual interpretability. Results: The LPA found a four-profile model to be the most optimal and clinically interpretable solution. The four profiles that emerged were characterized by 1) moderate INC and HA, 2) low INC and moderate HA, 3) high INC and HA, and 4) high INC and low HA. Conclusion: Findings demonstrated distinct subgroups of OCD core dimensions in a clinical sample. Our use of a person-centred approach also demonstrates how INC and HA can co-occur within individuals with OCD. Actions/Impact: Implications of investigating dimensional models of OCD and symptom heterogeneity using person-centred analytical approaches will be discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125359 - Paper within a symposium

Models of OCD: Core Dimensions Explain Patterns of Manifest Symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Till, Jordan

Additional Authors: Henning, Colin T; Summerfeldt, Laura J

Abstract: *Background: High symptom heterogeneity in obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) complicates treatment and research. Two notable models organize symptoms dimensionally. The first describes four manifest symptom dimensions related to germs/contamination, harm/injury/bad luck, unacceptable thoughts, and symmetry. The second describes two core emotional-motivational dimensions of harm avoidance (HA) and incompleteness (INC). Method: Utilizing an adult community sample with lifetime OCD diagnoses, this study explores relationships between both dimensional models using measures purposefully designed to assess each as continuous constructs. Results: Regression analyses showed HA and INC to be moderate predictors of overall symptom severity and unique predictors of different manifest symptom dimensions. HA predicted symptoms relating to harm/injury/bad luck and unacceptable thoughts, whereas INC predicted symptoms relating to germs/contamination and symmetry. Preliminary analyses further suggested dimensions from each model typically remain stable over time. Conclusion: Our findings indicate the two core dimensions help to explain and organize patterns in OCD symptom heterogeneity and add to the growing evidence that they are candidate endophenotypes. Actions/Impact: Conceptual and clinical implications, including those of continued refinement of symptom models for OCD, are discussed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125357 - Paper within a symposium

Advances in methods for detecting careless responding in survey data

Moderator(s): Falk, Carl F.

Abstract: *Questionnaires employing multi-item scales with Likert-type items are commonly used to help answer theoretical or applied research questions in the social sciences. Yet responses are sometimes contaminated by those who do not respond in a diligent manner. Such careless responding (such as random or patterned responses) can lead to biased estimates and incorrect inferences. While there are a plethora of methods that can be employed to deter or attempt to detect such responses, all approaches have advantages and disadvantages. This symposium brings together research focusing on recent advances in the statistical detection of carelessness based solely on responses to the Likert-type items. The first talk presents extensive simulations to understand what features of the items are best for facilitating random responder detection using an unsupervised learning approach. The second talk extends this approach to detect both random and patterned responses, comparing it to recently developed indices for flagging patterned responses. The final talk compares unsupervised model-agnostic approaches with model-based approaches to detecting carelessness. Through these investigations, these talks highlight modern approaches that have the potential to ensure data quality in applied research.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 124973 - Symposium

Model-based versus model-agnostic approaches to detecting insufficient effort responding

Main Presenting Author: Falk, Carl F.

Additional Author: Li, Wenshuo

Abstract: *Several model-based approaches to detecting careless and insufficient effort responding (C/IER) have emerged in recent years. While constituting an unsupervised learning approach, these are typically mixture item response theory models that assume separate latent classes exist for diligent participants and for C/IER. Alternatively, recently developed model-agnostic unsupervised learning approaches can detect C/IER without relying on strong measurement model assumptions. The performance of these two contrasting approaches has yet to be extensively compared, though their performance may vary depending on features such as the plausibility of assumptions for the model-based approaches. To fill this gap, we present a simulation study that varies several relevant factors to tease apart when each approach is preferable to the other. We vary features such as sample size, contamination rate, number of items, the type of C/IER response (e.g., random or patterned), and amount of model misspecification for the diligent class. Initial results indicate that model-based approaches may break down under higher contamination rates for some C/IER types, but when their assumptions are (nearly) met, perform well against unsupervised approaches. These results are expected to help researchers make an informed decision regarding the choice of carelessness detection strategy.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125964 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding item features for detection of random responses

Main Presenting Author: Huang, Amaris

Additional Authors: Ilagan, Michael John ; Falk, Carl F.

Abstract: *Previous careless response detection methods often require strong model-based assumptions or require known examples of careful/careless respondents to conduct a supervised learning approach to classification. Ilagan and Falk (2024) proposed an unsupervised permutation-based algorithm to overcome such reliance. Leveraging traditional outlier statistics to Likert-type items and provided item responses are exchangeable (e.g., random), the approach can maintain a desired level of sensitivity. To extensively evaluate the performance of the unsupervised algorithm, Monte Carlo simulation studies were conducted. In three sets of simulations, hypothetical human responses were generated using an item response model, and we systematically varied characteristics of the questionnaires, including item parameters, the number of items, and the number of measured constructs. Another set of simulations used 35 publicly available datastets assumed to be of negligible contamination. Across most studies, we considered the distribution for random responses, contamination rate, and sample size. These simulation studies identified desirable conditions under which the algorithm achieves high specificity and therefore high overall accuracy rate while maintaining sensitivity. The results can be used to inform the design of questionnaires for carelessness detection.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125957 - Paper within a symposium

Unsupervised detection of random and patterned responses using synthetic responses

Main Presenting Author: Li, Wenshuo

Additional Authors: Falk, Carl F.; Ilagan, Michael John

Abstract: *Although an unsupervised algorithm can detect random responses to Likert-type items, its effectiveness has not yet been demonstrated for patterned responses (e.g., seesawing, such as 1-2-3-4-5-4-3-2-1) that may violate its exchangeability assumption. To address this issue, we propose two methods based on this prior approach. The first extended the method by adding new statistics for detecting patterns based on Markov Chains (e.g., lazR; Biemann et al., 2025). The second instead used the n-gram model instead of permutations to generate synthetic patterned responses. We conducted a simulation study to evaluate these methods across different carelessness types, sample sizes, and carelessness proportions. Variants of the two methods were compared to the original permutation- and lazR-based methods. Results indicated that the proposed methods, particularly the permutation-based method with lazR, achieved good sensitivity and accuracy across conditions, while the original methods failed with more carelessness or some carelessness types. This study offers a new tool to identify a wider range of careless responses, thereby enhancing data quality in psychological research.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125962 - Paper within a symposium

Evolving the Psychologist Self: Research Culture and Subjective Transformation

Moderator(s): Ruderman, Michael

Abstract: *Abstract: Questions surrounding researcher subjectivity, and its complex enmeshment with epistemic culture, stand at the heart of innovative currents challenging established systems in Psychology. This symposium will use qualitative and theoretical approaches to reflexively explore psychological researcher subjectivity and the transformational possibilities of inter/transdisciplinary engagement. First, Danielle Christie will present her theoretical work that examines the underlying assumptions of psychological models of minority stress and explores the transformative potential of transdisciplinary understandings on both topic and researcher. Picking up on this thread, Azadeh Naimi will then present an interdisciplinary investigation of entrepreneurial acculturation among immigrant entrepreneurs, bridging business and psychology research guided by critical reflexive engagement. The final presenter, Michael Ruderman, will present his qualitative research on self-culture connections and subjective transformations among those engaged in inter/transdisciplinary research. Michael Ruderman, as Discussant, will work to illuminate the trajectory mapped by the three presentations, which together outline a path for evolving the Psychologist identity: progressing from a diagnosis of the current socio-cultural context towards new perspectives with the potential for transformation.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124138 - Symposium

Examining the Cleft Habitus in Immigrant Entrepreneur Acculturation: The Role of Researcher Reflexivity

Main Presenting Author: Naimi, Azadeh

Abstract: *My research examined the process of entrepreneurial acculturation among immigrant entrepreneurs in Canada, studying how they navigate the tension arising from the entrepreneurial mindset from their country of origin when confronted with a new culture in the host country. Drawing*

on Bourdieu's concept of the cleft habitus, the study analyzes the internal tensions that emerge when navigating conflicting cultural and business logics. This interdisciplinary research, bridging social science and business, used an ontological and epistemological position grounded in realism. This framework aimed to discover the mechanisms that generate observable phenomena in entrepreneurial acculturation while transcending the analytical dualism between structure and agency that dominates social science research. Following recent work in entrepreneurship studies, the research uses Bourdieu's theories to move beyond sterile oppositions in classic debates and propose integrative approaches for multi-level analysis. I will discuss the importance of reflexive practice in developing a better understanding of how entrepreneurs navigate complex social fields and a divided habitus, and how a central methodological contribution involves maintaining critical researcher reflexivity while making explicit the connection between a realist methodology and empirical investigation, using a specific analytical tool.

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 132109 - Paper within a symposium

Narrating minority stress: On the discursive limits of psychological knowledge

Main Presenting Author: Christie, Danielle

Abstract: *This paper examines how psychological discourse shapes minority stress as a sociohistorical object. I show how dominant accounts of queer and trans distress center coping, authenticity, and resilience, reflecting disciplinary habits that privilege coherence, linearity, and liberal-colonial notions of injury and repair. These patterns do more than describe experience: they tether researchers to particular moral vocabularies and affective orientations, narrowing which queer lives become intelligible within psychological science. I argue that writing itself helps constitute what counts as minority stress. The narrative forms and representational conventions psychologists rely on reproduce certain queer and trans subjectivities while foreclosing others. Treating writing as method reveals how minority stress is actively produced through disciplinary techniques. In response, I draw on calls for methodological pluralism that open space for narrative experimentation, alternative kinships, and nonlinear modes of expression. Approaches that foreground ambiguity and contextual specificity expand possibilities for understanding minority stress as a dynamic, situated phenomenon and invite a reconsideration of writing as a practice capable of unsettling familiar frameworks.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124970 - Paper within a symposium

Suture practices in collaborative inter- and trans-disciplinary research

Main Presenting Author: Ruderman, Michael

Additional Authors: Hynie, Michaela ; Frydenlund, Erika

Abstract: *With the world in a state of unpredictable transition, researchers have attempted to reimagine science by shifting and dissolving traditional disciplinary boundaries to better address intractable world issues. Inter/transdisciplinary (ITD) research, gaining in popularity and institutional support, can be understood as an under-explored epistemic culture, shaped by and shaping potentially distinct researcher subjectivities. Suture practices, discussed by Teo (2024) as agentive strategies of enmeshing oneself in a culture to creatively operate within it, offer a useful lens into collaborative ITD researcher subjectivity, which is centrally concerned with suturing to different disciplinary perspectives, languages, and methods. We conducted a reflexive thematic analysis on 14*

interviews with graduate students and faculty who have participated in ITD research, surrounding the experience of collaborating across discipline. Four key themes were identified: Cross-Disciplinary Suture as Temporary Fastening, Fastening as Disciplinary Language Learning, Fastening as Collaborative Work, and Fastening as Transformative. The results deepen our understanding of motivations for ITD participation, and of the complex relational process of collaborative ITD research. Furthermore, they provide support for the usefulness of suture practices as an analytic focus in empirical subjectivity research.

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124965 - Paper within a symposium

How to Leverage AI for Psychological Research

Moderator(s): Zhang, Xijuan (Cathy)

Abstract: *As artificial intelligence (AI), particularly large language models (LLMs), rapidly evolve in recent years, they offer new methodological opportunities for psychological science. This symposium brings together four complementary projects that illustrate both the promise and the challenges of integrating AI into psychological research. The first two presentations explore the use of AI-agents to generate synthetic data for psychological studies, highlighting how persona construction, prompting strategies, and psychometric considerations affect the quality of synthetic data. The third presentation examines how AI can support psychological measurement development through automated item generation. The final presentation demonstrates how AI-driven personalization can strengthen behavioural interventions in real-world settings. Together, these talks showcase emerging pathways for leveraging AI to advance psychological science while emphasizing the limitations, risks, and need for methodological and ethical care when integrating AI into psychological research workflows.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123225 - Symposium

Designing AI-agents for generating synthetic data for psychological research

Main Presenting Author: Zhang, Xijuan (Cathy)

Additional Author: Huang, Muhua

Abstract: *The first paper examined how to design AI-agents to generate synthetic data for psychological studies-a process also known as silicon sampling. In this study, we introduced a methodology for assigning quantifiable and psychometrically validated personalities to AI-Agents using the Big Five framework. We created AI-Agents using prompts designed based on the Big Five Inventory-2 (BFI-2) in different formats. We then validated their performance against human data via the Mini-Marker test and a series of risk-taking and moral vignettes. In the Mini-Marker test, we found that AI-agents created by new LLMs align more closely with human responses, although the finer pattern of results (e.g., factor loading patterns) was sometimes inconsistent. In the vignette tasks, we found that LLMs prompted with a scale format called the Expanded format most closely reproduce human personality-decision associations; we also found that AI-agents tended to produce inflated moral ratings due to safety alignment of the LLMs. Overall, our results show that AI-agents align with humans in correlations between input Big Five traits and output responses and may serve as useful tools for preliminary research. Nevertheless, discrepancies in finer response patterns indicate that AI-Agents cannot (yet) fully substitute for human participants in precision or high-stakes projects.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125081 - Paper within a symposium

Leveraging AI for behavioural interventions using digital nudges

Main Presenting Author: Li, Zonghan

Additional Author: Ji, Feng

Abstract: *The fourth paper examined how to leverage AI for behavioural interventions aimed at reducing household energy use. We developed an AI-agent that delivers personalized digital nudges-simple, timely prompts sent through an app-to encourage users to reduce household electricity and hot-water use. The AI-agent combines established conservation knowledge with continually updated user personas based on consumption data, psychological traits, and prior interactions, allowing it to generate personalized recommendations. We tested its effectiveness in a randomized controlled trial with 233 university residents in Beijing, who received text-based, image-enhanced, or LLM-personalized nudges. LLM-personalized nudges produced the strongest and fastest savings: electricity use dropped by 17.4 percentage points and hot-water use by 9.1 points compared with text nudges, engagement rose from 42.3% to 69.2%, and most savings occurred in the first one to two weeks with less rebound. We also found that electricity conservation was linked mainly to external factors like outcome expectations and social comparison, while hot-water savings were driven more by internal factors such as self-efficacy and attitudes. Overall, these findings highlight how LLMs can make behavioral interventions more effective and scalable.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125094 - Paper within a symposium

Leveraging AI for developing psychological scales

Main Presenting Author: Suzuki, Kentaro

Additional Authors: Zhang, Xijuan (Cathy) ; Zhou, Kaiwen

Abstract: *The third paper examined how LLMs can support automated item generation (AIG) in psychological scale development. Using three prompting conditions across eight LLMs from four major providers, we generated scale items for two established constructs and a novel construct. We evaluated the AI-generated items through expert review, AI-psychometric analyses, and lexical diversity metrics. The findings highlight both the potential and limitations of AIG. Many AI-generated items were clear, concise, and theoretically meaningful, and for the novel construct, some items captured nuanced facets beyond the researcher's initial conceptualization. At the same time, some items showed issues such as multidimensionality or extreme wording, underscoring the need for careful human screening. Prompt engineering emerged as a key determinant of item quality and originality, requiring deliberate design to avoid reproducing existing scale items and to achieve the desired balance of specificity and conciseness. Overall, AIG appears to be a useful tool for early-stage scale development when paired with thoughtful prompt design and human oversight. This work is complemented by ongoing data collection, which will allow for a future evaluation of the AI items' key psychometric properties, including factor structure, reliability, and validity.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125092 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding silicon sampling through a psychometric lens

Main Presenting Author: Falk, Carl F

Additional Authors: Zhang, Xijuan (Cathy) ; Guenole, Nigel ; Huang, Muhua; Li, Wenshuo

Abstract: *The second paper further examines how to use AI-agents to generate synthetic data through silicon sampling. As shown in the first paper and other related studies, simulations on silicon sampling have shown very different results depending on myriad LLM settings or prompting approaches. Thus, better guidelines for effective silicon sampling are needed. To understand the potential and pitfalls of silicon sampling, we present an analogy between the data generating process implied by modern psychometric (i.e., item response theory) models and that utilized by some LLMs. Through this analogy, we present what we believe many researchers hope LLMs can offer when generating synthetic data. We outline implicit assumptions that may be necessary for producing representative samples with accurate item responses. We then also provide advice on the data used to create personas for synthetic participants, prompting strategy, and understanding of some settings (e.g., temperature). Aspects of this analogy are contrasted with a machine-learning perspective and illustrated with small examples. We close with our opinion on the potential uses of silicon sampling and LLMs in psychometrics.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125090 - Paper within a symposium

Integrating Multiverse Thinking into Methodological Research

Moderator(s): Flake, Jessica Kay

Abstract: *If you had analyzed the data in a different way, would you have gotten the same result? Many analyst and multiverse studies report a resounding "no." But this analytic uncertainty is typically ignored by the researchers who develop quantitative methodologies. This symposium will define analytic uncertainty and connect it to publication bias in methodological literature, as well as the replicability of applied studies. Three papers will expand on the topic showing how research synthesis, meta-science, and simulation can be used to develop practices for navigating the multiverse. The first paper will introduce a research synthesis of methodological literature as a means of mapping the multiverse, using the multiple group factor model as a case study. The second paper will show how reviews of practice can be used to build multiverse analyses, using model-fit cut-off criteria as an example. And the third paper will show how simulation studies can be expanded to incorporate multiverse analysis as a means of estimating analytic uncertainty in multilevel modeling. Together, these papers demonstrate the need for methodologists to grapple with analytic uncertainty and incorporate multiverse thinking into the development of methods and practices.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 123000 - Symposium

Mapping the Multilevel Modelling Multiverse

Main Presenting Author: Shaw, Mairead

Additional Author: Flake, Jessica Kay

Abstract: *Multilevel models (MLMs) are a popular option for clustered data, relaxing the assumption of independent observations for other assumptions and model-building decisions. With more decisions comes a larger multiverse of possible models with unknown implications for outcome heterogeneity. This project demonstrates the potential impact of unreported analytical flexibility in MLMs on outcome heterogeneity. We first reviewed the literature to assess reporting standards in MLMs and identify underreporting aspects of model-building. We found sparse reporting of decisions in general, and particularly around random effects structure, centering, estimator, and optimizer. We then conducted a simulation study demonstrating the impact of different decisions in model-building on Type 1 and II error rates, absolute bias, and coverage. We drew 500 samples from 3 (number of clusters) x 3 (average cluster size) x 3 (effect size) = 27 data-generating mechanisms. We then applied 3 (random effects structure) x 2 (estimator) x 2 (optimizer) x 2 (centering) = 24 models to each sample, representing the different decisions researchers can make when model building. Our results blend classic simulation with multiverse analysis. We found that decisions about random effects structure and estimator had the largest impacts on results. We discuss implications for transparency and replicability of MLMs.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125862 - Paper within a symposium

Multiverse Analysis of Model-Fit Decisions in Measurement Invariance

Main Presenting Author: Li, Tanoulu

Additional Authors: Savalei, Victoria ; Flake, Jessica Kay

Abstract: *Model fit judgments are subjective with many possible indices and cutoffs, creating analytic flexibility. We use measurement invariance (MI) testing with multi-group CFA to quantify how model fit decisions introduce uncertainty in conclusions. We reviewed 101 MI studies from 2023, documenting fit indices and cutoffs (e.g., CFI, RMSEA, $\Delta\chi^2$). Practices were highly inconsistent: we found 49 unique index-cutoff combinations for configural models and 37 and 34 criteria for metric (or threshold) and scalar steps. We report three flexibility dimensions: estimator, cutoffs, and index variants. No single rule dominated, even the common ΔCFI < .01 was not universal; as many other thresholds or multiple indices were used, and some reported no explicit criteria. Study 2 implemented a multiverse analysis, applying all combinations of estimator (e.g., MLR, WLSMV), cutoff, and index variant (e.g., robust CFI, scaled RMSEA) from Study 1 to the same dataset, yielding 780 specifications. MI conclusions varied across estimator, cutoff, and index variant choices; for example, at the configural level, the proportion of specifications supporting invariance ranged from 17% to 73%. These findings demonstrate that model-fit conclusions hinge on analytic choices. We recommend transparent reporting and multiverse analyses to gauge their impact and enhance confidence in cross-group comparisons.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125858 - Paper within a symposium

The Multiverse of Measurement Invariance using MG-CFA: A Systematic Methodological-Research Synthesis

Main Presenting Author: Lemmons, Malina C.

Additional Authors: Savalei, Victoria ; Flake, Jessica Kay

Abstract: *There are many reasonable and defensible methods for answering a research question that collectively form the multiverse. Many analyst projects and reviews of practice find a fraction of the methods available. We propose an alternative approach: a systematic methodological-research synthesis (SMS), where the methodological literature, rather than applied, is systematically reviewed to identify the dimensions (i.e., decision points) and branches in the dimensions (i.e., methods) that form the multiverse for a specific research question. By reviewing the methodological literature, we are also able to synthesize the discourse for each method, including limitations, recommendations, and comparisons. As a case study, we implement an SMS to map the multiverse of measurement invariance analysis using the MG-CFA framework. Our synthesis revealed 7 dimensions and 55 branches, resulting in 244,803 universes, that form the complete set of methodological choices in the multiverse. Further, we identified many areas of uncertainty, including how methods are defined and a lack of strong evidence in support of or against specific methods. This work proposes a new approach for quantitative researchers to innumerate methodological decisions, identify areas of agreement or disagreement, and inform future directions of research that can address the challenge of analytical flexibility.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125856 - Paper within a symposium

Méthode innovante pour évaluer et intervenir en cognition sociale

Moderator(s): Beauchamp, Miriam

Abstract: *La cognition sociale regroupe les capacités qui nous permettent de percevoir, traiter et répondre aux comportements et émotions d'autrui. L'évaluation et l'intervention dans ce domaine sont essentielles pour le diagnostic et le traitement de troubles développementaux, acquis, psychiatriques, neurologiques ou dégénératifs. Les innovations technologiques offrent de nouvelles façons d'évaluer et d'intervenir sur la cognition sociale et peuvent répondre à certaines limites des mesures psychométriques classiques. Ce symposium portera sur des outils novateurs pour mesurer et optimiser le raisonnement sociomoral (So-Moral-VR et T'es-tu-game), ainsi que l'empathie et la reconnaissance des affects (EEVEE).Erika Neveu présentera le développement du So-Moral-VR, un outil d'évaluation en réalité virtuelle, ainsi que des données supportant sa validité écologique.Julia Salles présentera la création de T'es-tu-game, un outil pédagogique ciblant diverses fonctions sociales, dont le raisonnement sociomoral.Enfin, Jacqueline Nguyen Phuong Trieu et Carole Bélanger présenteront une mesure visant l'évaluation de l'empathie à l'aide d'agents virtuels (EEVEE) exprimant des états affectifs.Ces présentations offriront des pistes de réflexions sur la conception de nouveaux outils d'évaluation et d'intervention en cognition sociale.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 124123 - Symposium

Évaluation de l'empathie à l'aide d'agents virtuels (EEVEE)

Main Presenting Author: Bélanger, Carole
Co-Presenting Author: Nguyen Phuong Trieu, Jacqueline

Additional Author: Jackson, Philip

Abstract: *L'empathie représente la capacité de ressentir (composante affective) et de comprendre (composante cognitive) l'état affectif d'autrui. Celle-ci varie en fonction de différences individuelles,*

dont l'âge et le phénotype. Présentement, les mesures d'empathie disponibles reposent sur des mesures dispositionnelles, et ignorent son caractère multidimensionnel. Cette présentation propose une mesure de type situationnelle des deux composantes de l'empathie qui a été utilisée auprès de diverses populations (adultes jeunes et âgés et professionnels de la santé appartenant à différents phénotypes; Blancs et Groupes racisés). Des visages d'agents virtuels (AV) réalistes et d'apparences diversifiés exprimant différents états affectifs (douleur, tristesse et neutre) ont été créés et validés. Les participants étaient invités à faire une tâche informatique dans laquelle ils devaient indiquer sur une échelle (0 à 100) leur capacité à ressentir l'état affectif et à se mettre à la place de l'AV. Des corrélations moyennes entre les deux composantes de l'empathie soulignent leur caractère distinct. Une variabilité sur les composantes de l'empathie a aussi été décelée parmi les populations étudiées, ce qui approfondit la compréhension de l'empathie en contexte intergroupe. Cette mesure enrichit les méthodes actuelles et ouvre la voie à des outils plus robustes et inclusifs, alliant contrôle expérimental et caractère écologique.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125168 - Paper within a symposium

So-Moral-VR: une approche immersive et écologique pour mesurer la cognition sociale

Main Presenting Author: Neveu, Erika

Additional Authors: Salles, Julia ; Roy, Isabelle; Vera Estay, Evelyn; Dooley, Julian J.; Beauchamp, Miriam H.

Abstract: *Introduction. La cognition sociale (CS) permet de comprendre et répondre aux comportements et émotions d'autrui. Des difficultés en CS peuvent nuire aux compétences sociales. Le raisonnement socio-moral (RSM) est essentiel pour prendre des décisions adaptées face à des conflits sociaux et moraux. La réalité virtuelle (RV) offre un potentiel intéressant pour optimiser l'évaluation de la CS puisqu'elle est immersive et peut contribuer à augmenter la validité écologique. Parmi 59 outils RV recensés dans une revue systématique, un seul ciblait le RSM chez les enfants (Neveu et al., 2025). L'objectif de cette étude est d'évaluer la validité écologique de cette tâche.Méthodologie. 58 adolescents (41.9% male, Mage=16.72) ont complété la tâche So-Moral-VR et des questionnaires (cybermalaise, présence, immersion, comportements, désirabilité sociale).Résultats. Les participants ont rapporté un sentiment d'immersion (M=4,5; SD=0.8), peu de cybermalaise (M=0.58; SD=0.06) et ont perçu du réalisme (M=3.8; SD=1.18). Le RSM était corrélé au comportement prosocial (R^2=0,283; p=0,030), mais pas à la désirabilité sociale (p=0,18).Conclusion. La tâche SoMoral-VR présente une validité écologique prometteuse. Ces résultats soutiennent son utilisation pour identifier les jeunes à risque de difficultés sociales pour les orienter vers des interventions adaptées.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 124859 - Paper within a symposium

T'es-tu GAME? : Cocréation d'un outil innovant pour soutenir la cognition sociale des adolescents

Main Presenting Author: Salles, Julia

Additional Authors: Ouellet-Morin, Isabelle ; Guay, Louis-Martin; Beauchamp, H. Miriam

Abstract: *Les habiletés sociales jouent un rôle central dans la qualité des interactions interpersonnelles, particulièrement à l'adolescence, une période marquée par un développement*

accentué de la cognition sociale et une plus grande autonomie dans la prise de décision en société. Pour prévenir l'émergence de conduites sociales mésadaptées, il est essentiel de développer des outils innovants, validés et adaptés aux réalités des jeunes. Le projet T'es-tu GAME? s'inscrit dans cette perspective en proposant une approche novatrice : un jeu vidéo conçu pour soutenir la cognition sociale des adolescents. Le projet a adopté une approche de cocréation mobilisant des jeunes (11 à 18 ans), des éducateurs, une équipe de recherche interdisciplinaire et un partenaire industriel. Les résultats qualitatifs issus de ce processus de cocréation seront présentés, illustrant comment ces méthodologies participatives contribuent au développement d'un outil d'intervention innovant en cognition sociale. Les résultats préliminaires suggèrent que l'intégration de la cocréation dans le développement d'outils technosociaux permet d'assurer l'engagement des utilisateurs et de concevoir des interventions plus ancrées dans les réalités des adolescents. Le projet T'es-tu GAME? démontre ainsi le potentiel des approches novatrices pour renouveler les méthodes d'intervention en cognition sociale.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 124850 - Paper within a symposium

Recontextualizing adversity: A contemporary commentary on challenges with measurement of early life adversity and recommendations for refinement

Moderator(s): Wright, Liam

Abstract: *Early life adversity (ELA) has emerged as a leading psychosocial predictor of negative physical and mental health outcomes across the lifespan. Likewise, the field of ELA research has seen massive growth, especially around the 2020-2023 period. Despite this recent growth, measurement of ELA is very heterogeneous. The field of ELA research is hindered by poor psychometric properties inherent in common measures of adversity as well as variation in the complexity of adversity indexed (e.g., severity, chronicity, frequency, and timing of exposures). Furthermore, there is significant heterogeneity within measures theorized as key mediating variables connecting ELA to negative mental health outcomes, limiting the ability for cross-study comparisons that may inform pathways for intervention. To address these issues, this symposium integrates three studies that help illustrate variation in ELA measurement from a focalized discussion on the challenges using the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) scale, to a broader index of measures of ELA used within the Canadian context, as well as a commentary on the heterogeneity in associations between ELA and attention bias attributable to methodological differences in how these constructs are measured across studies. The discussant will reflect on future directions for the field and current best practice guidelines in the global West.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123724 - Symposium

A systematic review of dimensions of early life adversity and attention biases in childhood and adolescence

Main Presenting Author: Wright, Liam

Additional Authors: Li, Lydia M; Boafo, Alex; Johnson, Dylan; Atallah, Serena; Rodriguez, Cloudia; Wade, Mark

Abstract: *The Dimensional Model of Adversity and Psychopathology (DMAP) posits at least partially distinct dimensions of threat and deprivation operate through differential pathways predicting associations with psychopathology. Although the DMAP hypothesizes exposure to threat will be more strongly associated with altered emotional processing than exposure to deprivation, these associations have not been explored systematically within the extant literature. Thus, the goal of this systematic review was to investigate the DMAP-derived hypothesis that exposure to threat will be associated with alterations in attention bias (AB), a performance-based indicator of emotional functioning. This review captures effects from 9 separate measures of AB. Articles were identified using 6 online databases and organized in Covidence. In total, 12,182 articles were screened at the abstract level, 371 articles at the full-text level, and 46 articles were included for extraction. Results were heterogeneous but skewed in slight favour of DMAP-derived hypotheses supporting greater attention bias to angry/threatening faces among those exposed to threat. Exposure to deprivation and mixed ELA exposure yielded more nuanced results. Variation in measurement of ELA and attention bias limited the ability for cross-study comparisons, highlighting the need for greater consistency in future studies.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123728 - Paper within a symposium

Beyond ACEs: Measuring and conceptualizing early-life adversity in the Canadian context

Main Presenting Author: Rebello, Gloria
Co-Presenting Author: Mammon, Maya

Additional Authors: Wright, Liam ; Li, Lydia M; Wade, Mark

Abstract: *Globally, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are highly prevalent and contribute to major health and social inequities, yet current approaches to measuring early-life adversity (ELA) remain limited. Traditional ACEs tools capture only a narrow set of stressors and rely on binary scoring that ignores key contextual factors that shape developmental risk (i.e., severity, frequency, etc.). Moreover, commonly used measures omit forms of adversity relevant in diverse contexts (i.e., racial discrimination, environment, etc.). This narrative review examines how ELA is measured and conceptualized in Canada. Drawing on empirical literature, we highlight significant gaps in population representation, adversity types assessed, and contextualizing factors of each measure (i.e., severity, chronicity, etc.). We argue that while existing tools support population-level screening, they lack the precision needed to inform mechanism-focused prevention and intervention. Emerging dimensional models of adversity offer a promising path forward but are hindered by the absence of a comprehensive, psychometrically robust prospective measure suitable for diverse populations. We recommend and outline developing psychometrically robust, inclusive, and context-sensitive dimensional measures to improve research comparability and guide effective prevention and intervention efforts.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123726 - Paper within a symposium

Intergenerational associations between maternal adverse childhood experiences and child cognitive and socioemotional development

Main Presenting Author: Rodriguez, Cloudia

Additional Authors: Finegold, Katherine ; Knight, Julia A.; Hung, Rayjean; Bertoni, Kashtin; Wong, Jody; Matthews, Stephen; Wade, Mark

Abstract: *Emerging evidence identifies an intergenerational association between mothers' adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and developmental outcomes in their children. However, the potentially distinct associations between dimensions of maternal ACEs and child outcomes remain unclear. In this prospective cohort study, mothers completed questionnaires on ACEs and child neurodevelopment at 24 months (N = 777). At 54 months (N = 1131), children completed cognitive tests and mothers reported on their children's well-being. Cronbach's alpha fell below significance for cumulative ACEs, a = 0.56 and a = 0.58 for 24 and 54 month samples, respectively. Thus, confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was conducted to identify the structure of ACEs. CFA verified the structure of maternal ACEs, revealing adequate fit for the one-factor model of overall ACEs, and a two-factor model of abuse and household dysfunction. Regression analyses revealed overall ACEs were significantly associated with worse inhibitory skills and lower well-being. In the two-factor model, maternal experiences of abuse were associated with lower fine motor skills, while maternal experiences of household dysfunction were associated with negative emotionality. Results highlight partially distinct associations between different dimensions of maternal ACEs and certain areas of development over the first five years of life.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123725 - Paper within a symposium

Strengthening Capacity for Intimate Partner Violence Services and Co-Research in Mental Health Settings

Moderator(s): Moghimi, Elnaz

Abstract: *Background: Although IPV has significant mental health impacts, there is limited integration of lived experience perspectives and insufficient clinician training to respond safely and effectively to IPV-related needs. Strengthening capacity across providers, survivors, and institutions is critical to improving outcomes and reducing harm. Purpose: Three complementary presentations will address IPV training at multiple levels within a mental health hospital. The first presentation explores clinician preparedness and the development of a hybrid IPV-focused training tool for mental healthcare providers. The second presentation focuses on co-creating a training initiative to equip IPV survivors to engage in IPV research partnerships as lived experience experts. The third presentation offers practice-based reflections and best practices from a Research Manager navigating system-level and organizational considerations when conducting IPV research within a mental health hospital. Conclusion: Equity-grounded and evidence-informed IPV practice in mental health settings are contingent on enhancing clinician capability, supporting survivor leadership, and strengthening organizational support. Action/Impact: These presentations highlight interconnected needs across the clinical workforce, survivor communities, and institutional structures.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124545 - Symposium

Co-creating a training program to develop research skills for survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV)

Main Presenting Author: Deljavan, Sevil

Abstract: *Background: IPV survivors have valuable insights that can strengthen research relevance and inform service development, including in forensic mental health settings where IPV and trauma frequently intersect. However, survivors often lack access to training and support needed to contribute to research beyond participant roles. Methods: Drawing on participatory approaches and findings from an initial scoping review, survivors, researchers, and community advocates identify learning needs, preferred formats, and accessibility requirements that support safe engagement. Focus groups and feedback cycles shape proposed modules introducing research methods, ethics, data collection, communication skills, and pathways for involvement in research, including forensic mental health. Results: Co-design processes highlight the importance of psychological safety, flexibility, and culturally responsive learning. Conclusion: Enhancing survivor partnerships in research has the potential to improve knowledge generation, inform trauma-responsive practices, and contribute to more equitable service design, including within forensic mental health settings. Action/Impact: This work is expanding pathways for survivor leadership and supporting the development of collaborative IPV research and practice.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124592 - Paper within a symposium

Exploring intimate partner violence training needs among mental healthcare providers to inform a training program

Main Presenting Author: Hilton, N. Zoe
Co-Presenting Author: Ham, Elke

Abstract: *Background: IPV is associated with elevated rates of depression, anxiety, and posttraumatic stress. Despite this, many clinicians report limited preparedness and training in identifying IPV, responding to disclosures, supporting survivors, and working safely with individuals who have engaged in IPV. Methods: An environmental scan assessed the availability and scope of IPV-related training materials for mental health clinicians. Guided conversations with clinical teams at a psychiatric hospital, including forensic units, provide insight into the unique challenges of working in high acuity environments. A clinician needs assessment survey examines knowledge of IPV dynamics, confidence in managing disclosures, and familiarity with trauma- and violence-informed care. Results: Preliminary findings reveal gaps that will inform the design of a hybrid IPV-focused training program for mental health clinicians. Conclusion: Needs assessment raises critical training gaps to target in clinician training to strengthen clinician capacity, enhance safety and mental health support for those affected by IPV. Action/Impact: This work aims to increase confidence and competence among mental healthcare providers and support safer and more effective care for those affected by IPV.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124589 - Paper within a symposium

Navigating system-level/organizational barriers to translating research into practice within a mental health hospital

Main Presenting Author: Adams, Nicole

Abstract: *Background: Barriers to intimate partner violence (IPV) research can include administrative and operational demands, complex hospital protocols, cross-department coordination, resource limitations, and competing organizational priorities. These factors shape how evidence-informed approaches are understood, prioritized, and implemented across healthcare environments.*

Methods: This talk draws on the experiences of a Research Manager at the Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care, who collaborates with all areas of the hospital including clinicians, researchers, staff, and senior leadership. Results: Key learnings highlight cross-department relationships, how research can be communicated in practical and clinically meaningful ways, and how to align research goals with organizational priorities. Best practices identified include early and ongoing engagement with impacted departments, tailored communication strategies, and framing research integration as a mechanism to enhance care quality rather than add operational burden. Conclusion: Effective research adoption in mental health settings relies on relational trust, organizational alignment and responsiveness to clinical realities. Action/Impact: Practical guidance can strengthen research uptake, enhance trauma-responsive practice, and support the integration of IPV-related knowledge within mental health settings.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124594 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: INFORMING PUBLIC POLICY

Highlighting the ways in which psychology can and does inform public policy

12-Minute Talk

A Programmatic Framework for Addressing Self-Sabotage: Integrating Five Core Protective Psychological Mechanisms to Improve Mental-Health Education and Intervention Design

Main Presenting Author: Murray, Justice J

Abstract: *Background/Rationale:Self-sabotage is frequently framed as personal failure, yet psychological theory shows it reflects protective mechanisms shaped by conditioning, emotional reactivity, and cognitive biases. This project developed a programmatic framework to guide mental-health education and intervention design by reframing self-sabotage as a predictable set of modifiable processes.Methods:A theoretical integration of evolutionary psychology, defence-mechanism theory, conditioning research, social comparison theory, and dual-process cognition was conducted. Concepts were synthesized using a thematic analytic approach to identify recurring protective patterns and their implications for psycho-educational and counselling programs.Results:Analysis revealed five key mechanisms that drive self-sabotaging behaviour: (1) fear-based avoidance, (2) low self-esteem shaped by upward comparison, (3) conditioning and preference for familiarity, (4) emotional reactivity and stress-response, and (5) anticipatory fear of success. These mechanisms form a structured, program-ready model for identifying and interrupting maladaptive protective responses.Conclusions:Reframing self-sabotage as a set of protective tendencies clarifies how programs and policies can shift from deficit-based approaches to mechanism-oriented, strength-based strategies.Action/Impact:This framework can inform campus mental-health initiatives, student success programming, counselling practices, and preventative education by offering clear intervention targets that promote resilience, self-efficacy, and sustainable personal growth.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123414 - 12-Minute Talk

Economic freedom and suicide: Modelling associations between neoliberal policy and suicide mortality across 161 countries and two decades

Main Presenting Author: Switzer, Andrew C

Additional Author: Turner, Brianna J

Abstract: *While global suicide rates have decreased in the past 20 years, suicide remains a leading cause of death worldwide. Dominant narratives in neoliberal societies attribute improvements in wellbeing to increases in economic freedom, achieved largely through policies that reduce government involvement in the economy (e.g., lower taxation and spending, privatization). However, empirical evidence shows that links between economic freedom and wellbeing are mixed, and the relationship between economic freedom and suicide mortality is understudied. To address this gap, we modeled the association between economic freedom and suicide mortality in 161 countries from 2000 to 2021 using data from the Fraser Institute, World Health Organization, and the World Bank. Results*

from dynamic structural equation models indicated that some dimensions of economic freedom (e.g., regulation, legal systems) were related to lower suicide mortality rates, and other dimensions were related to higher male suicide mortality rates (e.g., government size). Post-hoc exploratory analyses revealed significant heterogeneity in these associations, which varied across national income levels and geopolitical regions. Bridging psychological and political thought, these findings highlight the suicide preventative potential of economic policies in different regions of the world - countering a one-size-fits-all approach.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126017 - 12-Minute Talk

Extremist Attitudes and Basic Psychological Needs Show Between- but not Within-Subjects Relationships Across the 2024 U.S. Election

Main Presenting Author: Rappel, Jeremy

Additional Author: Hehman, Eric

Abstract: *Research increasingly recognizes the role of psychological needs in the radicalization process, yet little research assesses this relationship longitudinally. The current study assessed how changes in three psychological needs (Autonomy, Competence, Relatedness) were associated with changes in Extremist-supporting attitudes across a major geopolitical event: the 2024 U.S. election. 520 conservative-identifying U.S. participants completed measures of psychological needs and extremist attitudes at four timepoints: twice before before and twice after after the 2024 U.S. election. Random-intercept cross-lagged panel modeling assessed the between-subject and longitudinal (within-subject) relationships between these three needs and extremist attitudes. Relatedness and Autonomy showed between-subject relationships with extremist attitudes, while Competence did not. Between-subjects need frustration was more strongly associated with extremist attitudes than need satisfaction. Results differed according to how extremist attitudes were operationalized. Finally, within-person effects were non-significant. Findings indicate that Autonomy and Relatedness frustration may be particularly relevant risk factors for radicalization, and extremism research can benefit from using these needs in prevention and deradicalization efforts.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 124643 - 12-Minute Talk

Predicting Expressive Vocabulary Using Paid Parental Leave Indicators: Evidence From a Québec Population-Based Study

Main Presenting Author: Julien, Catherine

Additional Authors: Matte-Gagné, Célia ; Lemieux, Annie; Garon-Carrier, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Universal interventions targeting parents of young children, such as paid parental leave (PPL) policies, offer a unique opportunity to support child development from birth, including language development. However, prior evidence shows that mothers facing greater socioeconomic hardship are more likely to take no parental leave at all. This study examines how the PPL components (duration and weekly benefit income) are longitudinally associated with children's expressive vocabulary in families living below the poverty threshold. Data were drawn from the*

Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development, 2nd edition (ELDEQ-2). These data were linked with administrative records from the Parental Insurance Plan Management Council (N=505), allowing to determine mothers' and fathers' average weekly benefit income (in CAD) and the duration of their PPL (weeks). Family income was reported at 5 months postpartum. Expressive vocabulary size was measured at 17 and 29 months using the Communication Development Questionnaire (Trudeau & Brodeur, 2022). Preliminary results show that mothers (B=.015, p>.001) and fathers (B=.003, p=.015) PPL weekly benefits predict expressive vocabulary size at 29 months. Further analysis using general linear model for repeated measures will examine how children's expressive vocabulary size progresses over time according to their parents' PPL duration. These findings highlight the potential role of accessible and equitable PPL policies in supporting early language development among economically disadvantaged families.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124054 - 12-Minute Talk

Rescue First, Prevention Later: How Emotional Narratives Pull Public Priorities Downstream

Main Presenting Author: Campos-Ordóñez, Pamela

Abstract: *Upstream (preventative) models of public health interventions are more effective at mitigating health problems and put less strain on the healthcare system compared to downstream (reactive) models. However, preventative interventions are under-utilized and tend to receive less preferential treatment. The present work investigates psychological factors influencing preferences towards downstream vs. upstream interventions for different socio-health issues (drug abuse, eating disorder, mental health). In 2 within-participant experiments (N = 760), participants read about a pair of equivalent interventions across 3 health issues and decided on budgeting decisions (funding, cutting) and time investment (volunteering). Overall, participants preferred downstream interventions, although pattern of decisions varied within health issue. Interestingly, one facet of empathy was significantly associated with downstream preferences in Study 1 but not Study 2. In a follow-up mixed factorial experiment (N = 210), participants were more likely to fund a downstream program framed with a redemption story than a comparable upstream program within the domain of gang prevention. This pattern suggests that empathy and the framing of budget decisions can bias support toward reactive "rescue" interventions and highlights communication strategies for promoting prevention.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126414 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Ethics and Pitfalls in Using Obsolete and Outdated Tests and Norms and Norms from Foreign Countries

Main Presenting Author: Uttl, Bob

Abstract: *A critical yet often overlooked issue in psychological assessment is the widespread use of outdated, obsolete test and norms, as well as the routine use of norms developed in foreign countries. This practice persists despite clear evidence that inaccurate or non-representative norms lead to diagnostic errors such as identifying psychopathology where none exists. Surveys of clinical*

psychologists show that these practices are deeply embedded in both low and high-stakes assessments (e.g., fitness for duty assessment, child custody evaluations), rarely challenged, and inconsistently and insufficiently regulated.We will examine why outdated tests and norms remain in use, including gaps in regulatory oversight, reliance on individual professional judgment, and the lack of economic incentive for test publishers to conduct re-norming studies. We will also explore the ethical implications for informed consent given that ethical codes often require psychologists to disclose information that could meaningfully affect examinees' decisions to consent to the assessment, for example, use of 80-year-old norms, or foreign normative data.The session is highly relevant to all psychology, aiming to encourage critical reflection, identify practical strategies, and stimulate collective responsibility to safeguard assessment validity, ethical integrity, and public trust in the profession.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126148 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

Engaging with Policymakers: Translating Research into Policy and Practice

Moderator(s): Samosh, Daniel

Panelists: Connelly, Catherine; Martin, Valerie; Cukier, Wendy

Abstract: *In this panel session we will explore how researchers can effectively engage with policymakers to translate research evidence into meaningful policy and practice. Bringing together scholars with diverse experience relevant to the CPA community, this session highlights practical strategies for academic impact beyond the academic conference and publication processes. Panelists will share their experiences collaborating with different levels of government in different policy areas, such as disability and employment, health technology and residential care, temporary foreign work, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Discussion will focus on providing attendees with an understanding of various types of academic-policy partnerships and activities, how panelists built meaningful collaborations with policymakers, and key considerations when communicating research to policymakers. Attendees with a background in I/O psychology and related fields will gain concrete insights and advice for initiating and sustaining policy engagements during this session, helping to connect research to the world of policy and social change.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 121430 - Panel Discussion

Privacy Law, Risk Management, and Professional Liability for Psychologists

Moderator(s): El-Sayegh, Ruba

Panelists: El-Sayegh, Ruba; Clifford, Ashley

Abstract: *Join CPA/CPAP's professional liability insurance broker, BMS Canada Risk Services, and legal partner Gowling WLG for a practical discussion on Canada's privacy law landscape and how privacy obligations directly impact professional liability risk. Participants will learn which federal and provincial privacy laws govern their practice and how to implement best practices to protect personal health information.The presentation will examine common privacy-related risks faced by*

psychologists, including how privacy breaches and complaints can lead to regulatory investigations or professional liability claims. The session will also review cyber security and privacy liability insurance, including how this coverage may respond to assist psychologists facing potential cyber incidents.Attendees will leave with practical guidance on privacy law compliance, best practices, and enforcement procedures.

Section: *CPA Program*
Session ID: 127385 - Panel Discussion

The Ins and Outs of Publishing - Advice from the CPA's Journal Editors

Moderator(s): Thompson, Lauren E

Panelists: Roy-Charland, Annie; Saklofske, Donald; Titone, Debra

Abstract: *Join the Editors of the CPA's three journals, Canadian Journal of Behavioral Sciences, Canadian Psychology, and Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology who will describe each journal, including the aims/scope, the types of articles accepted, and the areas of psychology on which each journal is focused. Also to be discussed are general guidelines for both publishing and reviewing journal articles. This session is ideal for graduate students and those newer to publishing in psychology journals. Please come with your questions and comments.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 122421 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

ACEs hub: A knowledge platform to support evidence-based, trauma-informed policy and practice

Main Presenting Author: Jenkins, Serena

Additional Authors: Lunney, Carole ; Ly, Anh; Obol, Leslie; Dimitropoulos, Gina; McDonald, Sheila; Williamson, Tyler; Madigan, Sheri

Abstract: *Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are potentially traumatic experiences that a person endures before the age of 18. ACEs include abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction; they predict poor outcomes related to physical, mental, and relational health and account for 15% of annual deaths. Globally, over 60% of adults experienced at least 1 ACE; prevalence is higher among minority and vulnerable populations. Therefore, ACEs pose a significant public health issue. To facilitate the access to and use of empirical research on ACEs, we have created ACEs hub (aceshub.org), an online catalogue of ACEs research for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers. The catalogue includes original research and systematic reviews and meta-analyses and is coded by key topics such as mental and physical health, social and emotional functioning, and screening and treatment. ACEs hub also features research summaries, infographics, and factsheets that can be used in policy briefs and with patients. We are integrating ACEs hub into health research, policy, and practice and advocating for a future where ACEs are widely understood and health systems prioritize evidence-based decision-making and meaningful actions that improve health and well-being. The*

impact of ACEs hub will be discussed in terms of end user engagement, research outputs, and anticipated policy and practice changes.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125899 - Printed Poster

Better Together: Identifying Collaborative Research Priorities and Literature Gaps in Child Maltreatment Research

Main Presenting Author: Ashton MacMillan, Malorie

Additional Authors: Bidoyan, Stephanie ; Dehmardan , Ida; Norman, Lia; Khanna, Prachi; Greer, Katelyn ; Pavlova, Maria ; Racine, Nicole

Abstract: *Experiences of maltreatment are common among Canadian children and youth; however, current research is seldom informed by those with lived experience. The Better Together project identified priority research questions related to child maltreatment in Canada from the perspectives of youth, caregivers, and service providers to drive future practice and policy changes in health, social, and education systems. Using the James Lind Alliance priority-setting partnership method, two online cross-sectional surveys and four focus groups were conducted. A two-day virtual consensus workshop using a modified Delphi process and nominal group technique occurred with 26 participants from across Canada. Data was collected between April 1st, 2024, and October 24th, 2025, from youth, caregivers, and service providers. The first survey had 176 respondents, including 65 youth, 17 caregivers, and 94 service providers. A total of 789 child maltreatment questions were generated and 728 (92.2%) were considered in scope for the current project. An additional 25 questions were generated from focus groups with Black youth, racialized youth, and gender and/or sexually diverse youth, and a Talking Circle with Indigenous youth. A literature search and validation process was undertaken to identify questions that were previously answered. A total of 101 unanswered research questions were circulated in the second survey, which had 160 respondents, including 95 youth, 23 caregivers, and 44 service providers. A total of 20 questions were short-listed for the final workshop. The top 10 research questions focused on systems change, prevention, intervention, and education. The top 10 research priorities for child maltreatment in Canada can guide researchers to answer pressing questions that are important to individuals with lived experience and those who support them.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 124905 - Printed Poster

Mental Health Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Canadian Healthcare Workers: Findings from the iCARE Canadian Longitudinal Survey (2021-2024)

Main Presenting Author: Vaziri, Lara

Additional Authors: Puterman, Eli ; Boucher, Vincent

Abstract: *Canadian healthcare workers (CAD-HCWs) experienced high levels of psychological distress and burnout during the COVID-19 pandemic. This study examined longitudinal changes in ill-being outcomes over nearly three years of repeated assessment among CAD-HCWs during the COVID-19 pandemic. We analyzed repeated longitudinal samples of CAD-HCWs from the iCARE*

study, with 145 to 340 participants in each of the four periods derived from 14 assessments (Feb 2021-Jan 2024). Participants reported how COVID-19 affected their ill-being (e.g., irritability, anxiety). Chi-square and linear mixed-effects model analyses were performed. Majority of CAD-HCWs were female (84%) and aged 26-50 (58%). Ill-being outcomes improved significantly by Time 4 (all p's<.01). Female CAD-HCWs were more likely than males to report being anxious (OR=2.44 [1.05-5.70]), depressive (OR=3.56 [1.08-11.7]), and irritable (OR=2.43 [1.20-4.91]). Individuals with higher household income were less likely to be anxious (OR = 0.08 [0.03-0.19]), depressive (OR=0.05 [0.02-0.12]), and irritable (OR=0.14 [0.06-0.38]). CAD-HCWs aged 51+ were less likely to report feeling anxious (OR=.08 [0.02-0.26]) and irritable (OR=0.17 [0.05-0.52]). Findings highlight the need for targeted, equity-oriented well-being programs (e.g., income-sensitive, gender-responsive) to support Canadian HCWs during future public health crises.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125530 - Printed Poster

Relational Proximity, Motive, and the Spatial Ecology of Child Homicide in Canada

Main Presenting Author: McMillan, Erin S

Additional Authors: Arellano, Faye ; Reid, Sasha

Abstract: *Background: Child homicide research remains fragmented, with relational, developmental, spatial, and motivational factors examined separately. Objective: Fragmentation is addressed by examining Canadian child homicide across relational, developmental, spatial, and motivational domains. Method: From more than 600 child homicides in the Missing/Murdered Database, 386 solved cases were selected. Inclusion required an identified offender, documented victim-offender geolocations, a verified motive, and confirmation that the death was intentional. Cases lacking offender, spatial, or motivational data were excluded. Chi-square analyses were performed. Results: Victim age shaped offender type, how and why victims were killed, & where they were found. Young children were mostly killed by family in the home using close-contact methods. Adolescents faced more sexual violence, firearms use, & stranger-perpetrated homicides. Stranger homicides involved more outdoor body recovery sites, longer disposal distances, & higher rates of body concealment. Sexual motives were overwhelmingly concentrated among stranger offenders & serial killers. Anger & domestic discord concentrated among pre-adolescent victims. Conclusions: Distinct developmental & relational patterns shaping motives, methods, & spatial behaviors can inform investigative practice & policy across child-protection & justice systems.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125543 - Printed Poster

Shipley-2: Average IQ of University Students Declined to Population Average

Main Presenting Author: Uttl, Bob

Additional Authors: Sikma, Kiefer ; Surjko, Staz

Abstract: *Background/Rationale. According to a wide-spread belief and various psychology and neuropsychology textbooks, undergraduate students have, on average, above average IQ, with the average IQ believed to be in 115 to 130 range. However, recent research with Wechsler Adult*

Intelligence Scale (WAIS) has demonstrated this belief in brilliance of undergraduate students to be false, based on obsolete data sets. We examined intelligence of undergraduate students on another widely used test of intellectual functioning, Shipley-2, to determine if the WAIS results would generalize to other tests of intelligence. Method. We administered the Shipley-2 to a large sample of nearly 300 undergraduate university students as part of two hour long battery of tests. Results. Results showed that the mean estimated Shipley-2 IQ of these undergraduate students was 103, indicating that university students are no different from average intellectual functioning of the general population. We also report relationships between the Shipley-2 and other measures of cognitive functioning and personality. Conclusions. Our findings confirm the recently reported declines in undergraduate students' IQ and generalized them to another standardized measure of intelligence, Shipley-2. Action/Impact. Wide-spread belief that undergraduate students' average IQ is well above average range is outdated and must be corrected.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126174 - Printed Poster

Specialized Domestic Violence Courts: A Scoping Review of Heterogeneity, Outcomes, and Best Practices

Main Presenting Author: Godin, Jolyanne

Additional Authors: Allard, Victoria ; Dionne, Zoé A

Abstract: *Over the past three decades, the rise in awareness surrounding domestic violence (DV), has led to a growing response from the criminal justice system, including the establishment of specialized domestic violence courts (Johnson & Fraser, 2011). Given the unique dynamics of DV that arises from the perpetrator and victim relationship, as well as the elevated recidivism, specialized judges, assessments, and interventions are considered essential (Tutty & Ursel, 2005). Today, more than 350 DV courts operate across Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (British Columbia, Ministry of Justice, 2014). Though their structures vary widely, ranging from sentencing-focused models to courts integrating treatment planning and coordinated services. While research suggests DV courts reduce recidivism, generalization remains difficult due to their heterogeneity (Kendall, 2022). This scoping review aims to (1) synthesize the various DV courts model, with emphasis on the Canadian context, and (2) examine existing evaluation research. A quality assessment procedure was applied to studies included in the evaluation-focused aim. Anticipated findings will highlight significant cross-jurisdictional variation and identify best practices for both DV court models and their evaluation, promoting victim safety and offender rehabilitation.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126008 - Printed Poster

Stigma and Drug Policy: How Canadians' Attitudes Toward People Who Use Drug Impact Policy Implementation

Main Presenting Author: Summersby, Emma

Additional Author: Ternes, Marguerite

Abstract: *In January 2023, British Columbia (BC) implemented a three-year pilot period exempting section 56(1) of Canada's Controlled Drugs and Substances Act for individuals over 18 years of age, replacing criminal sanctions with non-criminal interventions for personal possession of illicit drugs, including MDMA, cocaine, methamphetamine, and opioids. With stigma being categorized as a barrier to accessing services, the shift to decriminalization will hopefully increase care-seeking behaviours and reduce stigma. The objective of the current study is to examine the impact of addiction-related stigma on Canadians' perceptions of decriminalization. The study consisted of 1,000 (Mage = 35.76) adults over the age of 18 who currently reside in Canada. Participants completed a survey measuring attitudes toward substance use and decriminalization, as well as demographics and a scale assessing political conservatism. Results from the regression analyses demonstrate that support for drug decriminalization was predicted by lower levels of stigma; personal characteristics, including age, gender, race, marital status; and political conservatism. Findings will be discussed regarding the impact of stigma on Canadian drug policies and their implications ensuring these policies reflect both the well-being of people who use drugs and the public.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123185 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

Alignment or Disconnect? Manitoba Government Policies and First Nations-Led Mental Health and Substance Use Services

Main Presenting Author: Disbrowe, Malcolm C

Additional Authors: Sinclair, Stephanie ; Durksen, Anita

Abstract: *Background: Manitoba policy references reconciliation, cultural safety, and distinctions-based approaches to mental health and substance use, yet little is known about how these priorities align with First Nations-led service realities. This work analyzes recent provincial policy documents to understand such realities. Methods: A scan (June-July 2025) identified Manitoba policy documents (2018-2025) referencing First Nations or Indigenous mental health or substance use. Fifteen documents were included. Data were extracted into a structured matrix and analyzed using deductive and inductive thematic analysis. Results: Five themes emerged: (1) distinctions-based partnerships and reconciliation commitments; (2) culturally safe and community-based care; (3) youth mental health and suicide prevention; (4) harm reduction and crisis response; and (5) cross-government coordination. Despite rhetoric on co-design, cultural safety, and harm reduction, policies lacked clear timelines, sustainable funding, and accountability. Conclusions: Manitoba's policy landscape shows movement toward reconciliation-oriented mental health strategies but lacks detail. Better alignment with First Nations-led services requires investment, shared governance, Indigenous-led evaluation, and concrete accountability.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124122 - Virtual Poster

Section Featured Speaker Address

Expanding Scope of Practice for Psychologists to Include Prescribing Psychotropic Medications: The Process and Impact for Ontario

Main Presenting Author: Velikonja, Diana

Additional Author: Rom-Rymer, Beth N

Abstract: *Background: The expansion of psychologists' scope of practice to include prescribing psychotropic medications (RxP) began in the United States and has generated a robust evidence base supporting its safety, clinical effectiveness, and rigorous training standards. Ontario is now positioned to become the first Canadian province and jurisdiction outside the U.S., to consider legislation enabling RxP for psychologists. As healthcare increasingly integrates psychological and pharmacological approaches, advanced training in clinical psychopharmacology enhances treatment effectiveness, and contributes to substantial cost savings. Method: This presentation will outline the regulatory processes involved in pursuing scope-of-practice expansion in Ontario, including how provincially delegated acts must be addressed and the safeguards required to ensure safe implementation. Results: This will highlight the evolving regulatory frameworks emerging across Canada, opportunities for coordinated advocacy with federal agencies, and the educational and practicum requirements that support safe and effective prescriptive practice. Impact: RxP for psychologists has the potential to transform the landscape of psychological practice in Canada. This initiative represents a pivotal opportunity to advance patient-centred care and foster sustainable improvements across provincial healthcare systems.*

Section: *Psychopharmacology*
Session ID: 124105 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

Student Perceptions of Inclusivity in Course Syllabi: A Mixed-Method Comparison of University-Level Inclusive and Typical Policies and Syllabi Design

Main Presenting Author: Salehi, Paniz

Additional Authors: Pan, Lesley ; Desai, Roshni; Ryan, S. William

Abstract: *A classroom's atmosphere, shaped by course policies and syllabus design, strongly influences students' learning and sense of belonging. This mixed-method study with diverse undergraduates compared a typical syllabus to an inclusive syllabus and explored experiences of classroom policies in semi-structured focus groups. Quantitative analysis showed that students who reviewed the inclusive syllabus reported significantly higher perceived inclusivity than those who reviewed the typical syllabus, $t(21.34) = 4.65$, $p < .001$, indicating a meaningful impact of syllabus design on first impressions of course climate. Across the full sample, perceived inclusivity was positively correlated with engagement, support, cultural competency, accessibility, and psychological safety, while perceived difficulty was not significantly related to inclusivity or support, suggesting that inclusivity does not equate to a "easier" course. Qualitative analyses using Grounded Theory will inform us further on the impact of identity-affirming language, transparent and flexible policies, and visible commitments to equity in making students feel welcomed without lowering academic standards,*

with specifics of individual community-member experiences. These findings inform inclusive practices, strengthen equity and belonging, and position the syllabus as a central lever for structural change in education.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126325 - Snapshot

Why Do K-6 Educators use GenAI? The Role of Confidence, Knowledge and Attitudes in K-6 Educators' GenAI Use

Main Presenting Author: Mongeon, Jamie

Additional Authors: Liptrot, Emma ; Dube, Adam

Abstract: *Despite the growing presence of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) in classrooms, we still lack insight into how and why educators adopt these tools. Understanding educators' confidence and knowledge (ConfK) towards GenAI and their attitudes toward AI is crucial to identify what drives adoption and guide evidence-based training and policy. Two samples of K-6 educators from Canada, the US, and the UK (each n = 101) completed a measure of GenAI use and an adapted TPACK scale for GenAI assessing their ConfK. Sample 2 also rated attitudes toward AI on a scale adapted from Ipsos' 2023 AI Index report. In both studies, regression analyses revealed that ConfK was a significantly stronger predictor of GenAI use than educators' age and teaching experience (R^2 = .39 in Study 1; R^2 = .45 in Study 2). Educators in 2025 reported more positive AI attitudes than the general public based on Ipsos data reported in the Stanford Human-Centered AI Index (2022-2024). Mediation analyses indicated that ConfK partially mediated the effect of attitudes on use (B = -0.05-0.07), while attitudes did not mediate the relationship between ConfK and use (B = -0.02-0.24) Thus, to support informed and pedagogically aligned decisions about GenAI's role in the classroom, targeting educators' GenAI-specific ConfK (not AI attitudes) should be a priority for developers, professional development, and policy.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125256 - Snapshot

Symposium

Crime Severity, Mortality, and Forensic Psychology: Roadmaps and Future Research Considerations

Moderator(s): Haag, Andrew

Abstract: *This symposium will be considering a review of recent crime severity data, discussing the need to better operationalize the concept of crime severity, and will review recent population level data on mortality in an NCR (Not Criminally Responsible) population. All of the data considered in this talk comes from the Alberta NCR population with the inclusion of matched controls from the general population and the general psychiatric population. Data will be discussed which demonstrates that a violence risk prediction tool (VRAG-R) also predicts all cause morality by 30 years and all cause mortality by 40 years in the NCR population. The implications of both the crime severity findings and the morality data will be discussed in terms of considerations for future research.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125895 - Symposium

Mortality and predictors of premature death among forensic psychiatric patients

Main Presenting Author: Haag, Andrew

Additional Author: Farrell, Christian

Abstract: *Background: A variety of mental illnesses carry increased morbidity and mortality compared to the general population (Latoo et al., 2013). Additionally, the literature has shown that forensic patients experience excess mortality compared to the general population and their civil psychiatric counterparts (Ojansuu et al., 2015; Sorensen et al., 2020). However, little is known about mortality among forensic psychiatric patients in Canada. The current study considered mortality in forensic psychiatric patients in Alberta and explored possible predictors of mortality.Methods: The cohort was comprised of 571 NCR patients in Alberta. Matched control data was acquired from the general Alberta population and Alberta civil psychiatric patients. Mortality data was acquired from the Alberta Vital Statistics and Alberta Health. Results: Overall, 24% of patients were deceased by the follow-up date and the overall SMR was 2.04. The majority died from natural causes (e.g., cardiovascular disease and cancer) while approximately 8% died from suicide and 6% died from an accidental cause. Linear regression results showed that patients were surviving longer after their NCRMD finding in more recent years. A higher VRAG-R score and lower Crime Severity Index score independently predicted premature mortality before age 50. The implications for future research will be discussed.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125949 - Paper within a symposium

Predicting Crime Severity Among Individuals Deemed NCRMD: The Creation and InitialValidation of a Crime Severity Scale

Main Presenting Author: Joseph, Jessica
Co-Presenting Author: Haag, Andrew

Abstract: *Individuals deemed Not Criminally Responsible on Account of Mental Disorder(NCRMD) receive indeterminant treatment sentences overseen by provincial Review Boards(RBs). RBs make decisions on the length and conditions of sentences based on risk of seriousharm to the public. However, RB decisions rely on risk assessment tools that estimate thelikelihood of any future violence without regard for severity. The present study aimed torespond to this gap by clarifying the most salient predictors of crime severity for those deemedNCRMD, and devising and testing an actuarial measure aimed at predicting future crimeseverity. A total of 315 archived NCRMD files were analyzed using postdictive methods,coding historical (e.g., prior offending), social (e.g., gang affiliation), psychological (e.g.,diagnoses), and cognitive (e.g., IQ) variables available at the time of the NCRMD verdict topredict the offence that led to the NCRMD verdict. Crime severity was measured (1)dichotomously, classifying homicide, attempted homicide, assault with a weapon, and assaultcausing bodily harm as severe, and other crimes as non-severe; and (2) continuously, based onsentence length. The results showed that predictors of crime severity varied depending on howcrime severity was operationally defined and measured. Limitations and further legal, clinical,and research implications are also discussed.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125914 - Paper within a symposium

Toward A Clear Definition of Crime Severity: Synthesizing Current Research andHighlighting Conceptual and Methodological Challenges

Main Presenting Author: Joseph, Jessica
Co-Presenting Author: Haag, Andrew

Abstract: *Crime severity is a critical yet underexplored construct in forensic psychology, withmajor implications for risk assessment, treatment planning, resource allocation, and broaderpolicy development. Despite its relevance, the current literature on crime severity remains inits infancy, lacking conceptual clarity and empirical attention. Findings from the previouspresentation further underscore this issue, revealing that predictors of crime severity variedsubstantially depending on how crime severity was operationally defined and measured. Takentogether, there is a need for future research dedicated to understanding and operationallydefining crime severity. To respond to this need, the current presentation had two mainobjectives. First, to provide a synthesizing review of the existing crime severity literature,outlining current definitions and findings. Second, to discuss the importance of developingclear and consistent operational definitions of crime severity, while identifying the conceptual,methodological, and practical challenges involved in doing the same. Overall, our hope is toengage forensic clinicians and researchers in reflections on defining crime severity as amechanism to enhance risk assessment and intervention practices.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125918 - Paper within a symposium

Identifying and Addressing Structural Stigma Towards People Who Use Drugs in Service Restrictions, Health Records and Organizational Policies

Moderator(s): Neufeld, Scott D

Abstract: *Stigma marks people who use drugs (PWUD) as bad and different, and is a major barrier to accessing health care and support. Recent reviews of the stigma reduction literature in social psychology (e.g. Paluck et al., 2021) suggest that interventions targeting structural stigma (e.g. rules, policies, protocols within systems) may be more promising than mass media interventions (e.g. anti-stigma campaigns) that target individual attitudes amongst the general public. This symposium will highlight novel areas to identify and address structural stigma in policies and administrative systems that mark, punish, and exclude PWUD. Neufeld & Ferretti examine how service restriction policies within a local homeless shelter system serve as a "mark" of stigma upon PWUD who are unhoused, facilitating their exclusion. Moore et al investigate the mark of stigma toward PWUD within electronic health records in hospitals. Finally Dziva & Neufeld compare three Canadian structural stigma assessment tools to evaluate their strengths, limitations, and implications. Taken together, these presentations offer critical theorization and recommendations for moving structural stigma policy and intervention work forward in Canada. They also show how social, health, and community psychology can provide valuable perspective, criticism, and insights for interventions to address structural stigma impacting PWUD.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126079 - Symposium

Addressing organizational stigma in electronic health records for people who use drugs

Main Presenting Author: Moore, Kaitlyn D

Additional Authors: Law, Madelyn ; Neufeld, Scott D.

Abstract: *Stigma in healthcare significantly shapes the experiences of people who use drugs (PWUD), often leading to discrimination and reduced access to care. Stigma is widespread within healthcare settings, with some PWUD feeling judged by specific staff and others feeling stigmatized by the entire system. Electronic medical records (EHRs) are a digital record of a patient's health information across multiple care encounters, containing key clinical and administrative data. EHRs, while beneficial for communication and care coordination, can reinforce negative stereotypes through the visibility of past patient encounters and stigmatizing language. Using a close examination of the language, user interface, and protocols for use of EHRs in a hospital setting, this presentation will theorize how EHRs exert structural stigma, mark PWUD for categorization and surveillance, and set up dynamics of exclusion and harm that negatively impact PWUD. Interviews with five PWUD and five health care professionals who have worked with EHRs will also be analyzed using thematic analysis to further develop a comprehensive understanding of the role EHRs play in negatively impacting healthcare for PWUD. Findings will inform recommendations for interventions in EHRs to positively reshape PWUD's health care experiences.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126395 - Paper within a symposium

Marked for exclusion, punishment and control: Theorizing service restrictions in a homeless shelter system as structural stigma for people who use drugs

Main Presenting Author: Neufeld, Scott D

Additional Author: Ferretti, Jackilyn

Abstract: *Marginalized people who use drugs (PWUD) may at times rely on access to emergency homeless shelters. Shelters are often governed by 'expectations' for guests (e.g. non-violence, no substance use on property). However, when guests cannot conform to these expectations they may receive a 'service restriction' effectively banning them from receiving further support from a shelter, and perhaps the entire shelter system for some length of time (depending on severity). This presentation will review internal policy documents from a regional homeless shelter system including region-wide policy on service restrictions, guest guidelines from five unique shelter operators, and local media and political discourse on 'service restrictions' to examine how service restrictions operate as a form of structural stigma that targets PWUD experiencing homelessness. Qualitative thematic analysis will illustrate how service restriction policies and practices mark certain PWUD as "undeserving," legitimizing control and punishment, and ultimately producing exclusion. While framed as neutral safety measures, service restrictions often reflect deeper judgments about who is "safe," "compliant," or "ready" for shelter. We argue that shelters can become more responsive to the needs of the people they serve with policy reforms that go beyond individual staff training, to examining how the system itself just*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126394 - Paper within a symposium

Organizational structural stigma assessments: A comparative analysis of three Canadian stigma audit tools

Main Presenting Author: Neufeld, Scott D

Additional Author: Buckenham Dziva, Tinashe D

Abstract: *Structural stigma related to substance use is a major barrier to equitable healthcare for people who use drugs (PWUD). This presentation provides a comparative analysis of three leading Canadian initiatives aimed at identifying and addressing structural stigma within healthcare: the Mental Health Commission of Canada's (MHCC) Structural Stigma Initiative, EQUIP Health Care's Equity Walk-Through, and the Canadian Public Health Association's (CPHA) Organizational Stigma Assessment. Each initiative provides practical strategies for identifying institutional policies, documentation practices, and environmental conditions that perpetuate inequity for PWUD. MHCC offers a comprehensive systems-level framework, EQUIP emphasizes structural competency and organizational change processes and CPHA provides a straightforward process for a wide variety of organizations. While each is promising, their overall effectiveness is constrained by uneven implementation, limited cross-sector coordination, and resource disparities across healthcare settings. We highlight the need for an integrated, evidence-informed strategy that aligns stigma audit tools, supports implementation capacity, and embeds PWUD leadership into system reform. Strengthening structural stigma assessment tools across Canada is essential for improving healthcare access, promoting safety, and advancing health equity for PWUD.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126398 - Paper within a symposium

Inpatient and Community Violence With Multiple Forensic Mental Health Samples

Moderator(s): Haag, Andrew

Abstract: *This symposium will consider risk in various sample types and with multiple methods of measuring violence. The samples considered include inpatient/outpatient NCR samples and a community forensic mental health sample. The session will examine the predictive accuracy of various risk measures and consider violence in multiple contexts. The will provide further evidence for multiple risk measures and address some of the prior limitations of prior NCR recidivism studies.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125645 - Symposium

Convergent and predictive properties of three risk assessment instruments in a Canadian forensic mental health sample

Main Presenting Author: Cheng, Jeremy
Co-Presenting Author: Haag, Andrew

Abstract: *The use of risk assessment instruments is essential for the assessment, treatment, and management of violence risk; it is thus critical to examine their properties when implemented in novel settings with diverse forensic subpopulations. This study evaluated the convergent and predictive properties of three risk assessment instruments in a sample of 109 forensic patients found Not*

Criminally Responsible on Account of Mental Disorder (NCR). A retrospective longitudinal cohort design was employed to examine the Historical Clinical Risk Management-20 Version 3 (HCR-20V3), Revised Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG-R), and Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) rated from archived hospital records. LS/CMI risk scores and risk bands predicted general (area under the curve [AUC] = .70-.73) and violent (AUC = .76-.91) recidivism with moderate to large effects and performed similarly to the VRAG-R and HCR20V3. Calibration analyses demonstrated that LS/CMI scores overpredicted the risk of general recidivism in Moderate to Very High risk bands. Results supported the convergent validity and discrimination properties of study measures; however, mixed evidence was found for the calibration properties of the LS/CMI. The potential utility of risk instruments in the appraisal and management of offending behavior among forensic mental health patients is discussed.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125648 - Paper within a symposium

Field Examination of Risk, Need, and Responsivity in a Community Correctional Sample: A Research Update

Main Presenting Author: Chapman, Samantha
Co-Presenting Authors: LoRi, Anastasia; Cheng, Jeremy

Additional Authors: Haag, Andrew ; Wang, Feihao

Abstract: *Community forensic mental health services are an integral part of the assessment and treatment of supervised correctional populations. Field tests of risk assessment tools remain limited, however, and research varies widely across different risk assessment tools, as well as their applicability across settings, populations, and time periods. The present study provides a research update on a large cache of archived files stored at an outpatient forensic mental health clinic with an anticipated sample size of 3000. A retrospective design was employed on 600 cases with violent histories between 2011-2013 where raters coded information relevant to risk, need, and responsivity. Cases were primarily referred for a presentence report or mandated treatment order for a violent offense against an intimate partner. Preliminary results provide a descriptive overview of the sample sociodemographic, mental health traits, and index offenses. Additionally, the study reports scores from risk assessment tools (e.g., Level of Service/ Case Management Inventory, Spousal Assault Risk Assessment Guide), and psychological testing across intelligence, achievement, and personality inventories. The presentation concludes by outlining proposed research questions, hypotheses, and the analytic strategy for the larger project.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125766 - Paper within a symposium

Measuring Inpatient Aggression Risk with the Violence Risk Scale in a Canadian Forensic Mental Health Sample

Main Presenting Author: Cheng, Jeremy
Co-Presenting Authors: Nicol, Jessica; LoRi, Anastasia

Additional Authors: Haag, Andrew ; VanHusen, Erika

Abstract: *Inpatient aggression represents a critical clinical, administrative, and public safety concern within forensic mental health settings. This study evaluated the predictive, incremental, and convergent validity of two risk assessment tools in a cohort of 71 inpatients at a Canadian forensic psychiatric hospital. The Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) and the Violence Risk Scale (VRS) were scored retrospectively using archived clinical reports, with outcomes extracted from protective services records. The average follow-up period was 23.5 months (1.9 years), with a 42% base rate of inpatient aggression. Results supported convergent validity, revealing large correlation effect sizes between the total scores of both measures. Both tools demonstrated large effect sizes in predicting inpatient aggression and institutional rule-breaking, with Area Under the Curve values ranging from .73-.79 for the LS/CMI and .84-.91 for the VRS. Total scores were also significantly associated with the frequency of aggression. Furthermore, time to first incident was associated with VRS risk levels; cases in the middle risk band (Level 3) averaged 18.69 months to aggression, compared to only 2.52 months for the highest risk band (Level 5). Sequential Cox regression models indicated that the VRS added incremental predictive validity over the LS/CMI, with VRS dynamic factors showing incremental prediction even after controlling for static factors. These findings suggest that dynamic, violence-specific risk tools are particularly informative for the assessment and management of inpatient aggression and institutional rule-breaking.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125753 - Paper within a symposium

Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment: Examination of the ODARA in Men's and Women's Heterosexual and Same-Sex Relationships

Moderator(s): Hilton, N. Zoe

Abstract: *Topic. The Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) is an actuarial risk assessment tool that was first developed to assess the likelihood of IPV recidivism by men who assaulted a female domestic partner. The CELIA intimate partner violence (IPV) project has gathered data on the ODARA and other case information in 772 cases of IPV between marital, cohabiting, or dating partners reported to police in Alberta, New Brunswick, and Ontario. Novelty. The CELIA IPV project is novel in Canada as it aims to enhance the application of IPV risk assessment to gender- and sexually- inclusive populations. Purpose. This symposium will present three papers from the CELIA IPV project. The first paper examines the ODARA among men who assaulted women in fixed follow-up periods from 3 months to 5 years and finds that 3 years captures most of the eventual recidivism, including over 100 recidivistic events, with a medium predictive effect size. The second paper examines the ODARA among women in a fixed 3-year follow-up and finds a large predictive effect. The third paper explores the ODARA and other characteristics in a small number of men and women who assaulted a partner of the same gender and finds similar ODARA scores, item distributions, and correlation with injury severity. Relevance. This topic aligns with the Criminal Justice Psychology Section scope.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124640 - Symposium

Men and women who engage in same-sex intimate partner violence: ODARA scores and case characteristics

Main Presenting Author: Radatz, Dana L.
Co-Presenting Author: Hilton, N. Zoe

Abstract: *Background. Few studies of IPV risk assessment have included men or women who assault their same-sex partners. Method. In this descriptive study, we examined scores on the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) and other case characteristics among 20 individuals (5 men, 15 women) who comprised 3% of a sample of 772 cases of police-reported IPV. Results: The mean ODARA total score was M = 5.35, SD = 2.39, almost identical to the remaining sample. ODARA item frequency ranged from 10% (assault on victim when pregnant) to 70% (pre-index domestic assault, barrier to victim support), with a trend of lower occurrence of children and higher occurrence of nondomestic violence than the remaining sample. Physical assaults most often involved pushing (35%), hitting with an object (35%), holding the victim down (30%), beating (25%), grabbing (25%), throwing to the ground (25%) and choking (25%). The level of injury was most often bruising (34%). ODARA had a small correlation with injury (r = .10). Conclusion. Few police-reported cases of IPV involve same-sex couples yet their risk-related characteristics are similar to non-minority cases. Action/Impact: Results indicate IPV risk factors and case characteristics associated with heterosexual partners can inform prevention and response efforts intended to address men and women who assault their same-sex partners.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124655 - Paper within a symposium

The Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) and IPV Recidivism among Men

Main Presenting Author: Hilton, N. Zoe

Additional Author: Hanson, R. Karl

Abstract: *Background. Several decisions must be made when creating standard levels for communicating the risk of violence recidivism, including what time period recidivism estimates should be based on. Most follow-ups in studies of intimate partner violence (IPV) are variable and have ranged from 16 weeks to 9 years. Method. We tested the predictive validity of the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) among 567 men from three police organizations charged for IPV against a female partner in an average 6 year follow up and fixed follow-up periods of 3 months to 5 years' time at risk. Results: ODARA total score (raw M = 5.80, SD = 2.52; prorated M = 6.00, SD = 2.64) significantly predicted post-index charges for IPV recidivism (n = 157, 27.7%) in 6-month to 5-year fixed follow ups with small to medium effects (AUCs = .63 to .69). At 3 months, IPV recidivism was 3% and AUC was small (.61) and nonsignificant. By 3 years, 80% of the total reported recidivism occurred, with over 100 recidivist events. Conclusion. Low observed recidivism within 1 year prohibits interpretation of risk for more imminent violence, but 3-year fixed follow-ups are a reasonable standard for IPV recidivism research, including in the development of standard risk levels for IPV risk. Action/Impact: These results from the basis of new 3-year IPV recidivism estimates for the ODARA.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124646 - Paper within a symposium

Women who Engage in Intimate Partner Violence: Predictive Value of the ODARA Risk Tool

Main Presenting Author: Ham, Elke
Co-Presenting Author: Campbell, Mary Ann

Abstract: *Background: While structured risk assessment tools for predicting the recidivism of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) are now commonly utilized, there is limited research on their effectiveness for*

women. Most studies have involved relatively small sample sizes, inconsistent eligibility criteria, and varying follow-up periods, leading to inconclusive results. Methods: We examined the ODARA in a sample of 200 women charged with a violent offence against their intimate partner (92% men), followed for up to 6 years (M = 6.06 years, SD = 1.20, 14% IPV recidivism). Results: In a fixed 3-year follow-up, 19 (10%) were charged for a new IPV offense and the ODARA predicted recidivism with a large effect, raw ODARA score AUC = .745 (SE = .054), 95% CI = [.640, .8 z51], prorated ODARA score AUC = .736 (SE = .054), 95% CI = [.630, .841]. Conclusion: The ODARA significantly predicts the likelihood of IPV recidivism by women. Action/Impact: These results build on research supporting use of the ODARA to compare recidivism risk among women, enabling optimal resource allocation and treatment intensity decisions informed by the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) framework.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124648 - Paper within a symposium

The Post-October 7 Mental Health Landscape of Canadian Jewry

Moderator(s): Sinacore, Ada

Abstract: *The October 7 Hamas attack was a profound trauma for Israeli society and the global Jewish community, which was immediately followed by a litany of antisemitic and anti-Israel incidents around the globe, including denial of the events of October 7 and Holocaust inversion. In the face of blatant and widespread denial of facts, the Jewish community faced an additional challenge of understanding, naming, and describing our experience. The current panel sought to answer these questions by documenting and naming the communal Jewish post-October 7 mental health experience. The first panelist discusses the experiences of Jewish North American university students with campus antisemitism, the impacts on mental health, and the role of institutional support in mitigating negative mental health outcomes. The second panelist proposes the language of traumatic invalidation to understand Jewish mental health amid rising antisemitism post-October 7. Finally, the third panelist expands on the traumatic invalidation framework and introduces the language of Compounded Traumatic Reality (CTR) to describe the experiences of Jewish mental health practitioners in Canada. This panel helps provide the insight needed to understand the post-October 7 mental health landscape of Canadian Jewry and to develop the systems and solutions to better support Canadian Jews.*

Section: *Jewish Psychology*
Session ID: 126109 - Symposium

Antisemitism, Anti-Israel Sentiment, and Mental Health Among Jewish College Students: A Cross-Sectional Study

Main Presenting Author: Stein, Steven

Abstract: *Since October 7, 2023, there has been a dramatic increase in antisemitic and anti-Israeli incidents occurring on college and university campuses across North America. This has deeply affected Jewish students and raises significant concerns regarding the potential long-term mental health consequences. Study Overview: To better understand these issues, we conducted a cross-sectional study of 1,954 Jewish university students in the United States and Canada. Methodology: Surveys were disseminated through organizations and snowball sampling, reaching over 80,000 current Jewish students. Key Findings: Both anti-Israel and antisemitic experiences were highly correlated with students' anxiety and PTSD symptoms. The study found that as students perceived*

greater support from their university administration, symptoms of PTSD and general anxiety decreased. Conclusion: Given these findings, it is imperative that university administrators take an active role in combating antisemitism on campuses. Action/Impact: The study presents several actionable suggestions for university leadership to address and reduce these incidents, thereby promoting a safer and more supportive environment for Jewish students.

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 126138 - Paper within a symposium

Compounded traumatic reality among Jewish mental health practitioners in the diaspora post-October 7: An exploratory qualitative study

Main Presenting Author: Regev, Rotem

Abstract: *Following the October 7 attacks in Israel and a global surge in antisemitism, Jewish mental health practitioners in the Canadian diaspora reported layered distress not adequately captured by existing trauma frameworks. This exploratory qualitative study gathered anonymous written responses from 28 clinicians about their post-October 7 clinical challenges, personal impact, and desired supports. Thematic analysis revealed five interrelated themes: Emotional Strain and Boundary Diffusion; Self-Silencing and Identity Concealment in Social Justice Spaces; Experiencing Antisemitism and Professional Unsafety; Erasure and Invisibility in Social Justice Spaces; and Heightened Empathic Attunement. Participants also expressed clear support needs: peer connection, targeted professional development, and institutional/societal advocacy. In response, the study introduces Compounded Traumatic Reality (CTR); a term describing the convergence of collective trauma, identity-based threat, and professional marginalization that co-occur and amplify each other, causing strained therapeutic presence, wellbeing, and a sense of safety for Jewish practitioners. CTR names a distinct, practice-relevant phenomenon with implications for building identity-affirming, trauma-informed professional development, work cultures, establishing structured peer supports, and advancing visible institutional responses.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 126152 - Paper within a symposium

Traumatic invalidation in the Jewish community after October 7

Main Presenting Author: Bar-Halpern, Miri

Abstract: *Traumatic invalidation (TI), the denial, dismissal, or distortion of an individual's trauma, has emerged as a critical but understudied mechanism shaping Jewish mental health after rising global antisemitism. Methods: A systematic literature review was conducted across communal reports, and documented antisemitic incidents in the aftermath of October 7. Results: Our review demonstrated that the Jewish community experienced all nine established criteria of TI post-October 7. These patterns appeared across interpersonal, institutional, and societal contexts. Qualitative accounts consistently described isolation, identity-based harm, moral injury, and erosion of safety and belonging. Conclusions: TI represents a distinct, identity-linked pathway that intensifies trauma for Jewish individuals following collective violence. Action/Impact: The review offers trauma-informed, culturally responsive recommendations for clinicians, educators, and institutions, emphasizing validation-centered care; explicit acknowledgement of antisemitism in policy and practice; and programming that fosters safety, belonging, and post-traumatic growth.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 126126 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: PROFESSIONAL AND TRAINING ISSUES

Examining issues related to our discipline as a profession including accreditation, ethics, funding, training

12-Minute Talk

Anishinaabe, Métis and non-Indigenous student-led efforts towards the Indigenization of psychology: Examining the approach of one campus initiative

Main Presenting Author: Skov, Brittany C.
Co-Presenting Author: Epp, Naomi

Additional Authors: Goodfriend, Ize ; Iwanicki, Ryan; Ashley, Angela; Saxena, Arushi; Tripathi, Varun Tripathi; Mushquash, Christopher J.

Abstract: *Background: The CPA's response to the TRC of Canada calls on psychology departments to advance reconciliation through education. This includes engaging First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) community members as guest speakers, supporting cultural literacy, and training students to integrate FNMI and Western knowledge. Improving cultural literacy ensures that students are better prepared to support Indigenous communities and peers, ultimately fostering an environment of mutual respect and wellbeing. Method: In this graduate student-led initiative, funded by the CPA, Anishinaabe, Métis and non-FNMI graduate students worked with the campus community to develop a two-part speaker and experiential land-based learning activity series for Lakehead University students. An evaluation committee was formed to determine the impact. Results: This talk focuses on the approach taken to planning the initiative, committee structure, actions taken by the committee, the impact of this series on FNMI and non-FNMI committee members, and the culturally-informed approach to evaluation. Conclusion: Efforts to improve Indigenization in psychology and meet the CPA response to the TRC must be FNMI-led, community-oriented, and reflect FNMI worldviews in process and outcome. Action/Impact: This earning activity series may serve as a useful model for ongoing Indigenization efforts in psychology programs.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 122494 - 12-Minute Talk

Career Decision-Making Processes and Cultural Perspectives from East-Asian Counselling Psychologists in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Kim, Maria

Additional Author: Zhao, Xu

Abstract: *This study examines the experiences and perspectives of East Asian counselling psychologists in Canada on: career decision-making and cultural competency education in graduate training relating to supporting East Asian clients and communities. This qualitative research includes data from semi-structured interviews with 10 East-Asian identifying counseling psychologists in practice or training (active Counselling Psychology graduate students). Through Thematic Analysis*

(TA), key themes were identified related to the career-decision making, professional training, and professional practice experiences of the participants. The findings reveal gaps between current counseling practices and the cultural needs of East Asian communities including: greater representation of East Asian psychologists, importance of addressing shortcomings in cultural competency training within Canadian counseling psychology programs, and professional practice gaps existing within the field. This research offers a unique perspective from a group of minority psychologists that underscores the need for enhanced recruitment and training to foster greater diversity, equity, and inclusivity within the counseling psychology field. It highlights a crucial need for better preparing psychologists to effectively meet the complex mental health needs of underrepresented communities.

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 123359 - 12-Minute Talk

Developing an ECHO Model to Support Clinicians in Integrated Youth Services in Quebec (Aire Ouverte)

Main Presenting Author: Kaltsidis, Gesthika

Additional Authors: MacDonald, Kathleen ; Goyette, Martin; Iyer, Srividya

Abstract: *Youth experiencing mental health issues often encounter barriers to care, such as long wait times, and fragmented services. Canada launched Integrated Youth Services (IYS) initiative to address these barriers; in Quebec, the IYS is called Aire Ouverte (AO). AO services face high demand, complex clinical needs, and limited capacity for long-term follow-up. To support AO clinicians, we developed an ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) series tailored to AO. The ECHO approach creates communities of practice that disseminate evidence-based knowledge and foster interdisciplinary exchange. ECHO development was informed by an environmental scan integrating evidence and stakeholder perspectives: literature review on ECHO in health care; consultations with researchers, coordinators of mental health ECHOs, and AO staff; post-webinar topic surveys; ministry reports on clinical challenges; and mentorship from an ECHO hub. Data were synthesized iteratively, guided by principles of partnership and local adaptation. Resulting ECHO includes sessions on single-session and solutions-focused therapy, holistic and Indigenous approaches, family engagement, and systems navigation. Post-session surveys will evaluate satisfaction, skills-building, perceived support, and intended practice changes. Anticipated impacts include strengthened clinician competencies and improved care across AO sites.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 123507 - 12-Minute Talk

Graduate Student Perspectives on Program Implementation of CPA Accreditation Standards Related to Diversity, Indigenous Interculturalism, and Anti-Racism

Main Presenting Author: Huang, Olive Chung-Hui
Co-Presenting Author: Wershler, Julie

Abstract: *Background: In 2023, accreditation standards for professional psychology graduate programs ("Standards") were revised, with an increased emphasis on diversity. As the Standards are typically implemented by clinical training directors and faculty, students' perspectives may be*

overlooked. This mixed-methods study explored student perceptions of the implementation of the newest Standards. Methods: Current or recent graduate students (n=76) completed an online survey, rating perceptions of program progress towards implementing each standard and provided open-ended comments.Results: Participant perceptions were often mixed. Content analysis revealed several promising approaches across standards (e.g., readings) but highlighted that changes sometimes felt performative and had limited transparency, and a lack of consistency and training among faculty. Perceptions were more positive for training in diversity, but training in Indigenous Interculturalism and respecting diversity in recruitment and evaluation of students were gaps. Overall, there was a high degree of variability across programs, likely reflecting factors such as existing program content and stage of accreditation. Conclusions/Impacts: Students identified both progress and gaps in the implementation of CPA Standards. Findings will inform practical recommendations for programs to effectively implement the new Standards.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125916 - 12-Minute Talk

How Students Get In: A Mixed-Methods Look at Clinical Psychology Admissions

Main Presenting Author: Lee, John
Co-Presenting Author: Kasprzak, Emilia

Abstract: *Clinical psychology is one of Canada's most competitive graduate pathways, yet prospective students often lack clear guidance on how to prepare strong applications. The Inside Clinical project was developed as a mixed-methods initiative that integrates qualitative insights from in-depth interviews and quantitative data collected through surveys of current clinical psychology graduate students. The overarching goal was to identify common preparation pathways, barriers to applying, and practical recommendations to support equity and transparency in admissions. Qualitative data were obtained through interviews with graduate students from programs across multiple provinces. A thematic analysis was conducted, examining recurring patterns related to research involvement, mentorship, supervisor fit, clinical exposure and personal challenges surrounding admissions. Quantitative data were gathered through a national survey capturing applicant timelines, number of application cycles, programs applied to, interview offers, acceptance outcomes, and demographic information, as well as ratings of which criteria most influenced their success. Results from the qualitative analysis emphasized the importance of research experience, strong supervision relationships, clear communication with potential supervisors, and tailored statements of interest. Quantitative findings revealed substantial variability in GPA cutoffs, publication history, and clinical experience, but converged on consistent predictors of admission success such as research engagement and high-quality references. Together, these mixed-methods results highlight the need for clearer communication from programs, early and accessible mentorship, and increased transparency around evaluation practices. This talk will present integrated findings and concrete recommendations for students, educators, and training programs to support more equitable and informed pathways into the field.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125436 - 12-Minute Talk

Increasing Indigenous Representation in Psychology: An Update from Manitoba's Pathways Working Group

Main Presenting Author: Crossman, Noah
Co-Presenting Author: Fontaine, Aleah

Additional Authors: Mackenzie, Corey ; Woods, Lindsay; Riddell, Julia; Toderan, Brooklyn; Hunter, Sandra; Roos, Leslie; Holmqvist, Maxine

Abstract: *In this presentation, we provide an update on the activities of our Pathways into Clinical Psychology Working Group, a group of learners, faculty, and community psychologists working toward increasing Indigenous representation within our field in Manitoba. First, we will present information our group has gathered regarding the number of Indigenous students at various stages in their educational pathway at the University of Manitoba. Next, we will describe our outreach efforts over the last year, which has included coordination with other health science disciplines to offer workshops to middle and high school students. Then, we will describe our role in collaborating with related initiatives, including strategic planning and changes to enhance training program curricula to incorporate Indigenous knowledges and perspectives. Finally, we will describe student-led efforts to support other students, with a focus on Zaagaate, "the sun will come out," an Indigenous-led circle of learners interested in psychology.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124907 - 12-Minute Talk

Innovating in Post-Secondary: Getting Psychological Science to Front Lines

Main Presenting Author: Norris, Meghan E

Abstract: *Post-secondary education is associated with many individual and societal benefits including positive associations with salary, happiness, longer lives, more time in good health, increased civic engagement, and increased volunteering. Post-secondary campuses are also primary drivers of research in Canada, they develop necessary skilled professionals such as health care workers, provide community access to many resources such as library and recreation, and they are important drivers of the Canadian economy (see Norris & Smith, 2024 for a review). Post-secondary is not without its challenges, however. In this snapshot, a model for teaching about how to apply psychological science to support innovation in post-secondary is provided. Student outcomes, including an OER, will be shared.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 125005 - 12-Minute Talk

Police Interviews with Older Adults in Ontario, Canada: An Examination of Questions and Responses in a Real-World Sample

Main Presenting Author: Arbeau, Sarah M
Co-Presenting Author: Ren, Zhinuo

Additional Authors: Dion Larivière, Cassandre ; Wyman, Joshua; Eastwood, Joseph

Abstract: *Older adults face age-related cognitive, physical and emotional challenges that can affect their interactions during police interviews. However, limited field research to date has explored police interviewing practices with this growing age demographic. The current field study analyzed 20 transcriptions of real-world police interviews with older adults aged 73+ in Ontario, Canada. Deductive thematic coding was used to classify police questions into predefined categories (e.g., open-ended, directive, forced-choice, suggestive, clarification, multiple, and summary/paraphrasing). Response length, measured as the number of words produced by older adults in response to each question-type, was also examined. Forced choice (36.2% of questions) and directive (26.7% of questions) interview questions were asked most frequently by the police interviewers, while open-ended questions were relatively infrequent (6.7% questions). Further, Sign Test analyses revealed that open-ended questions elicited significantly longer responses from the older adults than the other question-types, except clarification questions. As the first known examination of real-world police interview practices with older adults in a Canadian context, these findings can inform the development of evidence-based interviewing guidelines and training programs aimed at improving older adults' eyewitness recollections.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125408 - 12-Minute Talk

Promoting Safety & Minimizing Harm in Supervision: a new model of Supervision to reduce barriers for BIPOC and/or 2SLGBTQIAP+ supervisees

Main Presenting Author: Hasek-Watt, Meg
Co-Presenting Author: Dedekuma, Rume

Abstract: - *Background/rationale: There remain significant barriers facing BIPOC and/or 2SLGBTQIAP+ individuals entering Psychological careers. Supervision is such a pivotal requirement in the pathway to becoming a Psychologist, and as such, we honour and acknowledge the significant harms that may occur in this relationship and process. We are proposing a new Supervision approach based on anti-racism and decolonization to promote safety & minimize harm. - Methods: Our approach to our program involves in depth anti-racism and trans-affirming training prior to taking on Supervisees, ongoing continuing education in these subject areas while working with Supervisees, consultation for Supervisors, and creating a new way of engaging in feedback with Supervisees. - Results: Supervisees resoundingly report increased feelings of safety and emotional health compared to previous supervision experiences; increased competence and capacity to bring forward concerns - which has ethical implications for practice widely; and increased positive feelings about staying in the field. Supervisor also reported significant benefit to the program, including reports of increased competency in Supervisor skills, increased awareness of own biases and improved implementation of tools & strategies to promote ethical practice & supervision. - Conclusions: There needs to be a change in how Supervision is completed particularly when the Supervisor is white working with BIPOC supervisees, and/or a gender identity or sexual orientation different from their supervisees. Through this model, we anticipate that more BIPOC and 2SLGBTQIAP will want to enter and continue in this field which is needed for representation in our community for therapists and clients alike. This program also has impacts for ensuring ethical practice in Therapy and Supervision competencies and services. - Action/Impact: We would encourage others wishing to undertake Supervision and/or already offering Supervision to adopt and engage in a similar program model to reduce harms for BIPOC and/or 2SLGBTQIAP+ Supervisees.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124145 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Advocating for Our Profession: Cross-Provincial Discussions about Challenges and Developments within Canadian School Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Ford, Laurie

Additional Author: Soldovieri, Antonia K.

Abstract: *School psychology is a small yet impactful field which functions to connect students to critical learning and mental health services and supports in their schools. Across various Canadian provinces, evolving special education policies, changes to oversight and regulation of psychological practice by colleges, and challenges with recruitment and retention of professionals have influenced contemporary school psychology practice and shaped how services are provided. This has tangible impacts on the equitable access to services for marginalized communities which school-based services facilitate, and the future of school psychology as a profession within public education systems. The proposed conversation session will invite psychology and school psychology professionals, as well as student trainees to discuss and share insights about current approaches to service provision across provinces and identify common challenges and avenues for collaboration and advocacy. Discussion questions will seek to explore efforts toward establishing scope of practice, increasing the number of professionals working in public systems, liaising with local and national systems to support student populations, and understanding how school psychology practice looks across the country.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126239 - Conversation Session

Career Decision-Making Processes and Cultural Perspectives from East-Asian Counselling Psychologists in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Kim, Maria

Additional Author: Zhao, Xu

Abstract: *This study examines the experiences and perspectives of East Asian counselling psychologists in Canada on: career decision-making and cultural competency education in graduate training relating to supporting East Asian clients and communities. This qualitative research includes data from semi-structured interviews with 10 East-Asian identifying counseling psychologists in practice or training (active Counselling Psychology graduate students). Through Thematic Analysis (TA), key themes were identified related to the career-decision making, professional training, and professional practice experiences of the participants. The findings reveal gaps between current counseling practices and the cultural needs of East Asian communities including: greater representation of East Asian psychologists, importance of addressing shortcomings in cultural competency training within Canadian counseling psychology programs, and professional practice gaps existing within the field. This research offers a unique perspective from a group of minority psychologists that underscores the need for enhanced recruitment and training to foster greater diversity, equity, and inclusivity within the counseling psychology field. It highlights a crucial need for better preparing psychologists to effectively meet the complex mental health needs of underrepresented communities.This Round Table talk invites Asian Psychologists & psychologists working with Asian communities to share their experiences and build and enrich on the original study*

findings to identify keys areas of improvement within recruitment, training, and professional practice. Discussion from this talk will used to better inform ways the CPA Asian Psychology Section can better support the career development and professional practice of Section Members.

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 123361 - Conversation Session

Ethical Application of Artificial Intelligence in Counselling Psychology Practice, Research, and Teaching

Main Presenting Author: Park, Chan Jeong

Additional Authors: Chi, Eugene ; Sharma, Meera

Abstract: *Topic: The proposed roundtable will focus on the ethical implications of applying artificial intelligence (AI) to counselling psychology practice, research, and teaching.Novelty & Pertinence: With the rapid development of AI across all sectors, this technology has also been increasingly applied to mental health field (e.g., chatbots as virtual 'therapists'). Concerningly, many attempts to adapt AI into mental health services are occurring without sufficient consideration of ethical issues. This roundtable will create a space for a timely discussion about the ethics of AI use in counselling psychology.Purpose: Based on the authors' scoping review on this topic, the roundtable will facilitate dialogue about key ethical concerns relevant to the practice, research, and teaching of counselling psychology, with a focus on potential benefits and harms. In addition, the attendees will collaboratively explore emerging best practices for incorporating AI into counselling psychology in a manner that is ethically responsible and socially just.Relevance: This topic is relevant to psychology in Canada and globally, as practitioners, researchers, and educators are increasingly encountering AI-based tools in their work. Establishment of clear AI ethics will be needed to ensure integrity of our field.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125665 - Conversation Session

Fostering and Assessing Professionalism in School & Clinical Psychology Programs - Hits and Misses

Main Presenting Author: Rinaldi, Christina
Co-Presenting Author: Ford , Laurie

Additional Author: Pei , Jacqueline

Abstract: *In February 2023, CPA published the 6th revision of the Accreditation Standards for Doctoral and Residency Programs in Professional Psychology. In the new publication both Foundational and Functional competencies were identified as critical to education and training. Professionalism in school and clinical child psychology encompasses the development of a strong professional identity and the consistent demonstration of professional behaviour. For this round-table discussion, we will explore how instructors and supervisors foster graduate students' development as professionals in training. Specifically, we will review different ways of promoting (a) identity development, (b) maintenance of appropriate boundaries of competence, (c) openness to self-*

reflection, and (d) effective integration of feedback from others. Participants will consider common challenges-such as managing evolving priorities, meeting deadlines, and navigating complex or conflictual professional relationships, and the ways in which strong communication, accountability, and ethical congruence may be helpful strategies. We will also cover how professional programs cultivate trust through alignment between values and behaviour, and how they can support engagement in ongoing self-care and self-monitoring. By examining both barriers and successful strategies across varied training and practice contexts, this round table discussion aims to deepen our understanding of what supports or hinders the development of professionalism in the field for new clinicians.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125093 - Conversation Session

Professors Unleashed II: An Even More Candid Discussion About Academic Careers

Main Presenting Author: Sinacore , Ada L
Co-Presenting Authors: Ford , Laurie; Danto, David

Abstract: *Building on the 2025 roundtable, this presentation examines divergent career trajectories in school, counselling, and clinical psychology within higher education. The presenters bring distinct disciplinary perspectives, leadership experience, and longstanding involvement with the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA). Professor Ada L. Sinacore of McGill University, a former CPA President, brings extensive experience in counselling psychology, feminist theory, equity-focused pedagogy, and international engagement, shaping national conversations on human rights and the evolving role of counselling psychology. Laurie Ford, Director of Training for the School and Applied Child Psychology Program at the University of British Columbia and Chair of the CPA Accreditation Panel, contributes expertise in school psychology, program development, and accreditation. Professor David Danto, Dean of Health and Community Studies at MacEwan University, is a clinical psychologist specializing in reconciliation, and culturally grounded service delivery. He offers insight into how professional associations can advance reconciliation and systemic change. Together, the presenters will facilitate a roundtable exploring how training pathways, association leadership, clinical practice, and broader social responsibilities shape diverse career paths in psychology.*

Section: *Psychology Careers and Professionals*
Session ID: 124155 - Conversation Session

Psychometrists in Atlantic Canada: Potential and Challenges

Main Presenting Author: Barker, Conor
Co-Presenting Author: Reeve, Catherine

Additional Authors: Wright, Alicia ; Fisher, Derek; Lackner, Christine

Abstract: *Topic of Discussion. This roundtable will examine findings from our recent mixed-methods study reviewing perspectives from 159 registered psychologists across Atlantic Canada on the role, value, and risks of integrating psychometrists into assessment services. The discussion will focus on how psychologists currently use psychometrists, the perceived potential of psychometry, and the conditions needed for safe, effective implementation.Novelty and Pertinence. Despite increasing mental-health needs and prolonged assessment wait times, there is limited empirical research on how*

Canadian psychologists view psychometrists. Our paper provides one of the first explorations of professional attitudes in Atlantic Canada, offering new insight into a topic that is both timely and contested. The perspectives of Atlantic psychologists reveal notable tensions: enthusiasm about improved efficiency and access, alongside concerns about credentialing, supervision, and public protection. These divergences make the topic especially pertinent for open discussion.Purpose of the Session. The goal of this roundtable is to engage participants in interpreting and extending the study's findings. We aim to identify areas of agreement, clarify concerns raised by Atlantic psychologists, and discuss the implications for training, regulation, and workforce planning. Input from attendees will help guide next steps in evaluating the feasibility of developing a psychometry training program in Atlantic Canada.Relevance to Psychology in CanadaThe perspectives of practicing psychologists are essential to understanding how psychometry could evolve within Canadian service systems. Insights from this regional survey have relevance beyond Atlantic Canada, informing national conversations about innovative workforce models, collaborative assessment practices, and strategies to improve access to psychological services.Risks Associated With the Topic. The study highlights risks that must be carefully considered, including inconsistent training models, variable supervision capacity, role ambiguity, and concerns about protecting the public in the absence of regulation. The roundtable will address these issues directly, using the perspectives of Atlantic psychologists to frame a balanced discussion of both promise and caution.

Section: *Psychology Careers and Professionals*
Session ID: 125193 - Conversation Session

Public Safety or Security Theatre (2.0)?: Professional Psychology Registration Requirements in Ontario

Main Presenting Author: Maeder, Evelyn
Co-Presenting Author: Hassan, Sabrina

Abstract: *At the 2023 CPA Convention, we analyzed professional psychology's criminal history disclosure requirement as a public safety measure vs. a form of security theatre (Schneier, 2003), noting ways this disproportionately affects marginalized groups. Now, the same question arises with challenges levied against the registration modernization proposals by the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario. The provincial association and CPA have taken stances against these proposals, stating "psychologists are uniquely qualified in…providing…specialized care that protects public safety," and arguing that "reducing our training standards...could negatively impact patient outcomes." Similar claims have permeated the discourse, despite a lack of data demonstrating differing outcomes as a function of entry-to-practice requirements across provinces, and clear data demonstrating disparities in mental health outcomes across demographic groups (e.g., Mental Health Commission of Canada, 2016), increasing wait times for children in Ontario requiring mental healthcare (Office of the Auditor General of Ontario, 2025), and racial disparities in scoring on registration exams (e.g., Sharpless, 2025). Participants will be asked to consider the profession's reaction to the proposed registration modernization, with a focus on public safety/security theatre and (under)representation.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 123967 - Conversation Session

Re-Examination of CPA's Definition of Counselling Psychology in Canada: Shifting Landscapes and New Possibilities

Main Presenting Author: Van Vliet, K. Jessica
Co-Presenting Author: Foskett, Allison

Additional Authors: Lengyell, Marguerite ; Park, Chan Jeong; Copithorne, Jenica; Chi, Eugene; Yohani, Sophie

Abstract: *In the nearly two decades since Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) adopted the initial definition of counselling psychology in Canada (Bedi et al., 2011), much has changed in the discipline and in the landscape of Canada more broadly. Therefore, in 2024, the Counselling Psychology Section of CPA launched a working group to review and potentially recommend updates to the Section's current definition of counselling psychology. This round table conversation session begins with a discussion of the rationale for this initiative, such as the crucial need to ensure that the definition aligns with the Truth and Reconciliation Committee's (TRC; 2015) Calls to Action, along with CPA's (2018) response to the TRC report. We then provide an update on the working group's progress, followed by a facilitated discussion in which attendees are encouraged to share their feedback and perspectives. As an important part of the consultation process, the insights that emerge from this conversation will help inform the working group's ongoing efforts.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124032 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

AI assistants: Keeping psychology in the room

Moderator(s): Sira, Claire

Panelists: Joanisse, Melanie; Drahovzal, Deanna; Manescu, Simona

Abstract: *AI assistants have burst into healthcare practices all over the country. Scribes, summaries, action plans, report drafts and diagnostic considerations. Consent is minimal, policies for psychologists may be absent, and there is a lack of understanding of the implications for clients and for the providers who use these tools. Attendees will hear how AI can assist psychologists to provide high quality evidence based care in different settings. Suggestions on how to ensure users continue to build clinical skills (i.e. prevention of avoidance of developing strong clinical conceptualization skills in trainees and early career as well as prevention of erosion of skills in more experienced psychologists).Clinical Psychologists's role is under threat in Canada. There is a decline in the understanding of what psychologists uniquely provide. Failure to modernize psychological practice and integrate AI effectively may erode the perceived professional value of doctoral-level psychologists.There are clear ethical risks to using AI chatbots and AI tools that have been created without sufficient guidance from psychological experts who have sufficient training to understand the psychometric, diagnostic, and ethical risks. Psychologists are uniquely positioned to influence the development of guardrails and feedback loops within closed systems that are trained and controlled to reduce bias, errors, and premature closure of decision making. Psychologists must seek out a role in the development of AI tools to ensure science and ethics remain at the forefront.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125484 - Panel Discussion

Entre deux langues : enjeux de formation et de pratique pour la relève francophone en psychologie

Moderator(s): Mazerolle, Marie-Pier

Panelists: Burcar, Andrew; McLaughlin, Chloé; Roy-Charland, Annie

Abstract: *La francophonie et le bilinguisme occupent une place essentielle en psychologie au Canada, mais demeurent peu discutés malgré leur impact sur l'équité, la formation et la qualité des services. Ce panel aborde un enjeu à la fois pertinent et parfois contentieux : les défis vécus par les étudiant.e.s et clinicien.ne.s francophones dans un milieu largement anglophone. La discussion explorera l'accès limité aux ressources éducatives et professionnelles, les obstacles à la recherche en français, les tensions entourant l'offre de services bilingues et l'effet du travail en langue minoritaire sur l'identité professionnelle. L'objectif est de créer un espace de réflexion pour comprendre ces enjeux, partager des expériences et proposer des pistes d'action afin d'améliorer l'inclusion linguistique dans la formation, la recherche et la pratique clinique. Les enjeux d'équité linguistique seront également abordés.Ce panel vise finalement à renforcer la place du français en psychologie et à soutenir la relève francophone au Canada.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 124940 - Panel Discussion

Joint Panel - Students in Psychology and Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centers Section - The Future of Clinical Psychology in Canada: Regulation, Training, and Entry-to-Practice Standards

Moderator(s): Ilie, Alzena

Panelists: Graff, Lesley A.; Cohen, Jacquie; Weiss, Jonathan A.; Ford, Laurie; Narvaez Linares, Nicolás Francisco

Abstract: *Background: The landscape of becoming a clinical psychologist in Canada is at a critical turning point. The proposed changes from the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario have generated national concern due to their departure from the National Standard of Entry to Practice, longstanding CPA standards, and established regulatory practices in other provinces. These shifts raise ethical and regulatory questions about public protection, training consistency across provinces, and the integrity of the profession. Given that Ontario has the second-largest number of psychologists in Canada, potential changes to its regulatory framework will have significant implications for other jurisdictions.Aim: This joint panel will bring together professionals from across Canada to discuss regulation, training, professional standards, and the future of psychological practice. The panel will explore national considerations, barriers to regulation, and opportunities for advocacy, while inviting the audience to ask questions and discuss the impacts of rapidly changing entry-to-practice policies. The goal is to foster cross-province dialogue and help attendees understand both immediate concerns and longer-term implications for the profession.Implications: As conversations about regulatory change continue across graduate programs and training sites, the panel aims to give student and clinician attendees a clearer*

understanding of national considerations, potential challenges, collaborative next steps to strengthen the profession of psychology, and to ensure Canadians receive the most appropriate evidence-based psychological care.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 122871 - Panel Discussion

Navigating Career Pathways and Professional Development in Health Psychology: Lessons Learned from Early Training to Late-Career

Moderator(s): Trask, Cheryl M.

Panelists: Tulk, Josh; Alberts, Nicole; Gouin, Jean-Philippe; Bacon, Simon; Ross, Kharah M.

Abstract: *Trainees and early-career professionals in health psychology and behavioural medicine face a series of challenging transitions-from choosing a graduate program and preparing for match day to submitting dissertations and navigating the job market. Career paths in this field vary widely, shaped by mentorship, training environments, clinical demands, and opportunities that emerge-or fail to emerge-along the way. With limited access to professional development resources and many first-generation students entering the field, early-career professionals are often left to navigate these decisions on their own. This panel brings together speakers across the career spectrum to discuss how they found their career path, why they chose them, and what they wish they had known earlier. Discussion topics will include decision-making with or without strong supervisory guidance, shifting between clinical and non-clinical roles, finding mentors, and working across academic, medical, and interdisciplinary settings. Attendees will be invited to ask questions about graduate school, training experiences, and career planning. Attendees will gain insight into the realities of career exploration-from trainee to senior scientist-and how diverse paths can lead to meaningful, sustainable work in health psychology and behavioural medicine.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125763 - Panel Discussion

Navigating Graduate School Applications and Funding in Psychology: Insights from Faculty and Students

Moderator(s): Mazerolle, Marie-Pier

Panelists: Ames, Megan E.; Pencer, Alissa H.; Dirks, Melanie; Howard, Andrea L; Ilie, Alzena

Abstract: *Applying to graduate school in psychology can feel overwhelming, especially given the competitiveness of programs and the many funding mechanisms applicants must navigate. This panel brings together faculty members from clinical and experimental psychology, along with a current doctoral student, to provide clear, practical guidance on preparing strong and competitive applications. Topics will include identifying fit with supervisors and programs, crafting compelling personal statements, building research experience, navigating reference letters, and preparing for interviews. Panellists will also outline key funding opportunities at the master's and doctoral levels, including federal and provincial awards, internal scholarships, how to craft an effective funding application, and how to find unique funding opportunities. The session will also touch on common misconceptions about admissions, and ways to strengthen your application over time. Attendees will*

have the opportunity to ask questions and gain insights from both faculty and student perspectives. This panel aims to demystify graduate school applications, support equitable access to training, and help students approach the process with confidence and clarity. Undergraduate students preparing to apply to graduate school and graduate students seeking funding opportunities are encouraged to attend.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 121102 - Panel Discussion

Navigating Self-Disclosure in Academia and Clinical Spaces

Moderator(s): Egodage, Kethmi

Panelists: Debrosse, Regine; Wiseheart , Melody ; Muyingo, Lydia ; Grove, Monica

Abstract: *Self-disclosure plays a complex and often under-discussed role in academic and clinical psychology. While disclosure can promote authenticity, trust, and connection, it also raises ethical and professional challenges-particularly for students and faculty from marginalized and racialized backgrounds. This panel explores how individuals navigate decisions about sharing aspects of their identities and experiences in professional, research, and training contexts. Panelists will discuss how self-disclosure intersects with issues of ethics, professionalism, mentorship, and identity development across both clinical and academic settings. The topic is both timely and contentious, as ongoing conversations about equity, representation, and power dynamics challenge traditional notions of professionalism in psychology. Through diverse perspectives from clinical training and broader psychological disciplines, this discussion aims to deepen understanding of the relational and systemic factors shaping self-disclosure and to identify ways programs can foster environments that balance professionalism with authenticity, equity, and psychological safety. While sensitive topics may arise, the panel will approach these discussions respectfully, acknowledging the potential emotional and professional risks of disclosure while modeling supportive, reflexive engagement.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 123176 - Panel Discussion

Practice Meets Purpose: Exploring the PsyD Training Model in the Maritimes

Moderator(s): King, Sara

Panelists: Richard, Jacques; Hoersting, Raquel; McGonnell, Melissa

Abstract: *As a profession, psychology is at a critical point. Ongoing shortages of psychologists in provincial public health care systems mean that psychological services for complex mental health concerns in both children and adults are increasingly difficult to access. Meanwhile, accessing private psychological services is financially prohibitive for many Canadians. In response to these shortages and inaccessibility, it has been suggested that educational and licensing standards should be loosened to increase the number of psychologists entering the workforce and/or to make it less taxing and time-consuming to attain full licensure or registration. This suggestion has been met with skepticism and dismay by individual psychologists and professional associations, who argue that loosening educational and licensing standards could pose significant risk to the public. In their recent position paper, the Canadian Psychological Association restate their long-standing recommendation that the doctoral degree be the entry-level qualification for professional psychology practice in Canada and*

indicate support for Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) programs to increase the number of professional psychologists entering the health care system to meet the increasing demand for mental health services across the country. The PsyD model has been successfully implemented for several years in the Atlantic provinces, with NB, NL, and PE all currently offering programs and NS planning to begin PsyD training in September 2026. Representatives from current PsyD programs at Université de Moncton and University of PEI, as well as from the forthcoming program at Mount Saint Vincent University will discuss the development and unique features of their programs, as well as strengths and challenges of the PsyD model, relevance of the PsyD model to current health care needs in Canada, and future directions. Session attendees will be encouraged to engage with panel members in a discussion about the potential for the PsyD to change the landscape of professional psychology training in Canada and to facilitate meaningful changes in our current mental health care system.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123998 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

"Sometimes there's a grey zone": Exploring psychologists' performance validity beliefs and practices

Main Presenting Author: Wright, Jenna L.
Co-Presenting Author: LaChapelle, Diane

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Assessment practice guidelines recommend the inclusion of embedded and standalone performance validity measures in cognitive assessment to detect noncredible performance. Surveys have shown performance validity assessment by neuropsychologists, but practices outside neuropsychology are understudied. This study used a qualitative approach to explore psychologists' decision-making and beliefs. Methods: Interviews were conducted with 25 Canadian psychologists whose clinical practice included cognitive assessment. Results: Interview transcripts were analyzed using thematic analyses. Markedly variable specific practices were reported, and assessment of performance validity was lower than expected. Participants' performance validity practices were influenced by training, contextual factors, emotional reactions, faith in clinical judgment, perceived benefits, and practical considerations. Conclusions: Psychologists rely on clinical judgments and approach performance validity on a case-by-case basis.Action/Impact: This suggests training is essential to address barriers to performance validity assessment within and outside neuropsychology, as well as to increase consistency in practices across psychologists. Training should prepare psychologists to navigate the ambiguities inherent in assessing performance validity.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124728 - Printed Poster

Bridging Theory and Practice: Clinician Experience and Confidence in Applying the Core Dimensions Model Of OCD

Main Presenting Author: Kasprzak, Emilia

Additional Authors: Puccinelli, Christina ; Rowa, Karen

Abstract: *The Core Dimensions Model (CDM) conceptualizes obsessive-compulsive disorder as driven by two motivational systems: harm avoidance (HA; preventing negative outcomes) and incompleteness (INC; alleviating "not-just-right" feelings) (Summerfeldt et al., 2014). These dimensions inform how exposure and response prevention (ERP) interventions are applied. Although the CDM has received empirical support, preliminary analyses revealed moderate clinical translation; however, it remains unclear whether this gap may be explained by clinician experience in treating OCD. This study investigated whether lifetime OCD caseload was associated with clinician confidence and use of CDM-informed approaches. Clinicians (N=186) were grouped as less experienced (1-50 OCD clients; n=108; 58%) or more experienced (51+ clients; n=78; 42%). More experienced clinicians reported significantly higher confidence in applying ERP for both HA ($t = -4.86$, $p < .001$) and INC presentations ($t = -6.08$, $p < .001$). However, clinician experience was not related to greater CDM integration; no significant group differences emerged in CDM use for case conceptualization ($t = 0.62$, $p = .53$) or treatment planning ($t = 0.85$, $p = .40$). These findings highlight the opportunity to enhance CDM informed conceptualization and intervention through targeted training and dissemination for clinicians.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123922 - Printed Poster

Effects of an Association-Based Ethical Guidance Program:A Measurement-Based Approach to Professional Guidance in Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Rorem, Annika K
Co-Presenting Author: Gill, Harpreet K

Additional Authors: Juneja, Jiya ; Hanson, William E

Abstract: *Provincial and territorial psychology associations provide essential ethics consultation services, yet their effects remain understudied. This study evaluates the Psychologists' Association of Alberta's (PAA) professional ethics guidance Program. PAA is Canada's largest provincial association and, last year, received 31 brief ethics consultation requests and 83 full consultations. Grounded in CPA's 10-Step Ethical Decision-Making Model and empirically based processes associated with sounds decisions, this study examines changes in ethical clarity, confidence, moral distress, connections to other psychologists, and intention to apply ethical principles. Three research questions guide the study: (1) To what extent is PAA's professional guidance program effective? (2) How does the program help psychologists make better ethical decisions? (3) Do qualitative interview data help explain the quantitative results? To answer these questions, the study uses a Sequential Explanatory Mixed Methods design (Hanson, Creswell, Plano Clark, & Petska, 2005). Data analysis is ongoing and will be completed by April 2026. The poster will present full results, visualizations, and practice recommendations, as well as copies of the pre/post instruments.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125498 - Printed Poster

Empirical Research on Canadian Counselling Psychology: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Siaoman, Nathanael
Co-Presenting Author: Chen, Hsin

Additional Authors: Shima, Tsubasa ; Bedi, Robinder; Fornwald, Emily

Abstract: *Almost all research on counselling psychology centers on the United States, leaving little consolidated knowledge about professional or disciplinary issues (i.e., meta-issues) in other countries such as Canada. Only two prior scoping reviews were identified on meta-issues in counselling psychology, neither of which synthesized evidence on Canadian counselling psychology (CCP). This scoping review mapped and synthesized empirical research on CCP meta-issues to clarify the field's evidence base, including its extent, range, and nature. Six databases and grey literature were searched to identify empirical studies explicitly examining CCP meta-issues. Two independent reviewers screened and extracted the data using Covidence, with discrepancies resolved by the first author. Across 39 articles, results show that CCP meta-issues research comprises national and provincial descriptive studies and program-level analyses mapping identity, training structures, and workforce characteristics. This literature is diverse in scope, showing that CCP is uniform in training model but not in practice patterns, highlighting a still-developing professional identity marked by under-resourcing and evolving infrastructure. These findings support coordinated national action to strengthen training and regulatory infrastructure to enhance further CCP's visibility, coherence, and capacity across Canada.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124652 - Printed Poster

Exploring Novice Counsellors' Perceptions of Low Income on Client Well-Being in Ontario

Main Presenting Author: Ferreira, Victoria B

Additional Authors: Lengyell, Marguerite ; Finnigan, Charlotte; Jay, Melissa; Brown, Jason

Abstract: *This study examines how novice counsellors in Ontario perceive the impact of low income on client well-being, addressing gaps in understanding how clinicians conceptualize systemic economic barriers early on in therapeutic practice. Low income often limits access to food, housing, and quality healthcare, contributing to heightened stress, anxiety, depression, and reduced overall well-being. Despite extensive literature on social determinants of health, little is known about how novice counsellors integrate systemic awareness into practice.Using a mixed-methods concept-mapping design, counsellors with 0-5 years of experience generated statements in response to the prompt, "In what ways does low income affect well-being?" Participants completed a group sorting activity, and data were analyzed using Multidimensional Scaling and hierarchical cluster analysis.Results revealed six conceptual domains: physical and mental health impacts, resource insecurity, barriers to services, effects on higher-order functioning, impacts on self-perception and interpersonal relationships, and systemic oppression. While counsellors recognized individual-level impacts, structural awareness was less consistent, highlighting areas for targeted anti-oppressive training.The study concludes that although novice counsellors acknowledge broader effects of low income, gaps remain in recognizing structural inequities. Findings informed recommendations for integrating socially responsive, anti-oppressive training to better equip counsellors to address income-related disparities in mental health care.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125221 - Printed Poster

From Distress Reduction to Distress Tolerance: Are Clinicians Adopting the Field's Theoretical Shift in Exposure and Response Prevention for OCD?

Main Presenting Author: Langhorne, Vivienne

Additional Author: Kasprzak, Emilia

Abstract: *Contemporary models of exposure and response prevention (ERP) for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) have shifted from a habituation-based focus on distress reduction toward an inhibitory learning framework emphasizing distress tolerance. Whether this shift is reflected in clinical practice remains unclear. This study examined clinicians' conceptualization of ERP's primary therapeutic target. Practicing clinicians (N = 182; 79.9% female; M = 13.3 years' experience; caseloads ranging 1-200+ OCD cases) reported whether ERP aims to reduce distress, build tolerance, or integrate both. Results showed that ~1% endorsed pure distress reduction, 6-8% primarily reduction, 33-40% a mixed model, and 52-61% predominantly or exclusively distress tolerance. A linear regression tested whether years of experience predicted distress orientation; experience was not a significant predictor (β = .054, p = .469). These findings suggest that the field's theoretical shift toward inhibitory learning and distress tolerance is reflected in real-world practice and appears consistent across experience levels. This supports the impact of initiatives to align clinical training, supervision, and guidelines with tolerance-focused, inhibitory-learning-based approaches to ERP.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122970 - Printed Poster

Graduate Students' Perceptions of The Use of AI in Counselling Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Kerr, Charlotte

Additional Author: Malkin, Albert

Abstract: *Artificial intelligence (AI) has been rapidly integrated into mental health care, outpacing research and raising concerns about technology, ethics, and human well-being. The potential benefits and risks of AI in counselling psychology are particularly relevant to graduate students who will shape the future of the field. This cross-sectional study addresses how master's-level counselling psychology students at Western University perceive the use of ChatGPT in practice and research contexts, comparing perspectives from 2023 and 2025.Data was collected from two separate graduate cohorts (n = 14) in November 2023 and January 2025 through focus groups where participants discussed their perceptions of GenerativeAI in counselling psychology. Concluding in the spring, an inductive reflexive thematic analysis will be conducted using NVivo to identify themes and changes in participant responses, following Braun and Clarke's (2006) six-step framework.As therapists enter an increasingly digital world transformed by AI, graduate student input is critical to inform recommendations on what the ethical use of AI can look like to complement human expertise while protecting users' privacy, consent, and integrity.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125259 - Printed Poster

Procedural steps to obtaining an interpreter in Canadian suspect interviews.

Main Presenting Author: Ferguson, Brooklyn A

Additional Authors: Leach, Amy ; Villeneuve, Katrina; McArthur, Claudia

Abstract: *Despite the high prevalence of interviews involving the use of interpreters in Canada, there is a lack of research in this area. Research in other countries indicated that there were no formal procedures to obtaining interpreters, the decision to involve interpreters was mainly based on the interviewing officers' perceptions of interviewees' language proficiencies, and the interpreters were often untrained (e.g., Howes, 2020; Wakefield et al., 2015). We examined interpreter procedures in Canadian suspect interviews.We recruited 21 Canadian police officers to participate in an online Qualtrics survey. Univariate statistics were conducted on questions relating to the decision to use an interpreter, the interpreter's training, and the interpreter's involvement.They revealed that, across Canada, there were no formal procedures to determine whether interpreters were needed for suspect interviews. Officers reported that the interviewing officer was the first person to decide that interpretation was needed, and that they typically asked a colleague to help interpret. As a result, the person interpreting often had information about the case in advance of the interview, which took place in person.Our work urges the Canadian criminal justice system to adopt formal procedures involving the use of interpreters to ensure fairness for all interviewees and adherence to the Charter.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123393 - Printed Poster

Randomized Controlled Trial of the ©Violence, Evidence, Guidance, Action (VEGA) Project Family Violence Education Resources

Main Presenting Author: Newton, Carl

Additional Author: Romano, Elisa

Abstract: *Background: Family violence is a serious issue in Canada and worldwide, with long-reaching consequences for affected children and adults. Despite its impacts, family violence is often under-addressed in clinical practice, with trainees receiving inconsistent education in assessment and response. VEGA Resources is an online education resource that provides evidence-informed learning in recognizing and responding to family violence for healthcare and social service professionals. The current study evaluates the effectiveness of VEGA Resources on the attitudes, knowledge, and clinical behaviours of graduate students in Canadian clinical, counselling, school, and clinical neuropsychology programs. Methods: Using a randomized controlled trial, there are pre- and post-data on family violence attitudes/knowledge, self-efficacy, and willingness to use evidence-based interventions for 84 students randomly assigned to VEGA Resources or a waitlist control. Repeated measures ANOVA will evaluate group differences. Results: Preliminary analyses suggest that participants responded favourably to VEGA Resources. There also appear to be improvements in knowledge, with pre- and post-VEGA scores of 79% and 89% respectively. Impact: Findings are expected to have implications for curriculum development and training of students in clinical and related fields of psychology.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 126113 - Printed Poster

Stages in Becoming Autistic Psychotherapists: A Grounded Theory Study

Main Presenting Author: Cooper, Max

Additional Author: Watson, Jeanne

Abstract: *Scattered reports in the grey literature from self-identified autistic psychotherapists speak to experiences of stigma and non-disclosure to workplaces or colleagues. No known empirical research has examined the experiences of individuals practicing as psychotherapists who are on the autism spectrum. To address this gap, 16 licensed practicing psychotherapists in Canada, U.K., and U.S., identifying as autistic completed one-hour semi-structured interviews on their personal and professional experiences. Transcript data was analyzed using grounded theory; initial line-by-line coding produced 1400 meaning units; subsequent focused coding organized codes into a coherent model containing 89 hierarchically-sorted categories. The core category, Becoming an Autistic Psychotherapist, contained four stages: early life; training; empathy & burnout; and authentic therapy practice. Participants detailed overcoming challenges within each life stage. They reported neuro-normative feedback during training and a lack of understanding of their needs as an autistic student. Participants endorsed a preference for working with a neurodivergent client population, and drawing from their own lived experiences of stigma to support clients. Recommendations are provided for training programs and workplaces to better accommodate neurodivergent therapists and trainees.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125220 - Printed Poster

The In-Session Experiences of Self-Critical Novice Psychotherapists

Main Presenting Author: Whelton, William
Co-Presenting Author: Sharpe, Donald

Additional Author: Desgagne, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Background: Self-criticism (SC) is a relatively stable personality trait whose defining feature is negative self-evaluation (Zuroff et al., 2016). Those individuals high in trait SC judge themselves harshly when they fall short of their excessively high standards (Blatt & Zuroff, 1992). Novice therapists report diverse psychotherapy experiences, including both adaptive and maladaptive SC (Karris & Kim, 2022). Rationale: Personality traits more so than professional factors are strongly associated with novice therapists' clinical experiences (Orlinsky et al., 2024). Yet, to date, no researchers have examined the in-session experiences of novice therapists with varying levels of trait SC. The present study compared the in-session experiences of highly self-critical novice therapists to those of less self-critical novice therapists. Methods: Five novice therapists completed Interpersonal Process Recall interviews, describing their in-session experiences. Results: Using reflexive thematic analysis, seven key differences between therapists high and low in trait SC were identified, including performance expectations, perceived competence, and reactions to success and failure. Conclusions: Our findings offer novel insights into how trait SC influences the in-session experiences of novice therapists. Action: We offer training recommendations for highly self-critical novice therapists.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123288 - Printed Poster

What will you do with that psych degree? Understanding the career goals, underlying motivations, and changes in desired career paths of Canadian psychology undergrads

Main Presenting Author: Martin, Jodi

Additional Authors: Kountouros, Toula ; Couto, Noah J; Yeboah, Afrika; Shah, Raima; Jabr, Mohammed ; Ferrara, Gillian; Zainab, Afifa

Abstract: *Despite calls for psychology programs to support students' career development, little is known about Canadian psychology undergraduate students' career goals.To address this knowledge gap, 822 students and 195 alumni from a large Ontario psychology undergraduate program completed online surveys about desired career paths, motivations for career paths, and factors contributing to changes in career goals.Mental health professional was the most common desired career path for both students (25.7%) and alumni (54.1%), followed by researcher (20% students, 10% alumni), teacher (13% students, 9% alumni), and social worker (10% students, 5% alumni). Anticipated self-fulfillment of a career path was the most common underlying motivation reported by students (58%) and alumni (93%), followed by anticipated salary (57% students, 74% alumni), and ease of achieving the career (46% students, 48% alumni). Only 6% of current students had changed their initial desired career path compared to 51% of alumni; gaining awareness of other options (39% students, 35% alumni) and doubting one's capacity to achieve an initial desired career (20% students, 25% alumni) were the most frequent reasons for shifts in career goals.Better understanding trainees' career goals and their influencing factors early in training can better equip psychology programs to support their students' ultimate career success.*

Section: *Psychology Careers and Professionals*
Session ID: 124942 - Printed Poster

Winning Over Tomorrow's Psychologists: What Canada and Public Health Employers Need to Know

Main Presenting Author: Escobar, Sofia

Additional Authors: Brache, Kristina R.; Hawkins, Lana

Abstract: *Background: Recruiting and retaining psychologists in Canada's public health systems is increasingly challenging, with many graduates opting for private practice due to workload, compensation, and role flexibility. Existing research largely focuses on the experiences of hospital-based psychologists, highlighting retention challenges, but little is known about recruitment, specifically what motivates or discourages psychology graduate students to pursue careers in public health. Methods: We surveyed clinical and counselling psychology graduate students from universities across Canada using a mixed-method survey. The survey includes quantitative items ranking career and workplace priorities, perceived barriers, and incentives for different workplace settings, as well as open-ended questions exploring participants' perspectives on entering public health settings. Results: Descriptive statistics were used to identify key factors influencing career-setting choices, perceived barriers to public health employment, and conditions that would encourage psychology*

students to join the sector. Open-ended responses were analyzed for recurrent themes. Conclusions/Impact: The findings illustrate recruitment-related motivations and barriers, and offer evidence-based recommendations for public health organizations to attract the next generation of psychologists.

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 123974 - Printed Poster

Review Session

Building a Thriving and Inclusive Private Practice: Strategies for Growth, Diversity, and Community Impact

Main Presenting Author: Sunderani, Shafik

Additional Authors: Amir Pour, Rose ; Faisal, Sarah ; Raghunath, Rakshita

Abstract: *Launching and sustaining a successful private practice requires more than clinical expertise-it demands strategic planning, cultural awareness, and community engagement. This session explores key elements of building a modern, inclusive practice from the ground up. We will examine how to recruit and retain a diverse, multilingual team that reflects community demographics and enhances accessibility. Participants will discuss how locational factors and tiered pricing models can expand reach and reduce barriers to care. Practical marketing strategies will be outlined, including organic approaches-such as authentic storytelling, community workshops, and local partnerships-and inorganic methods such as Google Ads, SEO optimization, and directory management. Additional topics include ethical branding, reputation building, social media presence, and measuring outcomes of outreach initiatives. Through collaborative discussion, attendees will gain actionable tools to develop a practice that is financially sustainable, ethically grounded, and socially responsive to the diverse needs of the populations it serves.*

Section: *Psychology Careers and Professionals*
Session ID: 124811 - Review Session

Strengthening Clinical Supervision with Indigenous Pedagogy

Main Presenting Author: Wawrykow, Natasha

Abstract: *Clinical supervision is an opportunity for knowledge development in therapeutic skills, treatment planning and evaluation, ethical guidance, and professional development. This is a safe and constructive space for the supervisee to discuss their case conceptualizations, emotional reactions, and treatment choices. Something that is not standard to clinical supervision relationships, are discussions related to culture, Indigenization, and impact of colonization, marginalization, oppression, and/or racism. These elements can impact case conceptualizations, therapeutic alliance, and the supervisee's own professional development. To facilitate supervision dialogue on these topics, Indigenous pedagogical approaches, framed through the lens of medicine wheel teachings, will be reviewed. In 2023, the Canadian Psychological Association Accreditation Standards for Doctoral and Residency Programs in Professional Psychology introduced the foundational competency of "Indigenous Interculturalism". This competency requires training and education on working alongside Indigenous Peoples, and inclusion of Indigenous worldviews, practices, values, and voices. This presentation, we will discuss methods of educating supervisors to support supervisee skill development*

in Indigenous Interculturalism. In addition, resources for self-reflection and reconciliation promotion will be provided.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123096 - Review Session

Snapshot

5 Tips for Teaching with Artificial Intelligence in 5 Minutes

Main Presenting Author: Norris, Meghan E

Abstract: *Teaching practices are rapidly evolving as Generative AI becomes integrated in everyday life. In Canada, 73% of students now report using GenAI in their school work, up from 59% who reported using GenAI in 2024 (KPMG). Taking a proactive approach to getting teaching methods into the hands of instructors for consideration, in this snapshot, 5 teaching practices will be reviewed to give instructors ready-made ideas that can be easily put into practice. Topics covered include strategies for 1) how to teach about the intersections between GenAI and the CPA Ethics Code, 2) teach writing, 3) evaluate methods, 4) build critical thinking, and 5) ethical detection strategies for fraudulent use of GenAI. Where possible, OER versions of assignments will be shared.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 124997 - Snapshot

The Status of Women Cognitive Scientists in Canada 6 Years Later: Insights From Publicly Available Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Funding Data

Main Presenting Author: Yang, Michelle

Additional Authors: Pexman, Penny ; Titone, Debra

Abstract: *Our study examines gender disparities in the allocation of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) funding to cognitive scientists. It expands on previous work by Titone et al. (2018) with updated data from 2016 to 2023. By analyzing publicly available funding data, we assessed trends in NSERC awards distribution across different career stages. Our analyses revealed that while women receive more student research awards at the undergraduate and graduate levels, significant gender disparities persist at senior levels, where men continue to receive more Discovery Grants and higher funding amounts. With respect to changes in recent years, the postdoctoral fellowship awards showed increased gender parity. As well, early career researchers have seen a shift towards gender parity, indicating some success in the efforts to support up-and coming researchers. Thus, while progress has been made, further actions are necessary to bridge gender gaps in research funding and to support the long term career development of women cognitive scientists.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123508 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

Alternative student recruitment - thinking outside the box

Main Presenting Author: Monson, Eva

Additional Author: Scheurich, Rebecca

Abstract: *Recruiting motivated graduate students is an ongoing challenge, particularly for early-career researchers who may have limited networks or teaching opportunities. Traditional approaches - such as waiting for students to initiate contact, relying on classroom exposure, or posting on social media - often fall short. This workshop explores alternative strategies for engaging students in research, focusing on structured programs, hands-on skill development, mentorship opportunities, and pathways that actively prepare and encourage students to join research teams. Participants will reflect on their own practical challenges when it comes to graduate student recruitment, such as time, planning, and personnel. Addressing these challenges through collaborative problem-solving, discussions will focus on how alternative strategies can be adapted and integrated into their own recruitment processes.Learning objectives:(1) Understand the limitations of conventional recruitment methods and the potential advantages of alternative strategies;(2) Reflect on personal and institutional challenges that affect graduate student recruitment; and(3) Identify practical approaches for designing and implementing structured programs or initiatives that enhance student engagement and readiness to join research teams.*

Section: *Psychology Careers and Professionals*
Session ID: 123780 - Standard Workshop

I Finished My Research, Now What? Exploring the Peer-Review and Publication Process in Academic Psychology Journals

Main Presenting Author: Arshinoff, Spencer
Co-Presenting Authors: Bossom, Isabella R. L.; Nasseri, Anisa; Yang, Stanford

Additional Author: Tan, Jaron X.Y.

Abstract: *Ok, so you've conducted your first research study…now what? Publishing research is crucial for a career in psychology, but is overwhelming for students new to academic writing and the peer review process. The aim of this workshop is to make the publication process more transparent, approachable, and even enjoyable. It will be led by the associate editors of the CPA's student-led journal, Mind Pad: graduate students in psychology who have been on both sides of the publication process. Through collaborative activities and open discussion, attendees will learn about the purpose and value of publishing peer-reviewed research, and gain a step-by-step understanding of how to prepare and submit a manuscript. The workshop will cover topics like finding the right journal fit, responding effectively to reviewer feedback, and applying key principles of open science and ethical publishing (e.g., pre-registration, data sharing, and authorship standards). Finally, attendees will learn how to prepare and submit their own work to Mind Pad. By the end of the workshop, attendees will be equipped with practical strategies and greater confidence in navigating the world of academic publishing. This workshop is suitable for undergraduate and graduate students of all psychology backgrounds.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 123347 - Standard Workshop

Motivation Hacking Your Studies: Research-Backed Strategies to Maintain Drive and Momentum

Main Presenting Author: Brilz, Alexandra R

Additional Author: Zieper, Taylor

Abstract: *Many students struggle to stay motivated through demanding and sometimes isolating academic journeys. Intense workloads, perfectionist tendencies, and personal challenges can erode focus and drive, leading to stalled progress, delayed graduation, and declining wellbeing. This interactive workshop introduces current research on academic motivation, exploring its mechanisms, why it falters for many students, and what can be done to promote and sustain it. Students will learn about evidence-based strategies for promoting motivation, such as clarifying meaningful goals, applying mental contrasting with implementation intentions, and if-then planning. Through hands-on reflection and collaborative work, students will apply these strategies to their own academic challenges. Following this workshop, students will not only understand the foundations of motivation as well as strategies to leverage and promote it, but they'll also develop practical plans tailored to their personal challenges with motivation as a student.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125826 - Standard Workshop

Professional and Personal Impacts of MAiD - a Workshop

Main Presenting Author: Chartier, Brian M

Abstract: *Requests for Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) have surged in jurisdictions that allow access to this medical procedure, especially in the US and Canada (Heidinger et al, 2025). Counsellors, psychologists, and therapists are seeing more clients seeking MAiD information and support, leading to psychological and emotional impacts on counsellors (Byrnes, Ross & Murphy, 2025; Winters et al. 2025). Beyond ethical concerns (Koocher, et al, 2023), counsellors face emotional distress, moral distress, compassion fatigue, influence on the therapeutic relationship, and challenges to their professional identity (Dholakia, Bagheri, & Simpson, 2022, Čartolovni et al, 2021). Support is needed to navigate these difficult situations. Moreover, counsellors should consider how their personal and professional beliefs affect clients seeking MAiD (Oliphant & Frolic, 2021). This workshop explores these issues using a challenging case where a client requests the counsellor's attendance during MAiD. The workshop involves individual reflection, small group dialogue, and a large group discussion. Two sets of questions guide reflection and discussion: one set of discussion questions focuses on the impact on counsellors, and the other set of questions focuses on managing these impacts. Participation will equip participants to better manage clients who are seeking access to MAiD.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124239 - Standard Workshop

Relational Charting for Psychologists: Defining and Teaching Ethical Documentation of Counselling Session Notes

Main Presenting Author: McBride, Dawn L

Abstract: *This 85-minute professional development workshop introduces psychologists to Relational Charting, an innovative documentation framework created by a Canadian psychologist as part of her textbook The Big Cs in Canadian Counselling Ethics. The framework distinguishes counselling session notes from other health records by emphasizing relational care, reflective subjectivity, and ethical transparency. The session is designed for psychologists and counsellors who document counselling sessions and who supervise interns learning to chart within these contexts.Documentation in counselling has been influenced by medical or investigative traditions that may not align with the relational and subjective aspects of therapeutic work. Participants will reflect on the purpose of counselling documentation, discuss common frustrations within the profession, and explore how Relational Charting can address them. The workshop aims to promote documentation practices that respect dignity, align with therapeutic goals, and enhance continuity of care.Following a review of relevant guidance in the CPA Code on documentation responsibilities, participants will examine how Relational Charting rethinks documentation through reflective pauses that foster careful discernment, collaborative writing practices that share power with clients, and strategies for managing the volume of material that arises in counselling sessions.This session will be relevant for psychologists across Canada seeking a clearer and more unified understanding of charting that aligns with counselling psychology practice.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123444 - Standard Workshop

Upgrade Your Self-Care Belief System: An Interactive Workshop to Help Psychologists Create More Sustainable Self-Care Practices

Main Presenting Author: Tiessen, Melissa
Co-Presenting Author: Dyck, Karen

Abstract: *This interactive workshop invites participants to re-examine the beliefs that shape their self-care practices-both personally and professionally. We will explore eight key belief shifts that we believe support sustainable, ethical, and values-aligned self-care. The workshop is intended for psychologists of all backgrounds and settings - whether clinicians in private practice, students, and those working in an academic, hospital, or other employment setting. Through a combination of brief teaching segments, guided reflection, and small-group discussion, participants will identify how gender, professional identity, and workplace culture influence their capacity to care for themselves. We will also discuss how to experiment with realistic, meaningful, "micro-practices" that can be integrated into everyday work. Participants will leave with greater clarity around their own self-care needs, a personalized self-care intention plan, and strategies for building supportive accountability within professional communities.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122757 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

Ethics Update 2026: Recent Developments and Emerging Issues

Moderator(s): Stewart, Donald W

Abstract: *Ethics Update is organized annually by the Committee on Ethics to highlight recent developments and emerging issues in psychological ethics. As 2026 marks the 40th anniversary of the Canadian Code of Ethics, our symposium celebrates this significant milestone by featuring three papers published in a Special Issue of Canadian Psychology marking the anniversary. The papers will be preceded by an introductory presentation highlighting the significance of the Code and honouring the Canadian psychologists who led its creation. The first paper presents the results of a scoping review looking at research, applications, and future directions for academic inquiry related to the Code. The second paper examines the need for updated data ethics in psychology, highlighting concerns with the use of Amazon's Mechanical Turk for data collection and the use of microtargeting for recruitment on social media. The third paper looks at the novel and complex ethical dilemmas posed by psychedelic treatments-including heightened vulnerability of patients, altered power differentials and relational risks, and issues with continuous and informed consent-and how the Code's principles apply and are challenged within this emerging practice area. Following the presentation of these papers, the audience will have the opportunity to comment and ask questions.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124966 - Symposium

40th Anniversary of the Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists: Recalling the Past, Acknowledging the Present, and Looking to the Future

Main Presenting Author: Gauthier, Janel

Abstract: *The first edition of the Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists was adopted in 1986, with revisions in 1991, 2000, and 2017. Many aspects and applications of the Code have changed since it was first adopted. However, the ethical principles that provide the moral foundation of the Code have remained the same; the organization of the Code around ethical principles to be considered and balanced in ethical decision making has been maintained; the inclusion of a decision-making model in the Code to help individual psychologists resolve ethical dilemmas has been preserved; the provision for the role of personal conscience in ethical decision making has been retained; and the aspirational approach to ethical standards has been kept. The purpose of this presentation will be two-fold: (a) to celebrate the significance of the Code, which has served as a foundational document guiding the activities of Canadian psychologists over the past four decades; and (b) to honour the Canadian psychologists who led the creation of a new type of ethics code with so many unique and long-lasting features. We will recall the days when the Code was developed; we will acknowledge the enduring value and relevance of the Code in the fast-paced, technology-driven world of today; and we will look to the horizon, anticipating and embracing what lies ahead with a sense of optimism and hope.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124972 - Paper within a symposium

Novel Ethical Dilemmas at the Intersection of Psychedelics and Psychotherapy

Main Presenting Author: McNamee, Sarah

Additional Authors: Nickles, David ; Ross, Lily Kay; Tumilty, Emma; MacIntosh, Heather B

Abstract: *Research into psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy (P-AP) has generated significant optimism in Canada and internationally as a potentially 'paradigm-shifting' approach to treating a wide array of mental health disorders. Many researchers, advocates, and media outlets have been promoting the potential efficacy of these experimental treatments and projecting that P-AP will be approved and become broadly available within a few years. Psychologists and psychotherapists play a key role in designing and providing specialized care associated with P-AP. However, the very nature of P-AP-where psychotherapy is provided before, after and sometimes during the administration of large doses of psychedelic drugs-poses novel and complex clinical and ethical dilemmas for treating psychologists and psychotherapists. This talk examines the heightened vulnerability of patients seeking and receiving psychedelic treatments, altered power differentials, relational risks in and out of the treatment room, and a range of consent issues. Drawing on research literature, documented incidents from clinical trials, and ethical frameworks including the Canadian Code of Ethics, this talk explores how fundamental principles of patient safety, autonomy, and professional boundaries apply-and are challenged-in psychedelic contexts.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124985 - Paper within a symposium

The Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists - Research, Applications, and Future Directions for Academic Inquiry

Main Presenting Author: Gagnon, Michelle

Additional Authors: Hadjistavropoulos, Thomas ; Arsenault, Kylie

Abstract: *The Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists (the Canadian Code) was originally adopted in 1986. In its now 40 years since development, it has undergone three revisions to address evolving ethical changes at a practice and societal level. Highlighting the strength of the Canadian Code and its significant role in psychology, many jurisdictions outside of Canada have adopted aspects of the code in their own ethical guidelines. Indeed, the Canadian Code offers unique contributions to ethical practice through its structuring around four pillars (i.e., Respect for the Dignity of Persons and Peoples; Responsible Caring; Integrity in Relationships; Responsibility to Society), and empowering and aspirational language, which contrasts the directive approaches taken by other organizations. In this presentation, findings from our team's recent work comprehensively examining available research on and applications of the Canadian Code will be presented and summarized. Based on this review, recommendations and opportunities will be presented for future research and related scholarly work on the Canadian Code.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124976 - Paper within a symposium

The Case for Updated Data Ethics in Psychology: Problems with MTurk Data Collection and Using Social Media for Recruitment

Main Presenting Author: Fabricius, Alexis

Additional Authors: O'Doherty, Kieran ; Yen, Jeff

Abstract: *The pervasive influence of digital data in contemporary society presents research psychologists with significant ethical challenges that have yet to be fully recognized or addressed. The rapid evolution of data technologies and integration into research practices has outpaced the guidance provided by existing ethical frameworks and regulations, leaving researchers vulnerable to unethical decision making about data. This is important to recognize because data is now imbued with substantial financial value and enables relations with many powerful entities, like governments and corporations. Accordingly, decision making about data can have far-reaching and harmful consequences for participants and society. As we acknowledge the 40th anniversary of the Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychology this year, I highlight the need to consider updates with respect to data practices in psychological research. I examine two common data practices that have escaped thorough ethical scrutiny among psychologists: the use of Amazon's Mechanical Turk for data collection and the use of microtargeting for recruitment on social media. We read these examples and psychologists' reactions to them against the current version of the Code. We close by offering specific recommendations for expanding the Code's standards, though also considering the role of policy, guidelines, and position papers.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124979 - Paper within a symposium

Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP): Updates on development, evolution, and validation of the new integrated EPPP for Canada and the US

Moderator(s): Nicholson, Ian R.

Abstract: *The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) was created in 1965 as a standardized examination to assess foundational knowledge of those aspiring to become licensed as psychologists and has since been adopted by 66 jurisdictions in Canada, the US, and their territories. Recently, it has been criticized for being biased, not focused on the skills needed to practice, or for not being "necessary." The developing competency movement in psychology has required revisions to add skills components to the original EPPP. When that decision was made, arguments against using the EPPP became more vocal with added concerns about exam bias, validity, and reliability. EPPP development has consistently adhered to the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing and followed best practices of credentialing organizations. This symposium will review the test development process, including the recent Canada-US psychologist Job Task Analysis survey; efforts to ensure fairness and lack of bias in the exam across both Canada and the US; and differences between establishing validity for a high-stakes exam vs other psychological tests. The newly integrated EPPP's blueprint (domains, competencies, knowledge, and skills to be assessed) will also be reviewed. The aim of the symposium is to provide the most current information available on how the EPPP is constructed, what will be covered on the test, and what can be expected when taking the new, integrated test.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124914 - Symposium

EPPP: Current Status and the Path Forward

Main Presenting Author: Burnetti-Atwell, Mariann
Co-Presenting Author: Laforce, Jennifer

Abstract: *While the EPPP (now the EPPP - Part 1) was first developed over 60 years ago and has since been adopted by 66 jurisdictions across Canada and the US, there was an increasing recognition that modern professional regulatory models have developed to also include the assessment of skills. It was decided in 2008 to also develop a measure of skills of candidates applying for licensure in psychology. In 2021, the EPPP (Part 2) was launched and began to be used in jurisdictions in both countries. In 2024, the Board of Directors of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards decided to move to an integrated exam, which will assess the competencies expected of candidates, including both basic knowledge of psychology and the skills necessary for psychology practice. This presentation will review this recent history and the steps in the development of the new integrated EPPP which is expected to be fully operational for use by the end of 2027.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124954 - Paper within a symposium

EPPP: History of the Exam and Current Structure

Main Presenting Author: Nicholson, Ian R.

Additional Author: Horn, Jaqueline

Abstract: *The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) was created in 1965 as a standardized examination to assess foundational knowledge of those aspiring to become licensed as psychologists and has since been adopted by 66 jurisdictions in Canada, the US, and their territories. This presentation will provide the history of its development and use. It will also review how the current test forms (including both Part 1 and Part 2) are developed. This review will describe efforts to ensure that the test is equally applicable across both Canada and the US and efforts made in recent years to reduce bias in question and test development.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124931 - Paper within a symposium

EPPP: Progress Updates in the Development of an Integrated Exam

Main Presenting Author: Song, Hao

Additional Author: Hunsley, John

Abstract: *The decision to move to an integrated EPPP has meant that a number of steps are necessary for this new exam to meet the standards of validation for a high-stakes regulatory examination. EPPP development has consistently adhered to the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing and followed best practices of credentialing organizations. This presentation will review the current test development process, including the recent Canada-US psychologist Job Task Analysis survey; efforts to ensure fairness and lack of bias in the exam across both Canada and the US; and differences between establishing validity for a high-stakes exam vs other psychological tests. The newly integrated EPPP's blueprint (domains, competences, knowledge, and skills to be assessed) will also be reviewed. The aim is to provide the most current information available on how the integrated EPPP is constructed, what will be covered on the test, and what can be expected when taking the test.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124961 - Paper within a symposium

Innovations in Military Testing

Moderator(s): Darr, Wendy ON

Abstract: *Psychometric testing in the military dates to the First World War, in response to the mobilization efforts of nations to screen, select, and place individuals for armed service. Military selection practice continues to evolve in response to varied influences. A recent NATO Research Task Group on advances in military personnel selection indicated that such influences originate from within the armed services (e.g., mission requirements), society (e.g., diversity, technology), and/or the target population of interest (e.g., digitally savvy applicants). To remain relevant, military testing and selection R&D must respond to such factors. This symposium showcases an R&D program of research representing innovative approaches in responding to the requirements of the current Canadian Armed Forces recruitment context. Together, these four presentations provide insight into varied constructs (e.g., spatial ability, written communication), technology (e.g., adaptive testing, Artificial Intelligence [AI]), and innovation (e.g., gamification, automation) utilized in current military testing R&D. The symposium will highlight the practical complexities and challenges in striving to incorporate technological advances in psychometric testing an applied defence context. This symposium hopes to stimulate dialogue on the requirements for successful testing innovations in applied contexts.*

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124602 - Symposium

AI-enabled Automated Scoring Protocol to Assess Written Communication

Main Presenting Author: Ross, Matthew ON

Additional Author: Berry, Joseph

Abstract: *The Written Communication Test (WCT) is an assessment of writing ability that is used by select occupations in the CAF. Respondents are required to write an email summarizing information presented to them, which is then scored by two assessors. Because manually evaluating these assessments can be burdensome and time consuming, the potential for using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to automate scoring was explored. This presentation describes a project to explore the use of GPT-4o, a closed-source large language model (LLM) by OpenAI, as well as some small language models to provide scores for written outputs as well as a detailed breakdown of how the scores were obtained. The LLMs show potential to serve as assistive grading tools, rather than standalone graders, helping reduce evaluation time and highlight overlooked nuances. Various benefits and challenges to using an automated scoring protocol, as well as barriers to implementation in a defence environment, will be discussed.*

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124654 - Paper within a symposium

Field Test of an Adaptive Assessment of Personality Traits (AAPT)

Main Presenting Author: Berry , Joseph

Additional Author: Darr, Wendy

Abstract: *The Adaptive Assessment of Personality Traits (AAPT) is a forced-choice computer adaptive measure of personality, which was developed with the explicit goal of modernizing the CAF's existing assessment of personality. The AAPT was recently field tested with a sample of CAF members (Anglophone: n = 420; Francophone: n = 187). This presentation presents evidence for the criterion-related validity of the AAPT facets, which were found to be significantly related to various work attitudes, counter-productive behaviours, and/or annual performance evaluation ratings. Using results common across both language versions, five relevant facets were identified for use in applicant suitability decision-making. These included two Conscientiousness facets (i.e., achievement, cautiousness), one Agreeableness facet (i.e., compassion), one Extraversion facet (i.e., dominance), and one Openness facet (i.e., tolerance). Although these findings provide evidence in support of the use of AAPT in identifying candidates with relevant personality attributes, challenges with implementing the AAPT within the organization remain and will be discussed.*

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124962 - Paper within a symposium

Supporting Unproctored Cognitive Testing: Development of an Automatic Item Generator

Main Presenting Author: Sokolov, Mikhail ON

Additional Author: Goodrich, Shawna

Abstract: *Modern cognitive testing, such as unproctored computer adaptive tests, requires on-the-fly generation or selection of items with known psychometric properties to safeguard test security. As the manual creation of cognitive test items is resource intensive, an Automatic Item Generator (AIG) was developed to create various item types (i.e., verbal reasoning, spatial ability, and problem solving) as per test specifications. This presentation discusses the development of an AIG, which involved translating the core theoretical understanding of item structure and difficulty into a machine logic, which enabled full or partial automation. To overcome some of the challenges of working in a secure development environment, the AIG system is built using low-level algorithmic logic that allows it to create formally correct test items and regulate their difficulty by constraining or adjusting generation elements associated with item difficulty. This project showcases necessary R&D that is required to support the implementation of computer adaptive unproctored testing.*

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124653 - Paper within a symposium

Web-based Assessments of Specific Cognitive Abilities

Main Presenting Author: Jong, Sharmili
Co-Presenting Author: Robitaille, Joel

Abstract: *Specific cognitive abilities such as spatial ability and working memory are critical for many CAF occupations with spatial or information processing requirements. R&D involving the assessment of these constructs has been limited by challenges pertaining to the static, standalone administration of these assessments. This presentation showcases efforts to address this gap, utilizing technological advances and developments in their respective fields. With respect to spatial ability, the presentation focusses on the development of a gamified, modular assessment of wayfinding and its various*

attributes (intrinsic-extrinsic, static-dynamic, egocentric-allocentric), to overcome traditional paper-based, two-dimensional assessments of this construct With respect to working memory, the presentation will discuss the development of an online version of the Working Memory Battery (WMB) using the Qualtrics survey platform, as well as present findings from a field test in which more than 20,000 prospects visiting the CAF recruiting website participated. Preliminary results confirm the successful semi-adaptive implementation of the WMB with high data quality. Both R&D projects reflect ongoing efforts to modernize psychometric assessment tools in response to evolving occupational and operational demands.

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124960 - Paper within a symposium

The Training and Practice of Clinical Supervision: Mind the Gap

Moderator(s): Gazzola, Nicola

Abstract: *The increase in regulation of psychotherapy across Canadian provinces has intensified the demand for accountability in mental health education and training, particularly in the domain of clinical supervision, a cornerstone of competency development for practitioners. Despite its critical role, there remains a significant gap in empirical research regarding effective pedagogical strategies for the training of supervisors themselves. This symposium includes four presentations aimed at leveraging practice findings to inform supervision training. Together, these presentations offer actionable strategies and new directions for curriculum design, regulatory policy, and lifelong growth, bridging the gap between current supervision training and competence in the field.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125864 - Symposium

Clinical Supervisor Training: Meta-Models and Lifelong Learning

Main Presenting Author: Gazzola, Nicola

Additional Author: Button, Shawna

Abstract: *This presentation explores the critical role of fostering metamodel development among supervisors-in-training within the context of clinical supervision training. A supervisory metamodel can be conceptualized as a supervisor's unique, personal approach to supervisory practice, developed through the synthesis and integration of theoretical concepts, evidence-based practice, and personal experience (Gazzola & De Stefano, 2016). Anchored in Social Cognitive Learning Theory, the metamodel framework underscores the value of experiential learning, supervision-of-supervision, continual self-reflection, and intentional practice. The session will offer recommendations aimed at enhancing supervision training curricula, with the overarching goal of addressing discrepancies between prevailing instructional methods and the competencies required for effective supervisory practice.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125878 - Paper within a symposium

Cultivating Self-Compassion in Clinical Supervision: Buffering Distress and Fostering Growth

Main Presenting Author: Bilodeau, Cynthia

Additional Authors: Savard, Reginald ; Brien, Alexandre

Abstract: *Supervision is often identified as a source of heightened anxiety and vulnerability for trainees which can disrupt the neural and cognitive processes involved in emotion regulation, impacting both learning and well-being. While the importance of the supervisory alliance and supervisee well-being is well acknowledged in clinical supervision, training for supervisors in fostering emotion regulation skills as a pathway to developing competence is less commonly addressed in training programs or supervision models. This presentation highlights findings from thematic analysis of critical incidents reported by 48 supervisee counselling and psychotherapy trainees undergoing supervision. Results showed that alliance ruptures or unresolved tensions can hinder learning and self-disclosure and that self-compassion emerged as a vital resource for trainees, helping them regulate difficult emotions, reframe self-critical thoughts, and remain receptive to feedback. These findings highlight an important yet underemphasized area of focus in supervisor training: the cultivation of emotion regulation capacities, particularly through self-compassion. The presentation concludes with empirically informed recommendations for supervisors on modelling and fostering self-compassion within clinical supervision, thereby promoting psychological safety, resilience, and professional development for trainees.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125876 - Paper within a symposium

Graduate Student Peer-Vision: Strengthening Professional Identity through Collaborative Reflection

Main Presenting Author: Button, Shawna
Co-Presenting Author: Gazzola, Nicola

Additional Authors: Hobson, Sarah ; Karasz, sarah; Natale, Tessa; Khanna Roy, Anjalika

Abstract: *This presentation examines peer-vision as a pedagogical approach in which advanced, master's-level psychotherapy trainees engage in structured, collaborative supervisory processes with junior peers. Drawing on the self-reflections of five peer mentors who participated in peer-vision during a semester-long skills training course, study findings illustrate how this model contributes to the consolidation and strengthening of professional identity among trainees. Key mechanisms-including reciprocal feedback, experience-near mentoring, and collective meaning-making-will be discussed to elucidate the developmental processes facilitated by peer-vision. The discussion will highlight peer-vision's impact on advanced master's-level counselling psychology students, particularly in relation to perceived self-efficacy, reflective capacity, and the transition from student to professional. Practical recommendations will be offered for the integration of peer-vision into psychotherapy training curricula.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125898 - Paper within a symposium

Leveraging Character Strengths for Competence and Well-Being in Supervision: Insights from Positive Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Brien, Alexandre
Co-Presenting Author: Bilodeau, Cynthia

Abstract: *Clinical supervision is widely recognized as the signature pedagogy (Watkins, 2020; Shulman, 2005) of counselor and psychotherapist training. While positive psychology has increasingly informed educational interventions, the specific role of character strengths in promoting supervisee well-being and professional competence remains underexplored This presentation will share recent findings of an empirical study of 53 counselling and psychotherapy trainees, examining the role of character strengths in clinical supervision in the development of supervisee competence. Findings suggest that, while some strengths such as humility and hope were found to contribute to supervisee well-being, others such as courage and justice were negatively associated with certain counselling dispositions and behaviours. This highlights the consideration of supervisee optimal strength use and the importance of reflexive practice for development of a nuanced understanding of how to leverage these supervisee strengths. Implications for supervision practice and training will be discussed.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125890 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Exploring the ways in which psychology - from the lenses of practice, science and education - can, does or should promote equity, diversity and inclusivity

12-Minute Talk

2SLGBTQ+ Youth Wellbeing and School Belonging: Understanding the Role of School Adults

Main Presenting Author: James-Thomas, Saria

Additional Author: McArthur, Brae Anne

Abstract: *2SLGBTQ+ youth experience elevated mental health disparities due to stigma and discrimination, with transgender and gender diverse (TGD) adolescents at especially heightened risk. Therefore, identifying protective factors is critical. Drawing on Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory, this study examines how connectedness with school adults impacts mental health, wellbeing, flourishing, and school belonging among TGD adolescents compared to cisgender sexual minority and cisgender heterosexual youth.This study analyzed data from 1,214 youth in the All Our Families (AOF) cohort. Anxiety and depression were measured using the Behavior Assessment System for Children-Third Edition (BASC-3); wellbeing and school belonging using the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI); and flourishing using Ryff's Psychological Well-Being Scale. Regression analyses, a MANCOVA, and moderation analyses examined the relationships between identity groups and the outcomes.Greater connectedness with school adults was associated with lower anxiety and depression and higher wellbeing, flourishing, and school belonging. Although groups differed on several outcomes, connectedness did not moderate these relationships. Findings highlight supportive school adults as a protective factor across youth groups and emphasize the need for broader supports to strengthen outcomes for TGD adolescents.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 124888 - 12-Minute Talk

Beyond Binaries: Understanding Neurodivergent Experience in Higher Education

Main Presenting Author: Liu, Duofei

Additional Author: Babineau, Mireille

Abstract: *Background: Despite growing research on neurodivergent students in higher education, most studies have been conducted under Western contexts with domestic students, overlooking the international students who often navigate distinct healthcare systems, cultural attitudes toward neurodivergence, and other barriers that affect their access to support. This study examines how experiences of neurodivergence vary across cultural contexts, also explores shared challenges that blur the neurodivergent - neurotypical boundary.Method: Undergraduate students at the University of Toronto-where about 30% of the student body is international-completed an anonymous online survey consisting of Likert-scale and open-ended items. Using a mixed-methods design, the study integrated*

quantitative and qualitative data to capture both general trends and individual perspectives. Results: Preliminary analyses include 399 students (neurotypical = 339, neurodivergent = 60), with 100 international students. Common challenges were time management (61.25%), keeping up with readings (62.75%), and staying focused (61.5%). When asked how often they procrastinate, 49% of neurodivergent students reported "always," compared to neurotypical students (5%). Both groups cited feeling overwhelmed as the main reason for procrastination (NT = 68.73%, ND = 90.16%). Stress was higher among international students. Due to the small sample size of international neurodivergent students, it is unclear if they face different challenges. We are recruiting more participants to clarify the barriers.Conclusions: Preliminary findings suggest that challenges often associated with neurodivergence, such as procrastination and stress, are widely shared, yet intensified by cultural and systemic barriers, especially for international students. Impact: Qualitative responses highlight that inclusive practices must extend beyond classroom accommodations to the broader ecosystem of student support. Institutions should integrate culturally responsive policies and accessible mental health services, recognizing the shared and diverse needs of all students.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125145 - 12-Minute Talk

Braiding Accountability into Practice: Psychology's Role in Transforming Health Systems to Forward Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous People in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Grier, Melanie

Abstract: *Recently, the Yellowhead Institute released Braiding Accountability: A Ten-Year Review of the TRC's Healthcare Calls to Action, highlighting slow, uneven truth and reconciliation progress across Canada's health systems. Barriers like racism, fragmented accountability, and structural inequities continue to compromise Indigenous Peoples' healthcare safety. There further exists persistent gaps in healthcare access, experiences, prescribed treatments, and outcomes. Psychological science offers skills and tools well suited to confront these challenges: for example, bias reduction training, trauma- and rights-informed care, and systems transformation strategies that prioritize relational approaches and perspectives. To understand the field of psychology's role and potential contributions to addressing the Healthcare Calls to Action, this presentation will synthesize the report's key findings and interpret them through established psychological domains, including clinical, counselling, health, community, and organizational psychology. Undoubtedly, the field of psychology can meaningfully advance the TRC's Health Calls to Action by mobilizing its theories and methods toward structural healthcare change and investing in culturally appropriate wellness initiatives. Through this work, relationally grounded health systems will emerge, benefiting not just Indigenous people, but all people.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 126315 - 12-Minute Talk

Bridging Gaps in Mental Health Literacy and Help-Seeking for Black Canadian Youth

Main Presenting Author: Owusu, Petra A.

Additional Authors: Specht, Jacqueline ; Lee, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Black Canadian youth experience persistent disparities in mental health help-seeking, shaped by societal expectations, stigma, and intergenerational influences. This research engaged 32 youth (Grades 7-12) through focus groups and psychoeducation workshops to explore mental health perceptions, symptom recognition, and help-seeking behaviours. Using thematic analysis framed by Bronfenbrenner's Bioecological Systems Theory, the studies revealed key barriers, including emotional suppression, unfamiliarity with mental illness, anti-Black racism, and the importance of culturally competent therapists. The workshops challenged misconceptions, promoted emotional literacy, and equipped participants with practical strategies for accessing support. Results demonstrate that culturally tailored, developmentally appropriate interventions can increase awareness, reduce stigma, and empower youth to engage with mental health services. These findings call for collaborative, community-informed efforts to foster mental health equity and resilience among Black Canadian youth.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126204 - 12-Minute Talk

Bridging the Gap on sexual assault prevention: EAAA in Kenya, adapt/adopt?

Main Presenting Author: Owaga, Laureen

Abstract: *Sexual assault (SA) remains a pervasive global public health and human rights concern, with both shared and context-specific implications. Over the past decade, Canada and Kenya report comparable rates of SA within university settings, suggesting parallel risk environments for students. In response, Canada has implemented several evidence-based prevention strategies, including the Enhanced Assess, Acknowledge, Act (EAAA) program. Given the similarities in campus sexual assault dynamics across the two countries, this study, the second of a two-part study, explored the feasibility of adapting the EAAA program for use in Kenyan universities. Drawing on data from three focus groups of ten people each, the findings indicate that the EAAA program is broadly adaptable to the Kenyan context. Nonetheless, components related to danger cue recognition, risk factor appraisal, and content addressing relationships and sexuality require cultural modification to ensure contextual relevance and acceptability. The study concludes that there is a necessity for institutional innovation in resource mobilization for program implementation and the positioning of EAAA as one of the many SA solutions. Overall, the findings underscore the value of cross-cultural evaluation before transferring interventions across settings and integrating local perspectives into intervention design and implementation*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125790 - 12-Minute Talk

Credentials vs. Potential: Mitigating the SES-Selection Gap

Main Presenting Author: Maharaj, Nicholas M
Co-Presenting Author: Burns-Hemingway, Fiona

Additional Authors: Son Hing, Leanne S; Wilson, Anne E; Dou, Tianzi; Xie, Sally

Abstract: *Social mobility is crucial for reducing income inequality. However, selection processes (e.g., hiring, promotion, postsecondary admissions) typically select based on credentials that differ by socioeconomic status (SES). Thus, they tend to favour high-SES, better-qualified candidates over low-SES, less-qualified candidates without consideration of how structural (dis)advantages affect*

credentials. The current study experimentally tested whether an educational intervention about cumulative (dis)advantage could reduce this SES-selection gap in recommendations for acceptance into a prestigious medical school. More specifically, the intervention explains how parental SES shapes the opportunities and challenges that their children navigate, affecting their achievements. Participants (n = 849) evaluated either a high-SES, higher-qualifications or a low-SES, lower-qualifications candidate. Results showed that participants who received the educational intervention (vs. a control condition) evaluated the low-SES candidate with lower qualifications more favorably, thus, mitigating the SES-selection gap. This suggests that teaching people about how structural advantage and disadvantage accumulate over time can promote more equitable selection decisions that support upward social mobility for people from low-SES backgrounds.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122788 - 12-Minute Talk

Developing and Evaluating a Brief Sexual Violence Intervention to Shift Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviours in Emerging Adult Men

Main Presenting Author: Goruk, Kayla Joy (KJ)

Additional Author: Blais, Julie

Abstract: *Sexualized violence prevention strategies in organized settings often rely on unevaluated materials, employ passive engagement, and use legalistic language that reduces ecological validity and induces social desirability responding. This research developed and evaluated a brief online intervention aimed at fostering prosocial attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours related to sexual violence among emerging adult men in Canada and the UK while addressing the noted limitations. A pilot study (N = 249) refined intervention components, perpetration measures, and scenario-based vignettes. In the main study, participants (N = 498) reported on attitudes and prior perpetration and were randomly assigned to a brief sexual violence intervention or a plagiarism control. Changes based on the intervention were assessed six to eight weeks later. Post-intervention, participants in the intervention group reported more prosocial attitudes toward subtle coercion, greater knowledge across several learning outcomes, and were significantly more accurate in identifying non-consent across vignettes than the control group. Reductions in sexually violent behaviours did not reach statistical significance. This work contributes to ongoing efforts to foster safer, more equitable post-secondary environments and demonstrates the potential of brief, evidence-based interventions to support meaningful change.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123112 - 12-Minute Talk

Disconnected Disclosures: Employee-Manager Asymmetries in Navigating Invisible Disabilities

Main Presenting Author: Kovacheff, Chloe

Additional Authors: Feinberg, Matthew ; DeCelles, Katherine

Abstract: *Employees with invisible disabilities face a dilemma when deciding whether to disclose at work: revealing their disability risks bias, yet may be necessary to obtain necessary accommodations.*

Drawing on stigma and signaling theories, we examine how employees can effectively navigate this bind and identify two key dimensions of disclosure: transparency (extent of detail provided about the disability and its impact) and proactivity (extent of specific accommodation requests). We predict that employees often choose low-transparency, low-proactivity disclosures to avoid highlighting their stigmatized identity, but that these strategies backfire by activating doubts about legitimacy and ability, reducing managerial support. We further hypothesize that managers prefer, and consequently reward, the opposite approach - highly transparent and highly proactive disclosures. Across four correlational and experimental studies with diverse online and field samples, we find consistent evidence for this asymmetry. Employees tend to minimize detail and requests to manage stigma, yet disclosures that are both transparent and proactive more effectively counteract negative stereotypes and elicit managerial support. These findings offer actionable guidance to improve workplace outcomes for employees with invisible disabilities, a substantial yet often overlooked segment of the workforce.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123684 - 12-Minute Talk

Diversity in undergraduate psychology curricula: An analysis of course offerings and program requirements at public universities in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Quan, Jeffry

Additional Authors: Xin, Yijia ; Onyeka, Ebube

Abstract: *Replicating work conducted in the US (Chappell & Tomcho, 2023), we analyzed the psychology course offerings and program requirements of Canadian universities to determine the extent of diversity-related courses available to and required of undergraduate students. Across 68 universities, courses on the psychology of sexuality, aging, culture, and gender were most common, being offered at over 50% of universities. In contrast, courses on bias/discrimination, general diversity, Indigenous psychology, religion, disability/neurodiversity, and class were least common, being offered at less than 25% of universities. Among the 10 types of diversity courses examined, universities averaged 3 types (SD=1.6; range=0-7). Across 223 psychology programs, the vast majority (82.6%) did not contain a single requirement to engage with the study of diversity in human behaviour. Only 4.0% had a mandatory diversity program requirement in psychology, while 13.4% had a mandatory course on Indigenous issues. Associations between course offerings/program requirements and contextual factors such geographic and institutional characteristics of universities will be presented. Overall, results suggest that there is a significant gap in the teaching of diversity in current Canadian undergraduate psychology programs. Implications and further recommendations for educators and administrators will be discussed.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 126096 - 12-Minute Talk

Emotional responses to social injustice, inclusive victim consciousness, and intergroup solidarity among gender and ethnic/racial groups in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Fontaine, Aleah

Additional Author: Starzyk, Katherine

Abstract: *Background: People who witness injustice may express solidarity with those harmed. Certain groups, such as women and racialized people, may be especially likely to show support, though the underlying mechanisms may differ. This project examined how gender and ethnic/racial background relate to intergroup solidarity with Indigenous peoples in Canada, focusing on emotional responses to injustice and inclusive victim consciousness as mediators.Methods: In two online studies, 352 non-Indigenous university students and 612 non-Indigenous adults from across Canada learned about discrimination against Indigenous families in the child welfare system. Participants then reported their emotional reactions, inclusive victim consciousness, and solidarity. Results: T-tests, correlational analyses, and path analyses found women reported stronger emotions than men, and some of these emotions predicted greater solidarity. Compared to White participants, racialized participants reported higher inclusive victim consciousness, which predicted greater solidarity in study 2. Finally, empathy was the strongest predictor of solidarity, whereas anger was not significant when controlling for other emotions.Conclusions/Impact: Advancing social justice and reconciliation requires collective action. Understanding who expresses solidarity and why may support efforts to mobilize people to address ongoing harms.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125267 - 12-Minute Talk

False Accusations of Child Sexual Abuse: A Review of the National Registry of Exonerations

Main Presenting Author: Erentzen, Caroline

Additional Authors: Martin, Sarah L; Schuller, Regina

Abstract: *Background: Most case of child sexual abuse go unreported and unprosecuted, and false accusations occur in less than 5% of cases. Despite this, nearly 90% of known wrongful convictions from child sexual abuse involve a false or perjured accusation. Little is known about this category of exonerations outside the child abuse hysteria cases of the 1990s, including the possibility of common patterns in these cases. Methods: A latent class analysis was conducted on 321 cases from the National Registry of Exonerations involving child sexual abuse (excluding hysteria cases). We investigated potential classes based on contributory factors, victim/offender relationship, and case characteristics. Results: Exonerees spent an average of 20 years in prison, rarely gave a false confession/false guilty plea, and all went to trial and appeal. Three classes were identified, with the two largest groups involving "no crime" cases, a perjured accusation, an accused in a parental role to the victim, and no forensic errors. These classes differed only in whether there was professional misconduct. The third class involved cases with a real crime, eyewitness errors, and the accused was a stranger to the victim. Action/Impact: Wrongful convictions from child sexual abuse differ from other offence types. Better funding for legal defence and enhanced scrutiny of accusations is recommended.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125781 - 12-Minute Talk

From Powerless to Prowess: Journeying to Filipino Gay Men Parenting

Main Presenting Author: Hernandez, Angelbert

Additional Authors: Chan, Jovi Hendrix ; Sese, Armand Vincent

Abstract: *Being a gay man possesses unique challenges related to their identity. Hence, this struggle is heightened if one is also engaged in becoming a father that puts more stress in fulfilling roles especially in the Filipino context. This paper aims to unveil the world of becoming a Filipino gay men father as it explores its challenges, uniqueness and strategies on becoming a parent despite being a member of the LGBT+ community. This study was participated by four gay men in the Philippines. Theoretical models of theory of planned behavior, minority stress model, and queer theory have been used to serve as a framework for the study. In-depth interviews was conducted and thematic analysis was utilized to analyze the data gathered. Findings revealed that commonalities when it comes to being a gay man father is their personal choice and decision. Common challenges such as being judged by others and struggles on explaining the set-up with the child have been evident. Depending on the age of the child, it plays a vital role on how to embrace the type of parenting set-up they are engaged in. Unique contribution of this paper is exploring the way gay fathers come out to their children which affects not just only their parenting but also how their children accept them. Parenting strategies such as being protective and supportive have been common among the three cases. Implications for future research and establishing Filipino gay men parenting framework has also been discussed.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123650 - 12-Minute Talk

Identity, Belonging, and Practice: Understanding the Shared Adjustment Experiences of Culturally Diverse Teachers After Their First Year of Teaching

Main Presenting Author: Zak, Michelle

Additional Authors: Russell-Mayhew, Shelly ; Barbeau, Kheana; Kassan, Anusha; Kendrick, Astrid; Tingle, Elizabeth

Abstract: *Culturally diverse teachers bring essential perspectives to Canadian classrooms, yet the systemic conditions shaping their early-career adjustment remain underexamined. The recent Alberta teachers' strike underscores a widening gap between policy assumptions and the lived realities of beginning teachers. Using a Critical Social Justice lens and informed by a Comprehensive School Health (CSH) and Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (CRP) framework, this longitudinal Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) explores the shared adjustment experiences of eight culturally diverse teachers after their first year of teaching. Eight pre-service teachers who self-identified as belonging to historically, persistently, and systemically marginalized communities participated in two interviews one year apart. Five shared themes emerged: (1) from emerging identity to negotiated professionalism; (2) advocacy reframed from passion to protection; (3) pedagogical vision vs. systemic constraints; (4) emotional labour and the cost of caring; and (5) reflexivity as renewal and resistance. Findings illustrate how whole-school conditions shape wellbeing and identity development, underscoring the need for equity-oriented preparation, culturally affirming mentorship, and CSH-aligned policies that centre teachers' lived experiences.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125599 - 12-Minute Talk

Making Inclusion Possible: How Workplace Policies Shape Behavioural Affordances in STEM

Main Presenting Author: Anderson, Rebecca

Additional Author: Hall, William

Abstract: *Science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) companies often have masculine cultures that undermine inclusion, highlighting the need to identify organizational factors that foster supportive interpersonal norms. Across three studies, we examined how inclusive workplace policies shape perceptions of which behaviours are possible at work. In Study 1 (N = 439), STEM workers completed an inclusive policy checklist, reported perceived interpersonal workplace norms, and reported how possible it would be for them to engage in inclusive behaviours. Inclusive policies were associated with stronger perceptions that inclusive behaviours were possible due to perceived inclusive norms. In Study 2 (N = 188), participants were randomly assigned to view a technology company with either highly inclusive or minimally inclusive policies before completing a speeded judgment task. Participants in the high-inclusion condition judged more inclusive behaviours and fewer non-inclusive behaviours as possible in a rapid forced-choice task. Study 3 (N = 291) replicated these findings among STEM workers using a correlational design that combined the policy checklist (Study 1) followed by the speeded judgement task (Study 2). These findings suggest that inclusive policies signal that inclusive behaviours are acceptable and achievable, reinforcing supportive norms and fostering inclusive behaviour.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123819 - 12-Minute Talk

Motivations Matter: How Personal Conviction Influences Equity in Engineering Hiring

Main Presenting Author: McWilliams, Jennifer

Additional Authors: Young, Varick ; Perunovic, Elaine; Lei, Zhen

Abstract: *Black women face significant challenges due to the intersection of racial and gender biases. Decision-makers often let bias influence hiring, limiting fair access to positions. Moreover, their motivation to suppress prejudice adds further complexity to their decision-making process. This study examined how internal (personal values) and external motivation (social pressures) to suppress prejudice affect hiring evaluations of Black and White women in engineering. Our two-part study included 206 participants recruited via Prolific. In Part 1, participants' internal and external motivations were assessed. In Part 2, after a minimum of 2 hours, the same participants evaluated a randomly assigned job interview transcript of Black or White woman candidates with a bachelor's or master's degree on their perceived competence and hireability. Preliminary findings reveal that internal and external motivations to suppress prejudice are nonsignificantly negatively related, $r(204) = -.13$, $p = .069$. Furthermore, internal motivation predicted more unbiased evaluations (ps < .034), whereas external motivation did not (all ps > .137). These results underscore the importance of fostering internalized anti-prejudice values to promote fair hiring practices. Prioritizing internal motivation over external pressures may be a more effective strategy for advancing equitable hiring in STEM occupations.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 125637 - 12-Minute Talk

Navigating Between Two Worlds: Examining the Mechanisms of Acculturation of Bangladeshi Immigrant Adolescent Girls in Canada using the Theory of Sociocultural Models

Main Presenting Author: Deb, Antara

Additional Author: Chirkov, Valery

Abstract: *Immigrant adolescents often experience acculturation stress as they navigate conflicting expectations from their heritage culture and Canadian society. Although research has documented the mental, emotional and social challenges immigrant youth face, it remains unclear how Bangladeshi adolescent girls actively interpret and manage cultural tensions in their daily lives. The Theory of Sociocultural Models (TSCM; Chirkov, 2020,2025) offers an understanding of sociocultural models (SCMs) and how they shape mentalities and behaviors of members of cultural communities. This theory also explains the mechanisms of immigrant acculturation; thus we applied it to this population and explored how Bangladeshi girls find their ways in the Canadian cultural context.This project started with a literature-based analysis of Bangladeshi and Euro-Canadian SCMs of adolescence girls to identify key cultural gaps related to psychological autonomy, gender norms, and family expectations, as well as differences in expectations across major life contexts such as, family relationships, school and teacher interactions, peer relationships, and dating practices. In the second study, the firs presenter recruited four Bangladeshi immigrant adolescent girls based on indicators of either positive adjustment or greater challenges. Each participant completed the Ryff Psychological Well-Being Scale (Ryff, 1989) and then took part in a semi-structured interview focused on their experiences navigating the gap between Bangladeshi and Canadian SCMs for adolescent girls. The interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed, and analyzed using theory-driven, guided by the TSCM, codes to identify patterns in how adolescents interpret and manage distinct cultural tensions. Analysis of the literature showed differences between Bangladeshi and Euro-Canadian SCMs of adolescence, especially regarding gender norms, family obligations, school behaviour, peer interactions, and dating. Interviews' results indicated girls' autonomous agency plays a pivotal role in their acculturation. More successful interviewees were reflective regarding their current situation and their cultural past; they were proactive in learning about the Canadian SCMs, and open to new experiences. Less adjusted participants were more confined to their home SCMs, they experience aversion to some aspects of Canadian culture and reflected less on the sociocultural context of their current situation. These results of this project demonstrated the utility of the TSCM to study acculturation. It also demonstrated that case-based, individualized approach to acculturation allows researchers to understand navigation strategies of immigrants and potentially develop interventions to help them to adjust to a new context.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 124757 - 12-Minute Talk

North American Faculty Experiences of Campus Antisemitism in a Post-October 7th World

Main Presenting Author: Kogan, Cary

Additional Authors: Harber, Kent ; Butler, Deidre

Abstract: *Background: The October 7, 2023 Hamas attack on Israel was the deadliest assault on Jews since the Holocaust, traumatizing Israelis and Jews globally. Increased antisemitism, including on North American campuses, became evident even before Israel's military response and has since surged. Little is known about its psychological impact on faculty. Methods: A cross-sectional survey of U.S. and Canadian faculty (N=233) assessed exposure to antisemitism, Jewish identity suppression, feelings of betrayal/vulnerability, mental health (Mini-DASS), well-being (WHO-5), and professional disruption. Mediation analyses tested whether antisemitism predicted symptoms, poorer well-being, and work disruptions via identity suppression and betrayal/vulnerability. Results: Cluster analysis identified low (LA) and high (HA) antisemitism groups. HA faculty reported significantly higher mental health symptoms, identity suppression, betrayal, and vulnerability, but not lower well-being. Antisemitism effects on mental health and work disruption were mediated by hypothesized variables. Conclusions: Campus antisemitism is linked to adverse psychological and professional outcomes, increasing risks of absenteeism, presenteeism, and premature resignation. Impact: Universities must address antisemitism to protect faculty from hostile environments and related harms.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124983 - 12-Minute Talk

Recommendations for Improving Gender Equity at Gambling Studies Conferences

Main Presenting Author: Monson, Eva

Abstract: *Background The underrepresentation of women speakers at academic conferences in the gambling studies field is historic and pervasive; however, the pressing issue of gender disparity in the field has yet to be adequately acknowledged or addressed. Methods In 2023, an International Forum brought together 10 early career researchers in the gambling studies field to answer the question: How can gambling studies conferences improve gender representation and become more inclusive and equitable? Inspired by Hanleybrown, Kania, & Kramer's 2012 Collective Impact Framework, presentations, full and sub-group discussions and developmental working sessions took place over the course of two days. Results/ Conclusions The result was the co-construction of a set of recommendations related to: (1) Guiding principles and code of conduct; (2) Acknowledgment of the issues and relevant training; (3) Representation within organizing committees; (4) Representation among speakers; (5) Equitable and accessible conferences; (6) Representation over time and evaluation of conference experiences; and (7) Active allyship. Action/Impact If applied widely, these recommendations have the potential to significantly reshape and strengthen our field as they contribute to long overdue systemic and comprehensive change in the face of ongoing gender disparity.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 123767 - 12-Minute Talk

Voices of Transition: Exploring the Aspirations of Autistic Individuals Preparing to Graduate Secondary School

Main Presenting Author: Jhinjar, Nimrit

Abstract: *Autistic youth preparing to graduate from secondary school encounter a significant developmental transition, yet research rarely centers their own aspirations, instead emphasizing*

caregiver perspectives or deficit-based outcomes. Many youth also experience a steep drop in services, where school-based supports diminish sharply after graduation, making it essential to understand what they view as helpful as they plan for adulthood. This study explores autistic youths' postsecondary aspirations, strengths, supports, and anticipated barriers using a social constructionist framework and Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA). Six to ten autistic youth aged 16-19 across Canada participated in virtual semi-structured interviews and a drawing-based elicitation activity. Transcripts will be analyzed idiographically and then synthesized to identify convergent and divergent experiential themes. Results will capture how youth define their goals, what resources they believe they need, and how they anticipate navigating reduced formal supports during transition. Findings aim to inform more individualized, neurodiversity-affirming, and youth-driven transition planning practices that better align services and policies with autistic youths' lived experiences.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125420 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Beyond Checklists, Onto Parallel Paths: Walking Together "In a Good Way" Towards Organizational Transformation, Truth, and Reconciliation

Main Presenting Author: Grier, Melanie

Abstract: *Since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Final Report was released over a decade ago, universities across Canada have been called to transform their structures, cultures, and relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Institutions have responded unevenly, raising critical questions about what effective, ethical, community-engaged organizational Indigenization looks like in practice. This forum will address these urgently relevant issues by exploring University of Calgary's Indigenous Strategy, ii' taa'poh'to'p-a Blackfoot-gifted framework rooted in transformation, renewal, and Elder-guided "parallel paths" governance that honours Indigenous ways of knowing, doing, being, and connecting. Attendees will learn about key ideas and approaches used to develop, implement, and evaluate the strategy, including ongoing community engagement, Indigenous Elder guidance, active Working Circles, and creating ethical spaces for working together. As universities continue to seek purposeful evidence-informed responses to the Calls to Action and navigate increasing expectations for organizational decolonizing, discussions that inspire momentum are increasingly needed. Accordingly, the session will use guided reflection prompts, small-group dialogue, and whole-group knowledge sharing to identify actionable ways to advance truth and reconciliation within attendees' own institutions*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126271 - Conversation Session

Beyond Inclusion Rhetoric: The Unspoken Realities of Racialized Women in Academia

Main Presenting Author: Charania, Farah
Co-Presenting Author: Kassan, Anusha

Abstract: *Despite commitments to equity, diversity, and inclusion, racialized academic women in Canadian universities continue to face systemic barriers, invisible labour, and subtle dismissal.*

Although institutions report progress, tokenism, scrutiny, and racialized expectations persist beneath performative inclusion. This round table invites psychologists, educators, and trainees to examine how racialized women navigate and resist these contradictions in Eurocentric academic spaces. We conceptualize gender inclusively, recognizing women as anyone who identifies as a woman. Drawing on duo-ethnographic insights, session leaders will explore tensions between institutional rhetoric and lived realities, including pressures to appear "legible" in white environments, the emotional labour of supporting racialized students, and challenges in fostering culturally safe pedagogies. Rather than presenting empirical findings, facilitators will offer provocations related to workload equity, identity development, and layered demands placed on racialized women. Participants will reflect on parallels in their contexts and co-generate pathways toward accountability, solidarity, and structural change. This session moves beyond coping strategies to reconsider how psychology training and academic cultures can better honour the knowledge, contributions, and wellbeing of racialized academic women.

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124663 - Conversation Session

Beyond Stigma and Risk: Supporting Young People Who Use Drugs in Practice

Main Presenting Author: Hadad, Noor
Co-Presenting Authors: D'Alessio, Heath; Ellis-Durity, Kiah

Additional Author: Trombley, Hunter

Abstract: *Across Canada, young people who use drugs (YPWUD) describe consistent challenges when trying to access supports. In Get Sensible's 2023 report on YPWUD's healthcare experiences, 78% of participants reported feeling judged by providers, and many avoided care because they feared being dismissed or denied medication. These are not isolated experiences; they reflect persistent gaps in how systems view youth SU, often through stigma, risk, or deficit-based narratives that do not align with how young people understand their own contexts or needs. These narratives can also shape expectations in clinical settings, including assumptions that abstinence should be the preferred therapeutic goal. For psychologists, this raises questions about how such narratives inform assumptions, shape language, and influence whether honest conversations can occur. This session invites participants to examine how these narratives surface in psychological practice and affect how YPWUD feel able to speak about their SU. After a brief overview from Get Sensible's work, guided discussion will explore how stigma, risk, and abstinence-oriented expectations influence clinical interactions and limit space for youth autonomy in care. The aim is to support reflection on the narratives shaping practice and consider approaches that make care more accessible and meaningful for young people who use drugs.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126337 - Conversation Session

Going Beyond the Stereotyped Understanding of Familism and Collectivism in Domestic Violence: Attending to Asian Diversity and Cultural Safety in Practice

Main Presenting Author: Choo, Ping Ying

Abstract: *Women's experiences in domestic violence (DV) extend beyond trauma and are inextricably connected with structural violence and their intersecting identity markers. Although Asian as a racial*

category encapsulates vastly diverse nations and ethnic groups with differing values and sociocultural rules, the diversity of Asian women's experiences is not captured in the literature. Furthermore, scholars have consistently drawn attention to familism and teachings of Confucianism as the "traditional Asian values" that contribute to the tolerance of DV and silencing of survivors' experiences, casting Asian women as victims in their traditional culture. Such stereotyped presentation can risk assuming universal applicability of these cultural values on all Asian communities and simplifying survivors' complex experiences of DV, thus hindering the provision of culturally sensitive support services. The purpose of this discussion is to invite fellow care professionals to share their experiences working with the Asian population in the context of DV and foreground crucial ways of integrating cultural safety in care provision beyond the binary view of individualism and collectivism. This discussion will spark novel insights into potential new directions for DV interventions beyond the dominant, individualistic provision of care.

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 125032 - Conversation Session

Where Are We With Building a Socially and Culturally Responsive Psychology?

Main Presenting Author: Goghari, Vina
Co-Presenting Author: Kassan, Anusha

Abstract: *Over the past five years, issues related to anti-racism, anti-oppression, Indigeneity, social justice, intersectionality, and human rights have generated significant dialogue and action. In 2023, Canadian Psychology/Psychologie canadienne published its first special issue dedicated to these topics, featuring contributions from leading Canadian and international scholars. The articles addressed four key themes: (1) representation in psychology, (2) Indigenous and Black well-being and mental health, (3) ableism, and (4) immigrant and refugee resettlement. This roundtable, led by the two co-editors of the special issue, aims to foster reflection on cultural and social justice responsiveness and systemic change within psychology and society. Three years after the publication, we will revisit progress and setbacks in advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in the current Canadian and global context. Participants will leave with practical strategies informed by the special issue and collaboratively generate ideas for continued innovation and advocacy.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124591 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

Advocacy as Ethical Practice: How Psychologists Can Respond to Anti-Trans Legislation, Protect Marginalized Communities, and Support Clients Affected by Alberta's Shifting Policy Landscape

Moderator(s): Caso , Taymy J

Panelists: Dabbs-Petty, Madison ; Scott-Ugwuegbula, Zalika ; Asad , Ahad

Abstract: *In Alberta, recent legislative changes have impacted the rights, autonomy, and wellbeing of several marginalized groups. These changes include the introduction of anti-trans legislation banning gender-affirming care for youth, trans girls' participation in sport, and changes to names and*

pronouns at school; incoming legislation which protects hate speech of registered professionals when it occurs outside working hours; and Bill 2, which jeopardized the legal rights of teachers to protest and strike, impacting workers across the province. These legislative changes are of direct relevance to psychologists across Canada for two main reasons: first, they profoundly impact the psychological wellbeing of individuals seeking mental health services. Second, they represent a shifting policy landscape whose impacts will be felt across the country. Led by a queer, non-binary, Latinx faculty member and students with both professional and community experience, this panel will speak to key groups impacted by this legislation: LGBTQ+, autistic and BIPOC individuals, and those involved in school systems. Adopting an intersectional approach, we will discuss the legal context and impacts of recent legislation and provide concrete strategies for psychologists to both serve clients and use their privilege to advocate against harmful policy, as our Code of Ethics requires that we do.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125404 - Panel Discussion

Equity Detours and Reactance Challenge Equity-Based Interventions in Canadian Psychology: An Analysis of Systemic, Structural, and Institutional Progress and Impediments Since 2020

Moderator(s): Hassan, Sabrina

Panelists: Hassan, Sabrina; Maeder, Evelyn; Sawyer, Kafui

Abstract: *Equity detours (Gorski, 2019; Olsson, 1997) are the ways by which equity-based interventions are challenged and undermined, which functionally maintain problematic power structures and racial inequity. Professional and institutional challenges to the registration modernization proposals by the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysis of Ontario provide a powerful example of ongoing equity detours and psychological reactance within Canadian psychology, revealing a general lack of structural competency and, essentially, a commitment to a racist status quo. Following George Floyd's murder in 2020, Canadian psychology joined the galvanized global outrage, releasing anti-racism statements and establishing EDI-focused initiatives. Racialized communities and advocates were hopeful yet cautious, understanding the vital importance of meaningful investments, measurable progress, and accountability frameworks. Only six years on, the world has witnessed both the rise and decline of the EDI-related zeitgeist across the USA and now Canada. The authors take stock of Canadian psychology to date using the Ontario case example as a basis for analysis. They note areas of meaningful progress in addressing systemic and institutional inequities, while positing that a trend is emerging whereby racial and ethnic inequities are not only maintained but problematic power structures are worsening.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 124709 - Panel Discussion

Truth and Reconciliation in Organizations and Institutions: From Research to Practice to Transformation

Moderator(s): McGeer, Rachel

Panelists: Grier, Melanie; Carter-Rogers, Katelynn; Murry, Adam; McKay, Courtney

Abstract: *More than a decade after the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada released its Final Report and Calls to Action, progress across sectors remains uneven, slow, and marked by significant implementation gaps. While national and individual commitments to embark on a truth and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples (T&R) journey, a clear and often ignored throughline connects all Calls to Action: sustained organizational transformation is required to forward the goals of T&R. With an empirical focus on highly relevant topics like recruitment, selection, and retention; organizational change; leadership; employee attitudes; and teams, Industrial-Organizational (I-O) psychology offers vital tools to advance T&R in collectively supportive ways. However, while T&R research is expanding, practically applying its insights in organizations is lagging, leaving organizations that genuinely desire to engage with T&R little guidance for how to effectively and sustainably adopt wise decolonizing and Indigenizing practices. This panel brings together organizational scholars actively applying T&R research in real-world settings. Panelists will highlight key organizational T&R research findings, share experiences working advancing T&R in organizations, and discuss how researchers, practitioners, and leaders alike can embrace the current "era of reconciliation" with confidence and purpose.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125204 - Panel Discussion

Who Holds the Keys? Weaponized Policy, Racial Equity, and the Battle for Belonging in Canadian Psychology

Moderator(s): McWilliams, Jennifer

Panelists: Shaughnessy, Krystelle; Chan, Jacky; MacIntyre, Myriah; Sawyer, Kafui; Votta-Bleeker, Lisa

Abstract: *Drawing on Faber et al.'s (2023) argument that policy structures in Canadian psychology can function as "weaponized" tools that restrict racialized trainees, this panel brings the authors of the original paper into conversation with representatives of the CPA's 2025 commentary. Together, the discussion examines how admissions practices, accreditation standards, and regulatory pathways shape who gains access to the profession, and whether current systems reinforce inequitable outcomes or uphold necessary standards of public protection. Faber et al. (2023) highlight historical and contemporary mechanisms through which ambiguous rules, procedural opacity, and aversive policy tools disproportionately impact Black, Indigenous, and other racialized applicants. In contrast, CPA leadership (2025) emphasizes structural constraints, legal limitations, and ongoing efforts to increase equity while maintaining training quality and public safety. This panel creates a rare opportunity for direct dialogue across perspectives, exploring points of tension, shared commitments, and areas where the profession must make concrete decisions about its future. By engaging both critiques and institutional responses, the session invites attendees to consider how Canadian psychology can reconcile equity, accountability, and excellence in building a profession reflective of Canada's diversity.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 124729 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

"They Asked For It:" The Influence of Diverse Beliefs and Identities on Rape MythAcceptance (RMA).

Main Presenting Author: Nelson, Chloe T.

Additional Authors: Henderson-Tanguay, Abbey ; Somani, Aaliza; Peace, A Kristine

Abstract: *Sexual violence (SV) is a significant concern in Canada and worldwide.Sadly, SV victimization has primarily been viewed in a heteronormative way. Past research hasfound that higher rape myth acceptance (RMA) is related to SV perpetration and skewed victimblame attributions. Further, other variables related to traditional views of sex and gender rolesare closely associated with RMA. Given emerging recognition of the diversity of SVexperiences, it is important to examine how participant sexual diversity, beliefs about genderand sex diversity (BGSD), and gender essentialism (GE) influence RMA scores. Previousresearch on RMA used measures assuming heterosexual dynamics, which may excludesexually diverse participants' perspectives. For this study, we used a gender-neutral RMA scaleto assess these relationships and broaden knowledge of RMA correlates. Regression andcorrelational analyses are underway on collected data (N = 500). We expect positiveassociations between RMA and gender essentialism, and gender normativity and uniformity.Affirmation and participant sexual diversity should be negatively correlated with RMA scores.Our study builds on knowledge of the relationships between RMA and gender-related beliefs byusing scales that assume participants may or may not come from heterosexual understandingsof SV, which has broader implications for addressing SV.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125323 - Printed Poster

1.1 Building on What Works: Understanding and Scaling Strategies for Immigrant Employment Success

Main Presenting Author: Sukhon , Hala

Additional Authors: Oliveria, Ana ; Banerjee, Rupa ; Kumar, Alka

Abstract: *Although many immigrants face persistent labour-market disadvantages, some still achieve strong outcomes despite systemic barriers. This study examines the personal, relational, and structural factors that support employment integration, with particular attention to "pivot points"- critical moments that alter newcomers' trajectories. We interviewed adult immigrants (N = 40) who identified as having achieved employment success and conducted three focus groups (2-4 participants each), along with interviews with key informants involved in newcomer support. Event-centred, life-course interviewing was used to identify pivot points, strategies, and enabling conditions. Process-tracing analysis is underway to examine sequences of actions, decisions, relationships, and contextual factors contributing to successful outcomes. Preliminary findings indicate that success is shaped by (1) targeted social networks, (2) support from community and settlement organizations, (3) strategic self-advocacy, and (4) employer or program policies that expand access to opportunities. Pivot points frequently emerged when newcomers leveraged brief windows of opportunity facilitated by mentors, employers, or community groups. This work identifies emerging strategies that may help*

policymakers, employers, and settlement organizations strengthen immigrant employment pathways and promote more equitable, sustainable labour-market integration.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125047 - Printed Poster

A Scoping Review of Perceived Discrimination Measures Validated for Racialized Young People

Main Presenting Author: Kamassah, Vashti E.

Additional Author: Iwenofu, Linda

Abstract: *Racialized young people are more likely to experience discrimination due to intersecting identities, leading to unique and compounding stressors with well-documented impacts on health. However, tools used to measure perceived discrimination in this group are variable and their psychometric properties have not been systematically synthesized. This scoping review addresses this gap by mapping study characteristics, measure characteristics, and psychometric properties of perceived discrimination measures available for this population. Following PRISMA-ScR guidelines, we searched MEDLINE, Embase, Social Work Abstracts, Scopus, PsycINFO, and APA PsycTests for discrimination measures validated for racialized young people aged 0-24 years, with no geographical or date restrictions. Two reviewers independently screened and extracted the data. Included measures are organized by type of discrimination and summarized by measure characteristics (e.g., country, number of items, number of scales) and psychometric properties (e.g., internal consistency, structural validity, reliability). By providing a comprehensive overview of available tools for racialized young people, this review will support researchers and practitioners in selecting conceptually and psychometrically appropriate measures, and identify critical gaps where new or improved measures and further psychometric research is needed.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 123200 - Printed Poster

Ambiguity tolerance and its impact on implicit and explicit attitudes towards biracial individuals

Main Presenting Author: Nicol, Corinne

Additional Author: Ratliff, Kate A

Abstract: *Multiracial people (e.g., people with two or more distinct racial backgrounds) represent a rapidly growing racial demographic. However, research into attitudes towards and about multiracials remains relatively limited. Research suggests that the way people perceive multiracials varies, and is influenced by contextual factors and perceivers' own motivations.In the current study, we examine whether individuals' tolerance for ambiguity (e.g., the extent to which an individual finds ambiguous situations and stimuli threatening) was associated with outcomes on both implicit and explicit measures of attitudes toward biracial groups. Low ambiguity tolerance has been associated with increased prejudice, and individuals low in ambiguity tolerance tend to struggle to reconcile the nuance of multiple categories which can coexist. Multiracial people inhabit a somewhat ambiguous racial space, possessing malleable racial identities which challenge traditional views of racial groups*

as entirely disparate from each other. Therefore, we hypothesize that individuals who are lower in ambiguity tolerance will hold more negative attitudes towards biracials compared to individuals higher in ambiguity tolerance.Our results add to the growing literature on multiracial perception and can potentially be used to better understand and address negative attitudes towards multiracials.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126278 - Printed Poster

Amplified Visibility: Exploring the Lived Experiences and Mental Health of Hijabi Students in a Canadian University through a Mixed Methods Study

Main Presenting Author: Hobishi, Hala

Additional Authors: Fakhri, Rana ; Hussain, Mehnaz; Sunohara, Momoka ; Ryder, Andrew G; Elmouden, Imane

Abstract: *Historically, Muslims have been underrepresented in mental health research, limiting understanding of their unique challenges and coping mechanisms (Sami, 2021). We conducted a two-phase mixed-methods study to examine the mental health experiences of Muslim students at an English-speaking University in Quebec. Our quantitative study with 74 Muslim students showed that perceived discrimination predicted psychological distress (β = 0.426, p = .043). Social support moderated this relationship, buffering the impact of discrimination on distress (β = -0.209, p=.002). Building on our quantitative study, we conducted a focus group with five Hijabi students to understand how institutional supports or barriers affect their well-being. Preliminary qualitative thematic analysis using ChatGPT (Naeem et al., 2025) suggested that Hijabi students' mental health may be influenced by experiences related to religious visibility, discrimination, and subtle forms of exclusion within academic and social environments. This contributed to reduced confidence in university counselling services and preference for peer or faith-based support. A key message from the participants was the need for safer, more inclusive facilities and proactive administrative responses to discrimination. Our findings will inform culturally sensitive mental health outreach and bridge academic research with lived experiences.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125128 - Printed Poster

Assessing Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism Climate in INSPIRE: A Mixed-Methods Study of a Canadian Research Training Network

Main Presenting Author: Soleimani, Mahshid

Additional Authors: Soucie, Kendall ; Quinn, Makayla; Kadam, Suresh Siddhesh ; Kost, Cassidy ; Heuvel, Bridget ; Fong, Jackie ; Goodridge, Lawrence ; McKay, Robert Michael L

Abstract: *Background: Equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism (EDI-AR) are central to healthy research training environments, yet little empirical data exist on how trainees experience these climates within large, multi-site Canadian networks. This study examines these issues within INSPIRE, a multi-institution and multi-disciplinary research network.Methods: A mixed-methods climate assessment (N = 43) was conducted using validated measures of equity, diversity, inclusion,*

belonging, and anti-racism, along with open-ended items on barriers and supports. Quantitative items were analyzed descriptively, and qualitative data were thematically coded.Results: Participants generally perceived the network as welcoming and collaborative. However, neutral responses were common across domains, suggesting limited visibility of EDI practices for some members. The clearest gap emerged in anti-racism: most respondents disagreed that the network encourages bystander intervention following racial microaggressions. Qualitative themes identified inconsistent communication, unclear processes, and limited structured EDI training as barriers, while community connectedness and supportive mentorship were named as facilitators.Conclusions: Findings indicate that while trainees experience many aspects of INSPIRE as inclusive, systemic gaps persist in anti-racism practices and transparency-

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124003 - Printed Poster

Assessing the Impact of Racism in Canada: Psychometric Evaluation of the Racial Trauma Scale (RTS)

Main Presenting Author: Fontanilla, Cheiyenne

Additional Authors: Gran-Ruaz, Sophia ; Osman, Muna; Dasgupta, Annwesha; Williams, Monnica

Abstract: *Racism is a pervasive determinant of mental health in Canada, yet routine clinical assessment rarely captures its psychological toll. Validated, bilingual tools are needed to identify racism-related distress and support accurate diagnosis and effective treatment. The Racial Trauma Scale (RTS), a self-report measure of race-based traumatic stress, was evaluated as an assessment tool for Canadians and to examine how racial trauma is patterned across racial groups and regions. A sample of 756 diverse participants across Canada completed an online survey in English or French that included the RTS and established measures of mental health and racism-related experiences. Reliability was excellent in both languages for the 30-item ($\alpha = .98$) and 9-item RTS forms ($\alpha s \geq .93$), and confirmatory factor analyses supported an expected three-factor structure. RTS scores were positively and strongly correlated with symptoms of depression, anxiety, PTSD, negative affect, and racism-related stressors. Racial trauma severity was highest among Black participants and lowest among White participants. There were significant differences in RTS scores across provinces, with highest scores in the Atlantic region. Findings demonstrate that the RTS provides a reliable and valid assessment tool in Canada, helping clinicians identify racial trauma and underscoring the need for culturally informed care.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125086 - Printed Poster

Blurred Lines: The Wellbeing Distinctions of Multiethnic Individuals Living in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Phonchareon, Jason P

Additional Author: Bourgeois, David

Abstract: *There is growing research on the identity, belonging, and psychological well-being experiences of Mixed individuals. Mixed individuals face unique challenges with their group*

memberships, ethnic-racial identity, and monoracism. Research in the U.S. found that Mixed individuals have lower levels of Well-being than Monoethnic individuals. However, living in an egalitarian and multicultural environment has been shown to alleviate Mixed individuals' experiences. The present study aimed to test whether findings of lower well-being in Mixed individuals extend to Canada. 35 Mixed and 132 Monoethnic individuals completed four measures of psychological well-being - the SWLS (cognitive), PANAS (affective), Rosenberg (Self-Esteem), and SES (Self-Efficacy) - as well as measures related to identity (SCIM) and belongingness (GBS). Scores were each compared through a 2x2 factorial ANOVA (2 levels of Multiethnicity [Mixed and Monoethnic] and Racialization [Racialized and Non-racialized]). The results indicated that Mixed individuals had significantly lower scores of cognitive well-being, self-esteem, and belongingness. No differences were found in affective well-being, self-efficacy, or identity. Egalitarian attitudes may shield Mixed individuals from negative emotions and self-doubt but systemic barriers and ethnic ingroup exclusion inhibit goal achievement and positive identity evaluation.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125361 - Printed Poster

Bullying "victimization," Mental Health, and Neurodivergence: An Ecosystemic Analysis of Social Exclusion, Microaggressions, and Cyber Aggression in Canadian Youth.

Main Presenting Author: Moon, Mabelle

Additional Authors: Sepehry, Amir A; Manion, Kathleen ; Childs, Elizabeth

Abstract: *Background: Bullying/victimization and discrimination, including exclusion, microaggressions, and cyber aggression, pose significant risks to psychological well-being across Western educational systems. Aim: Grounded in an ecosystemic framework, this study investigates the mental health correlates and developmental consequences of bullying among vulnerable youth with neurodevelopmental disorders, who may experience psychological distress. Hypothesis: Neurodivergent youth in Canada experience significantly higher rates of social exclusion, microaggressions, and cyber aggression than their peers. Method: A literature review guides the operational definitions, categorization, and interpretation of data. National-level data will be obtained from the WITS Programs Foundation upon REB approval. Subcategories of neurodivergence will be explored where possible. Results: Based on existing evidence, neurodivergent youth are disproportionately affected by multiple forms of bullying. Implications: Findings have clinical relevance, informing assessment and support strategies for at-risk youth, and provide guidance for policy development in educational and community settings. Targeted interventions are needed to reduce bullying exposure, promote mental health, and support neurocognitive and educational outcomes.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 123811 - Printed Poster

Career Agency Among Emerging Adult Women Experiencing Psychological and Emotional Abuse

Main Presenting Author: Shewchuk, Shayla R

Additional Author: Chen, Charles P

Abstract: *Psychological and emotional abuse (PEA), a form of intimate partner violence (IPV), disrupts emerging adult women's career development by negatively impacting their mental health and agency. At the same time, employment can offer structure, identity, and independence that support recovery from abuse. Yet the reciprocal relationship among PEA, mental health, and women's career experiences remains conceptually fragmented. This study uses Career Human Agency Theory (CHAT) to examine how emerging adult women understand this reciprocal dynamic and the role of career agency within it.Using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis, semi-structured interviews were conducted with Canadian emerging adult women who experienced PEA within the past five years. Analysis used an in-depth, experience-focused approach to capture meaning-making around work, identity, and self-direction.Four themes emerged. Coercive control narrowed cognitive and emotional capacity for decision-making, contributing to vocational instability. PEA created feedback loops between distress, self-doubt, and disrupted work participation. Conversely, work provided refuge, competence, and early footholds for rebuilding identity. After separation, participants described recovering direction and confidence through re-engaging with meaningful work.Findings show that PEA, mental health, and career agency interact reciprocally, with work engagement both undermined by and restorative within this context. Integrating vocational support into trauma-informed services and recognizing employment as a pathway of healing are key implications for practice and policy.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124704 - Printed Poster

Clicking Through Culture: A Web Content Analysis of Credibility, Suitability, and Cultural Appropriateness of Parenting Resources on Child Emotion and Behaviour Difficulties

Main Presenting Author: Leung, Kaitlyn S.
Co-Presenting Author: Mah, Janet W.T.

Abstract: *Parenting practices are a powerful channel through which child emotional and behavioural problems are mitigated or exacerbated. Use of online parenting resources has recently risen dramatically across Western and Eastern cultures. This study compared the credibility and suitability of online parenting resources from the most frequently used search engines in North America (Google) and China (Baidu), using search terms provided by Chinese-Canadian parents. Using the validated Quality Evaluation Scoring Tool (QUEST) and Suitability Assessment of Materials (SAM) to assess credibility and suitability, respectively, the top search results about child emotional dysregulation and noncompliance were analyzed (N = 52). Two-way ANOVAs showed that emotion-related resources from Google were more credible than those from Baidu, while compliance-related resources from Google were more suitable than those from Baidu. One in five resources (19.23%) were classified as not Chinese culturally appropriate, and emotion-related resources from Baidu were more culturally appropriate than those from Google. In sum, Google resources are either more or equally credible and suitable than Baidu resources, but Baidu emotional resources are more culturally appropriate. This shows the need to develop culturally appropriate, clear, and credible resources that capitalize on the strengths of current web content.*

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 122961 - Printed Poster

Cognitive risk scores and objective cognition in the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA): The moderating role of sexual orientation

Main Presenting Author: Grady, Alexandra

Additional Author: Stinchcombe, Arne

Abstract: *Dementia risk tools quantify modifiable factors contributing to cognition, identifying targets for intervention. Lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) adults show higher prevalence of some risk factors linked to cognitive decline due to stigma and discrimination, but it is unclear if these translate into overall cognitive outcomes. We examined associations between two cognitive risk scores and overall cognition, and whether associations differed by sexual orientation. We used baseline data from the comprehensive cohort of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (n=20,248). Cognition was assessed with an objective cognitive battery. Risk scores included LIfestyle for BRAin Health (LIBRA) and Australian National University - Alzheimer's Disease Risk Index (ANU-ADRI). Linear regressions treating cognition as the outcome tested the interaction between standardized risk scores and sexual orientation. Results showed that both risk scores were associated with lower cognition (LIBRA: β=-2.62, $p<0.01$; ANU-ADRI: β=-3.55, $p<0.01$). The LIBRA × sexual orientation interaction was significant (β=1.45, $p=0.037$), indicating a weaker negative association among LGB adults. These findings highlight the importance of sexual orientation in cognitive aging research and the potential value of tailored risk reduction strategies.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124910 - Printed Poster

Concept Mapping Helpful Counselling Practices Identified by Low-Income Clients in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Lau, Amy Soo-Jin

Additional Authors: Jay, Melissa ; Lengyell, Marguerite ; Finnigan, Charlotte ; Brown, Jason

Abstract: *Low-income counselling clients remain underrepresented in mental health research, where scholarship has traditionally emphasized theory and intervention outcomes rather than clients' lived experiences. Although recent work has explored counsellor perspectives, little is known about what clients experiencing low-income consider helpful in counselling. The lack of client-centred care and client-centred research limits the development of responsive and equitable services. This study seeks to fill that void by using group concept mapping to explore the perspective of counselling clients. 66 adults across Canada who self-identified as low-income completed semi-structured interviews about helpful aspects of counselling. Researchers generated a set of unique, concise statements from the interview data. Participants then sorted interview statements into conceptually similar groups. The sorting data was analyzed using the GroupWisdom software to produce a visual map of how clients organize helpful elements of counselling. This analysis is expected to provide insight into how relational, structural, and practical factors connect, generating a client-defined framework for understanding helpful counselling processes. Findings will inform theory, contribute to practitioner training, and support policy discussions related to accessibility and quality in Canadian mental health services.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125514 - Printed Poster

Critical Context in Clinical Psychology Research

Main Presenting Author: Mortimer, Calista CP

Abstract: *Based on a scientist-practitioner model, the discipline of clinical psychology is tasked with producing research to guide the diagnosis, treatment, and practices of clinicians working with those with mental health conditions. Despite the implementation of guidelines to aid researchers in recognizing the role individual, social, and systemic context plays in the knowledge production process, clinical psychology continues to face critique both from within and outside the discipline. With the notion of science becoming increasingly fraught in North America, this begs the question: How are clinical psychologists' considering context in their research and what does this illuminate about the relationship between structural power, personal agency, and the potential for better clinical psychology care? To investigate this, I conducted semi-structured interviews with clinical psychology researchers. Ongoing is the analysis of the results using an adapted version of the Listening Guide. The results will be finalized in April 2026 and are expected to map the intermingled web of personal convictions, disciplinary norms, and scientific aims that constitute clinical psychology research. For this snapshot talk, I will present the main voices that were identified and explore how these findings can inform how researchers navigate this complex landscape moving forward.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125827 - Printed Poster

Critical historical education about policing and Indigenous people in Canada: Investigating the impact on prejudice, knowledge, empathy, and perceptions of racism

Main Presenting Author: Taylor McPherson, Jasmine
Co-Presenting Author: Efimoff, Iloradanon H.

Abstract: *The Canadian government created police to exert colonial control. As such, there is widespread anti-Indigenous systemic racism in the police system which has detrimental consequences for Indigenous people, such as disproportionate rates of victimization and deaths during police-related incidents. Critical historical education (CHE) is a promising mechanism to challenge anti-Indigenous racism, particularly because it focuses on systemic racism (rather than interpersonal racism). In the current study, we investigate if a CHE intervention impacts Indigenous-related thoughts (e.g., criminality stereotypes), feelings (e.g., empathy), and behaviours (e.g., opting to learn about allyship). Participants will be randomly assigned to one of two conditions: an empty control condition or a CHE condition in which participants learn about colonial policing and police violence against Indigenous people in Canada. Using independent sample t-test and moderation analyses, we expect that participants in the CHE condition (vs. control) will have more favourable scores on our outcome variables. Further, we expect that those who hold positive perceptions of police may be more resistant to these effects. Results provide insight into effective anti-Indigenous racism interventions and may increase social support for policies to challenge systemic violence and discrimination in policing.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 125308 - Printed Poster

Critical Historical Education and Humility to Reduce Anti-Indigenous Prejudice

Main Presenting Author: Marshall, Savannah C

Additional Author: Efimoff, Iloradanon H

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Indigenous people in Canada experience widespread prejudice but are underrepresented in prejudice reduction research. Critical historical education (CHE; education focused on historical and systemic racism instead of interpersonal racism) and humility may reduce anti-Indigenous prejudice. Methods: We experimentally assessed if CHE interacts with trait humility to impact anti-Indigenous prejudice and if CHE increases cultural humility. We had four conditions: 1) empty control; 2) education about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG); 3) education about MMIWG and interpersonal racism, 4) education about MMIWG and systemic racism. Results: Using ANOVA and moderation analyses, we found that the CHE + systemic condition (vs. CHE + interpersonal) significantly increased cultural humility among White participants. Also, those with lower trait humility in the CHE + systemic condition (vs. CHE + interpersonal) had significantly more cultural humility. However, those with low and moderate trait humility in the control condition had significantly higher cultural humility than those in the CHE and CHE + interpersonal conditions. Conclusions: Researchers should consider levels of trait humility when using CHE. Impact: Findings have implications for research to increase cultural humility among clinicians working with Indigenous people.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 125376 - Printed Poster

Discrimination Towards International Students in the Ontario Rental Market: Findings From an Audit Field Experiment

Main Presenting Author: Mahony, Shannon A.

Additional Authors: Esses, Victoria ; Calogero, Rachel

Abstract: *While research suggests international students experience discrimination, causal evidence remains limited. Using an audit field experiment design, we assessed whether landlord responses to rental inquiries varied as a function of applicant identity. A total of 1,272 inquiries were sent to landlords in Toronto, London, and Windsor from eight fictitious applicants whose international student status (International/Domestic), ethnicity (Arab/White), and gender (male/female) were systematically varied. Applicant names were pre-tested for ethnic signal clarity. Responses from landlords were coded as 1 (Responded) or 0 (No Response) and a content analysis was performed on the 630 responses received. Multilevel modelling revealed White male international students were least likely to receive a response and White female international students were most likely to receive a response. Further analysis revealed discrimination in the landlords' responses to the applicants based on the questions and follow-up actions included. These findings provide novel evidence of identity-based discrimination within Ontario's rental market and highlights the need for intersectional field-based approaches to understanding and promoting equitable access to rental housing.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125190 - Printed Poster

Eight Journeys into Teaching: A Longitudinal Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis Exploring the Individual Adjustment Experiences of Culturally Diverse Teachers

Main Presenting Author: Zak, Michelle

Additional Authors: Russell-Mayhew, Shelly ; Barbeau, Kheana; Kassan, Anusha; Kendrick, Astrid; Tingle, Elizabeth

Abstract: *Entering the teaching profession is a complex developmental journey shaped by relational, cultural, and systemic forces. For culturally diverse teachers, this often involves navigating Eurocentric norms while sustaining authenticity and wellbeing. Guided by a Critical Social Justice and Intersectional framework and using longitudinal interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA), this study examined how eight culturally diverse pre-service teachers made sense of their adjustment into in-service teaching. This poster traces each participant's developmental trajectory, highlighting continuities such as sustained commitments to equity, relational care, and culturally grounded values, as well as shifts in confidence, boundary-setting, self-expression, and strategic advocacy across the first year. These trajectories reveal how teachers balanced authenticity with adaptation while negotiating emotional labour, belonging, and systemic constraints. Implications for developing individualized supports that honour teachers' identities and sustain their early-career adjustment will be discussed.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125606 - Printed Poster

Examining Adults' Attitudes Towards Children who Differ by Race and Wealth: Insight from Implicit Measures

Main Presenting Author: Colaco, Patricia

Additional Authors: Steele, Jennifer R; Cyr, Emily N

Abstract: *Perceptions of wealth and race are deeply interconnected, with White people being more easily associated with wealth than people who are Black (e.g., Olson et al., 2012). In this study, we examined how wealth and race impact people's implicit biases. Building on a lens model of social categorization (Pesko et al., 2022), we asked adult participants (N = 227) to complete an Ambiguous-Categorization IAT (AC-IAT; Steele & Lipman, 2023) that included wealthy Black children and poorer White children, manipulated using their perceived house. Participants were randomly assigned to attend to children's race, wealth, or either. Consistent with our pre-registered hypotheses, participants exhibited a stronger positive association with wealthier Black children (pro-Wealth bias) when they were asked to categorize these children by wealth, as opposed to race. When able to categorize by race and/or wealth, participants were more likely to categorize children by race, and they showed more positive associations with poorer White children versus wealthier Black children, and the more consistently they categorized children by race, the greater their pro-White bias. These findings illustrate the contextual and intersectional nature of racial and wealth biases, and the role that social categorization plays in adults' perceptions of children.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125942 - Printed Poster

Examining the Mediating Roles of Coping Strategies and Acculturation in NavigatingRacial Discrimination for South Asian Young Adults in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Jaswal, Harpreet

Additional Author: Kuo, Ben

Abstract: *Racial discrimination is a pervasive stressor that significantly impacts the well-being ofracialized individuals, yet the cultural processes shaping these effects remain underexplored indiverse immigrant populations. The present study examined these processes in South Asianyoung adults in Canada (N = 214) by testing two structural equation models focused on copingstrategies and acculturation. Model 1 tested whether engagement, avoidant, and collective coping mediated the relationship between racial discrimination and subjective well-being and psychological distress. Model 2 examined acculturation as a mediator, given its role in navigating cultural stressors. In Model 1, engagement and collective coping predicted better well-being, whereas avoidant coping predicted poorer well-being. In Model 2, acculturation was found to be negatively affected by discrimination but positively predicted well-being. However, unexpectedly, higher acculturation was found to be associated with higher psychological distress, highlighting a nuanced relationship between acculturation and psychological outcomes. Across both models, racial discrimination consistently predicted poorer well-being. Findings highlight complex cultural processes shaping responses to discrimination and emphasize the need for culturally grounded interventions to support mental health.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123289 - Printed Poster

Experience of Decent Education Among Women University Students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Main Presenting Author: Park, Chan Jeong

Additional Authors: Mcsweeney, Tara ; Sharma, Meera; Rho, Kate; Chi, Eugene

Abstract: *Background: Grounded in Psychology of Working Theory, decent education is defined as a subjective educational experience that ensures safety, equity, belonging, quality learning, and preparation for career development. Women students in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) are often minoritized and face unique barriers in career development. This study explored their experience of decent education.Methods: Sixteen women students enrolled in STEM majors were recruited (Mage=21.81, SDage=3.64). Five joined a focus group, and eleven participated in individual interviews. Data were analyzed using Reflexive Thematic Analysis.Results: Five themes with subthemes were identified: Belongingness ([Under]representation, Othering), Marginalization (Microaggression, Overt Discrimination), Internal Reactions and Responses (Imposter Phenomenon, Emotional Reactions, Coping Strategies), Influences on Work Volition (Systemic Limitations, Family and Community Influence, Personal Interests and Values), and Future Decent Work (Anticipated Marginalization, Work-Life Balance, Financial Security).Conclusions/Impact: Women students in STEM experience components of decent education to varying degrees. Despite ongoing and*

anticipated marginalization, participants still sought ways to exercise work volition. Findings have implications for supporting these students' career development.

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123741 - Printed Poster

Exploring children's experiences and their impact on well-Being in Namibia

Main Presenting Author: Li, Zirui

Additional Authors: Gentz, Shelene ; Schutz, Fabiane; Obeegadoo, Ishika; Ruiz-Casares, Monica

Abstract: *Background: Children's home alone experiences remain understudied in low-resource settings. No research in Namibia has explored these links to children's well-being. This study explores patterns of home alone experiences among children in the Khomas region in Namibia and their associations with perceived safety, subjective well-being, and affective well-being. Methods: Data originated from Wave 3 of the 2018 Namibia International Survey on Children's Well-Being (n=849). We examined associations between home alone and well-being outcomes using multiple linear regressions and Mann-Whitney U tests, adjusting for gender, age, and dwelling type. Results: Around 80% of children reported having stayed home alone at least once. Children who stayed home alone reported higher subjective and affective well-being yet felt less safe in home and school compared to those who are not. Girls and children living in informal settlements showed lower well-being and perceived safety, and older children more frequently reported feeling sad or stressed when home alone. Conclusions: Unsupervised self-care may support children's independence but can also increase safety concerns, especially among girls and children in low-income households. Action: Policies to support children in Namibia should promote autonomy while addressing environmental insecurity and ensuring gender-responsive protection.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123404 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Effectiveness of a Myth Buster Intervention on Ageism

Main Presenting Author: Cleverdon, Tamara
Co-Presenting Authors: Marinculic, Lana; Pike, Jessica K

Additional Authors: Vegh, Danika ; Jessiman, Lesley J; Geniole, N Shawn; Proietti, Valentina

Abstract: *Ageism is often described as the most socially acceptable form of discrimination, despite overwhelming evidence of its harmful consequences at both the individual and societal level. With the older adult population projected to double by 2050, effective interventions are needed now more than ever to reduce ageist attitudes within both younger and older adults. The current study investigated the effectiveness of an age-related educational myth buster intervention in reducing ageism. Using a post-test-only design, younger (n = 495) and older (n = 209) adults were randomly assigned to either a control (no intervention) or experimental condition (myth buster intervention). Using a two-way ANOVA, we found that younger adults who had completed the myth buster showed significantly lower levels of ageism compared to those in the control condition. However, there were no significant differences between the two conditions in the older adult sample. These findings suggest that myth buster interventions can be effective at reducing ageism in younger adults and highlight the importance of providing these types of educational opportunities for this age group. Nevertheless,*

based on the lack of effectiveness in our older sample, future studies should selectively target self-ageism and develop alternative interventions that are specific to older adults.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 126029 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Impact of Early Caregiver Warmth and Hostility on LGBTQIA2S+ Youth Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Sadek, Malak

Additional Author: McArthur , Brae Anne

Abstract: *Early caregiver warmth and hostility shape youth development and mental health. LGBTQIA2S+ youth face higher mental health risks than their heterosexual peers, with family acceptance serving as a protective factor and family hostility increasing vulnerability. Despite evidence on the role of family dynamics, little is known about how caregiver warmth and hostility affect the long-term psychological and social development of LGBTQIA2S+ youth. This study aims to advance understanding of family-level risk and protective factors influencing well-being. Participants included 1056 youth from the All Our Families (AOF) cohort study in Calgary, Canada. Early caregiver warmth and hostility were measured at ages 3, connection to parents was measured at age 9 and youth well-being outcomes were measured at age 13. Data collection is complete, and analyses are underway. Regression and mediation analyses will examine the associations of early caregiver warmth and hostility with LGBTQIA2S+ youth well-being, and the importance of caregiver connection at age 9 as a mediator. This study will contribute to our understanding of how early caregiving shapes developmental outcomes for LGBTQIA2S+ youth and may inform family-focused interventions to reduce mental health disparities.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126032 - Printed Poster

From Knowledge to Action: Developing a Digital Sex Trafficking Screener to Identify Vulnerable Youth in The Child Welfare System

Main Presenting Author: Freiman, Leeor

Additional Authors: Benvenuto, Katherine ; Makow, Danah; Asghari, Melody; Orr, Samantha; Connolly, Jennifer

Abstract: *Background: Youth in child welfare are at heightened risk of sex trafficking, yet field-ready screeners remain limited. The York-Simcoe Sex Trafficking Screener (YST) was developed using the Knowledge-to-Action (KTA) framework to guide systematic knowledge creation for frontline assessment.Method: Following the Knowledge-Creation phase of the KTA framework, qualitative and quantitative data were collected to refine content and assess usability. Semi-structured interviews with 27 child welfare workers (2021) refined item utility, wording, sequencing, and response formats. A dataset of 626 completed screeners from 113 workers was examined to assess completeness and item-level missingness to inform digital design.Results: Workers viewed the tool as useful; 67% wanted it to systematize assessments, and nearly one-fifth explicitly requested a digital version to improve workflow. Most screenings (80.5%) had no missing data, and incomplete cases showed minimal*

missingness (M = 1.97 of 52 items), concentrated on limited knowledge about caregiver stability and school engagement.Conclusion: KTA-guided development can translate qualitative and quantitative insights into empirically grounded, practice-ready tools to strengthen identification of sex trafficking risk among vulnerable youth and inform improvements to the digital YST's clarity, structure, and usability.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125961 - Printed Poster

Gender-Affirming Care in Canadian Correctional Institutions: Implications for Alberta Correctional Policies and Regulations

Main Presenting Author: Miskic, Milica

Abstract: *Research on healthcare barriers in Canadian corrections has rarely focused on transgender, non-binary, and gender-diverse (TNGD) individuals, despite being vulnerable to violence and requiring specialized care within institutions. In particular, limited attention has been given to how policy and staff attitudes influence access to care, particularly in Alberta. This qualitative content analysis examined 60 peer-reviewed articles, grey literature, and correctional and human rights policies using Bronfenbrenner's ecological systems theory; four themes emerged. First, microsystem-level transphobic violence, including discrimination by staff and concealment strategies. Second, collective support and self-advocacy within corrections. Third, exosystem-level policy misapplication, biased attitudes, and challenges implementing gender-affirming policy. Fourth, macrosystem-level societal transphobia shaping correctional culture. Notably, Alberta showed significant gaps, lacking dedicated protocols, facilities, and policy alignment with international standards (Yogyakarta Principles +10), while federal reforms have been more progressive though limited. Structural and cultural forces continue to restrict TNGD rights and access to affirming care, with Alberta lagging behind, which has implications for the well-being of TNGD individuals and the professionals who support them.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125630 - Printed Poster

Global Prevalence of Sexual Assault Among Sexual Minority Men & Gender Diverse Individuals: A Meta-Analysis

Main Presenting Author: McDonell, Carly

Additional Authors: Sepehry, Amir A.; Dorfan, Nicole

Abstract: *Background: Sexual assault among sexually diverse men and gender minorities has been widely overlooked. Research on male survivors is as much as 40 years behind females, and transgender and nonbinary individuals have been historically excluded from the literature. Prevalence rates need to be regularly updated to strengthen prevention efforts, increase resource allocation, and improve clinician education. This study conducted a meta-analysis to (a) establish the prevalence of sexual assault in men and gender diverse individuals and (b) explore moderating factors. Methods. Prevalence estimates were obtained using a random-effects model. A prevalence estimate was calculated for each gender identity and sexual orientation group. Results. A total of 74 studies met inclusion criteria. Confidence intervals (95%) for sexual assault prevalence were 17.0%-21.6%*

among sexually diverse men and 16.0%-24.6% among gender diverse groups. These rates were higher than those for straight men (5.5%-13.9%) and cisgender men (0.4%-13.9%). Conclusions. This meta-analysis demonstrated a higher prevalence of sexual assault among sexual and gender minorities. Limitations included high heterogeneity and the inability to conduct multivariate meta-regression. Action/Impact. Results highlight the need for targeted prevention, intervention, and structural efforts towards stigma reduction.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122556 - Printed Poster

Healthcare Experiences of Young People Who Use Drugs: Findings from a National Youth-Led Study

Main Presenting Author: Hadad, Noor
Co-Presenting Author: D'Alessio, Heath

Additional Authors: Ellis-Durity, Kiah ; Trombley, Hunter

Abstract: *Young people who use drugs report significant barriers when seeking healthcare, yet youth-led evidence documenting these experiences remains limited. In 2023, Get Sensible conducted a national survey and facilitated youth focus groups to better understand how young people aged 15-30 navigate healthcare while using substances. Survey findings showed that 78% of participants felt judged by providers, and many described avoiding or delaying care due to fears of being dismissed, misunderstood, or denied needed medication. Focus group data, analyzed using reflexive thematic analysis, highlighted themes of stigma, risk-focused interactions, limited trust in providers, and a lack of youth-responsive communication. Together, these findings point to persistent gaps between youth needs and current healthcare approaches and underscore the importance of youth-informed practices that reduce stigma, build trust, and support safer, more accessible care for young people who use drugs.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126416 - Printed Poster

How individuals with low income view the impacts of counselling

Main Presenting Author: Nguyen, Hung D

Additional Authors: Lengyell, Marguerite ; Jay, Melissa; Finnigan, Charlotte; Brown, Jason

Abstract: *Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of individuals with low income who need counselling services has been on the rise across Canada. The combination of the pandemic and low socioeconomic status has created unique and complex difficulties that are not present in other demographics. However, literature on best counseling practices for individuals with low income remained sparse. As a part of a broader multi-stage study, this study aims to bridge this gap by examining the impacts of counseling from the perspectives of individuals with low income (n = 66). In stage 1, research participants completed semi-structured interviews with pre-determined questions. This study focuses on the following question: "what are the impacts that counselling has had on you [the participant]?". Stage 2 employs Concept Mapping, where participants sorted anonymized responses to the research question into coherent categories. This study consolidated and analyzed data and themes from both stage 1 and 2. The result is expected to illuminate client-centered*

perspectives on barriers, challenges, benefits, and facilitative factors in counseling for individuals with low income.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126162 - Printed Poster

Inequality at the Earliest Stage of Life: Exploring Predictors of Child Gender Bias

Main Presenting Author: Côté, Josiane

Additional Authors: Gaucher, Danielle ; Rogers, Aderiyike

Abstract: *Past research has documented a son preference in many societies, sometimes so extreme that it led to highly skewed population sex-ratios. Current data indicates that in some regions, the son bias has attenuated, and globally, attitudes are shifting toward neutrality. At the same time, popular media has begun platforming signs of an emerging daughter bias in certain nations. The present study contributes empirical evidence to this ongoing discussion and addresses a lack of Canadian data. We reasoned that understudied factors such as context and ideology may underly lingering boy biases and emerging girl biases. In a cross-sectional survey, university students (N = 273) responded to a series of scenarios testing whether they preferred to raise and mentor boys, girls, or were neutral. In contexts of adoption, medical sex-selection, and babysitting a relative, most participants reported neutrality. However, when asked about their ideal first child, most preferred a boy. In contrast, when asked about teaching, most preferred a class of all girls. In nearly all contexts, people tended to prefer a child of their own gender, and those higher in hostile sexism were especially likely to favour boys. Qualitative responses suggest that stereotypes often played a role in biased choices. These findings can inform future work aimed at understanding gender biases at the earliest stage of life.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124299 - Printed Poster

Insomnia and insufficient sleep among Indigenous populations in Canada: A meta-analysis - Part 1

Main Presenting Author: Zelman, Diane C.

Additional Authors: Lee, Felicia K.S.; Sepehry, Amir A.

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Over 15% of Canadians report insomnia, and more than one-third of adults and children regularly sleep fewer hours than suggested guidelines. However, sleep health remains a relatively underexamined contributor to health inequities among Indigenous populations in Canada, with conclusions limited by small sample size and inconsistent methodologies. This is the first of several meta-analyses examining sleep health in these communities. Method: Following PRISMA guidelines, a systematic search of six databases identified studies reporting the prevalence of insomnia or insufficient sleep among Indigenous samples in Canada. Pooled prevalence estimates were calculated, methodological quality was evaluated, and potential moderators were explored. Results: Six studies contributed to insomnia and eight for sleep duration. Preliminary analyses indicate that Indigenous populations in Canada experience shorter average sleep duration and higher rates of insomnia compared to national norms. Substantial heterogeneity across studies was observed in the measurement and definition of sleep health outcomes. Conclusion/Impact: Results underscore the need to contextualize sleep health within broader frameworks of health equity and systemic determinants.*

We emphasize how conceptual and methodological biases can perpetuate inequities in Indigenous health research.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 122953 - Printed Poster

Integrating Objectification Theory and the Social Identity Model of Collective Action: The Role of Intrapersonal Factors in Women's Resistance to Sexual Objectification

Main Presenting Author: Graham, Alana

Additional Authors: Williams, Alysia ; Calogero, Rachel

Abstract: *Sexual objectification - the act of treating someone solely as a tool of sexual desire,predominantly perpetrated by boys and men against girls and women - remains a deeplyentrenched cultural norm that contributes to individual, interpersonal, and systemic harms. However, thefactors that motivate women to resist and challenge sexual objectification remain understudied.Integrating objectification theory and the social identity model of collective action, 305 womencompleted an online survey with randomized measures of perceived injustice of sexualobjectification, gender identity centrality, personal moral outrage, and resistance to sexualobjectification. A GLM mediation analysis revealed significant direct effects of perceivedinjustice and gender identity centrality on resistance to sexual objectification, and significantindirect effects through greater moral outrage. These findings suggest that viewing sexualobjectification as unfair and harmful and being strongly connected to one's identity as a womanmay produce more feelings of anger, disgust, and outrage toward these practices, which predictsmore engagement in actions to resist it. Given most women directly experience some form ofsexual objectification in their lifetimes, this study offers preliminary evidence for an adaptedmodel of collective action that considers the role of intrapersonal factors in fostering resistance.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125286 - Printed Poster

Investigating the scripted sequence: A quantitative content analysis on the inclusion and frequency of sexual behaviours in queer and general young adult novels

Main Presenting Author: MacTavish, Alexandra

Additional Authors: Morgan, Via F; Shaffer, Jaiden; Ménard, A. Dana

Abstract: *Young Adult (YA) books are one of the top selling literary genres, earning 11.9 billion USD in 2024. One of the fastest rising subgenres are books aimed at queer readers; however, despite being the best-selling genre across all queer books, there is currently no research on what sexual behaviours are included in them. The current study investigated two questions: (1) what sexual behaviours are present in YA novels? and (2) how do the sexual behaviours represented in queer YA differ from YA aimed at a general audience? Grounded in Sexual Script Theory (SST), a quantitative content analysis of the 40 best-selling YA novels from Amazon Canada (20 each for queer and general audience) was conducted. Sexual behaviours that were assessed included kissing, intimate touching, oral sex, manual*

sex, masturbation, and sexual intercourse as well as sexual communication. Quantitative results will be presented including behaviour frequencies, and how the frequencies of behaviours compare between queer YA and YA for general audiences. These results will inform the messages about permissible and common sexual behaviours for adolescents, as well as the adherence of those messages to SST. Since reading is known to have an impact on identity formation and sexual attitudes/behaviours in consumers, the results will also inform the potential impact queer YA can have on readers.

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 125358 - Printed Poster

Mental health status of sexually diverse youth at age 23: Cross-sectional data from the Quebec Longitudinal Study of Child Development

Main Presenting Author: Martineau, Alicia

Abstract: *Background: Sexually diverse youth face disproportionate mental health challenges compared to heterosexual youth, yet population-based Canadian data remain scarce. We examined the mental health of sexually diverse young adults from Quebec, across multiple mental health indicators; from well-being to psychotic-like experiences.Methods: Our sample is based on 1324 youth from the Quebec Longitudinal Study of Child Development-an ongoing representative cohort of individuals born in 1997/98 followed up until 2021 (age 23). The analytic sample self-reported their sexual orientation and mental health at age 23 across nine indicators namely suicidality/depression/anxiety/binge drinking/cannabis/other drug use/psychotic-like experiences/well-being/and help-seeking. Standardized mean differences (SMD) were calculated to examine group differences for each indicator; analyses were stratified by assigned sex at birth and disaggregated by sexual orientation.Results: 343 youth identified as non-heterosexual. Sexually diverse youth fared worse across all indicators [SMD range:0.19 for cannabis use to 0.52 for suicidality] and had higher odds of seeking psychological help [OR=2.09,95% CI:1.52-2.89]. Sexually diverse females reported poorer outcomes across all indicators compared to heterosexual females, while sexually diverse males showed elevated risks for suicidality, depression, anxiety, and reduced well-being compared to heterosexual males. Participants identifying as mostly heterosexual and bisexual reported more symptoms than heterosexuals. Conclusion: While Canada is recognized for its inclusive and accepting attitudes towards sexual diversity, our findings suggest that sexually diverse youth continue to experience worse mental health outcomes. Actions/Impacts: Our findings highlight the importance of accessible mental health services to address the needs and enhance the resilience of sexually diverse youth.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 124108 - Printed Poster

Mesures restrictives de liberté en centre de réadaptation pour jeunes en difficulté d'adaptation: quel est le rôle des mauvais traitements à l'enfance?

Main Presenting Author: Roy, Marie-Sophie

Additional Authors: Bourgeois, Alyanne ; Vallée, Noémie; Couture, Sophie; Turcotte, Mathilde

Abstract: *Les mauvais traitements subis à l'enfance sont liés à divers problèmes de comportement à l'adolescence (p. ex. comportements délinquants ou agressifs). Leur sévérité peut mener à un placement en centre de réadaptation (CR), où le maintien de ces comportements durant le placement peut conduire à l'utilisation de mesures d'interventions particulières (MIP), telles que la contention ou l'isolement. Bien que destinées à assurer la sécurité, ces mesures sont liées à des émotions désagréables et peuvent même retraumatiser le jeune. Considérant que plus de la moitié des jeunes hébergés en CR rapportent avoir subi plusieurs types de mauvais traitements, l'étude explorera l'association entre ces mauvais traitements et la fréquence d'utilisation des MIP en contexte de réadaptation. Les participants masculins (n = 164, M = 15,9 ans) ont répondu au Childhood Trauma Questionnaire évaluant cinq types de mauvais traitements. La fréquence d'utilisation des MIP provient des données administratives des CR. Le modèle de régression linéaire est significatif : l'abus physique et l'abus sexuel sont associés à une utilisation plus fréquente des MIP, tandis que la négligence émotionnelle présente une tendance. Ces résultats soulignent l'importance d'adopter une approche sensible au trauma, afin de limiter le recours aux MIP et privilégier des alternatives.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 124231 - Printed Poster

Motivations for gender-affirming gear use in transgender and gender-diverse populations

Main Presenting Author: Wong, Chris

Additional Author: Ryan, William

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Non-medical gender-affirming gear (GAG), such as binders, packers, and gaffs, can enhance comfort and confidence for transgender and gender-diverse (TGD) people. However, little is known about why individuals use or avoid GAG and how these motivations relate to well-being and identity.Methods: TGD adults (N = 138) completed an online survey measuring approach and avoidance motivations for using or not using GAG, alongside standardized scales of well-being, authenticity, and gender congruence. Exploratory factor and multiple regression analyses examined motivation patterns and their associations with well-being and identity outcomes. Results: Among GAG users, two motivation patterns emerged: Self-Alignment (using gear to feel authentic and affirm gender identity) and Risk Avoidance (using gear to manage stigma and safety concerns). Risk Avoidance predicted lower well-being and authenticity. Among non-users, three patterns emerged: Affirmative Non-Use (comfort with one's gender without GAG), Interpersonal Avoidance (avoiding rejection), and Barrier-Related (cost or discomfort). Affirmative Non-Use predicted higher gender congruence, whereas Interpersonal Avoidance predicted lower congruence.Conclusions: This exploratory study shows that the effects of using or not using GAG on well-being and identity may depend on underlying motives, with authenticity-driven motives associated with greater well-being than avoidance-based motives.Action/Impact: Enhancing awareness of these motives can inform gender-affirming care practices on ways to promote autonomy, authenticity, and inclusive support for TGD individuals across clinical and community settings.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 122750 - Printed Poster

Music-Based Psychoeducational Support Group to Increase Safety Awareness and Decrease Social Isolation in LGBTQIA2S+ Youth

Main Presenting Author: Jobin, Marie-Line
Co-Presenting Author: Lang, Erin

Abstract: *LGBTQIA2S+ youth face disproportionately high rates of victimization and social isolation, contributing to adverse mental health outcomes. Research suggests that social connectedness and peer support can mitigate these effects, yet limited interventions specifically target these factors. This study aimed to assess the impact of a music-based psychoeducational support group on increasing safety-awareness knowledge and decreasing perceived social isolation among LGBTQIA2S+ youth. A quasi-experimental, one-group pre-test post-test design was implemented with five participants aged 20-24 attending a community peer-support group. Measures included the De Jong Gierveld Loneliness Scale to assess social isolation and a Safety Awareness Acquisition Scale. The intervention consisted of five weekly two-hour group sessions incorporating music, lyrical exploration, safety-awareness discussions, and peer engagement activities. Pre- and post-test results indicated an overall decrease in perceived social isolation and an increase in safety-awareness knowledge across all participants. The largest knowledge gains were observed in the areas of community resources and safety planning. Weekly participant feedback revealed increased engagement, peer interaction, and perceived usefulness of music as an educational tool. Findings align with existing literature on the benefits of peer support and music-based interventions in fostering social connection and knowledge acquisition. While the study demonstrates the potential effectiveness of integrating music into psychoeducational programs for LGBTQIA2S+ youth, limitations such as small sample size and lack of a control group suggest the need for further research. Future studies should explore the long-term impact and scalability of similar interventions to enhance the well-being and safety of marginalized youth populations.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 122326 - Printed Poster

Name-Based Variation in AI-Generated Success Narratives: Evidence of Representational Bias in Large Language Models

Main Presenting Author: Shokeen, Sheryl

Abstract: *Large-language models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT (OpenAI), Gemini (Google), and Copilot (Microsoft) are now widely used in academic, organizational, and evaluative contexts. However, research shows that these systems can reproduce learned social biases, including racialized associations and representational stereotypes embedded in their training data. This project investigates name-based bias, a specific form of racialized representational bias in which an AI system generates systematically different narratives based solely on culturally coded names.To assess this, each model was prompted to produce matched 150-word entrepreneurial success stories for pairs of names (for example, Ethan versus Jamal, or Latasha versus Erin), with all other prompt features held constant. The narratives were analyzed for differences in tone, attributed abilities, described challenges, and overall life trajectory. Across all models, a clear pattern emerged: names typically associated with white identities produced stories emphasizing confidence, opportunity, and smooth business progression, while names associated with racialized groups elicited narratives that introduced struggle, financial instability, community skepticism, or the need for exceptional perseverance.These results provide explicit evidence of racialized narrative bias in contemporary LLMs. The findings highlight the importance of critically evaluating AI-generated content,*

particularly in contexts where such representational patterns may influence perception, assessment, and decision-making.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125651 - Printed Poster

Négociation identitaire, rapports de pouvoir institutionnels et appartenance culturelle chez les Métis de l'Est : une analyse ethnographique psychosociale du lieu commun

Main Presenting Author: Shepard, Isabelle LR

Additional Authors: King, Gina ; Gouliquer, Lynne; Poulin, Carmen

Abstract: *Les personnes qui s'identifient comme Métis à l'est du Manitoba font face à des contestations persistantes concernant la légitimité de leur identité, tant publiquement qu'au sein de leurs communautés, des organisations métisses et des gouvernements. Cette étude qualitative explore comment les Métis francophones de l'Est vivent l'appartenance culturelle, la marginalisation, la discrimination et les rapports de pouvoir institutionnels dans le contexte de la construction et de la contestation identitaire. S'appuyant sur le cadre Psycho-Social Ethnography of the Commonplace (P-SEC), qui intègre la théorie féministe, l'ethnographie institutionnelle et la théorie des schémas, cette recherche examine comment les participants négocient leur quotidien et expriment leur identité métisse.Les entrevues font partie d'une recherche qualitative pan-canadienne dirigée par deux professeures. Les participants, recrutés de bouche-à-oreille et sur certains sites de réseaux sociaux, s'identifiaient en tant que Métis vivant à l'est du Manitoba. Les transcriptions ont été corrigées, anonymisées, puis codifiées thématiquement à l'aide du logiciel NVivo 14.Cette présentation mettra en lumière les thèmes majeurs relevés chez les participants francophones et illustrera la complexité psychologique et sociologique liée à la gestion de l'identité métisse dans l'Est.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 123372 - Printed Poster

Negotiating Cultural and Couple Identities in Intercultural Relationships: A Qualitative Analysis of Strategies, Resources, and Contextual Stressors Shaping Identity Negotiation Processes

Main Presenting Author: Dion-Pons, Renaud

Additional Authors: Bachand, Laurence ; Le Devehat, Maëlle ; Toscano, Valentina; Lalonde, Richard N; Yampolsky, Maya A

Abstract: *Intercultural couples are becoming increasingly common and must negotiate their cultural and couple identities. The integration of these identities has been associated with better relationship quality (Yampolsky et al., 2020). However, little is known about the link between the experience of these negotiations and the contextual factors that may influence them, such as family support or social marginalization. Reflective qualitative thematic analyses (n=204) were conducted on open-ended responses from participants in intercultural couples regarding their processes of negotiating their cultural identity and their couple identity. Preliminary analyses show that partners negotiate their cultural and couple identities (finding similarities, creating a hybrid identity, difficulties in reconciling*

differences). Contextual resources and stressors such as social support, marginalization, or language barriers were also relevant to these negotiations. This study highlights concrete ways to support intercultural couples, particularly through greater recognition of the link between contextual stressors, support factors, and identity negotiation processes.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125440 - Printed Poster

Parenting: Lockdown restrictions in the daily lives of young mothers who were survivors of Intimate Partner Violence

Main Presenting Author: Sciarotta, Daniely
Co-Presenting Author: Marie Jeanne, Justine

Additional Authors: Martin, Lisa ; Barata, Paula

Abstract: *During the COVID-19 restrictions, the crisis in social support for children, especially with home schooling, had an immense impact on women's lives, making the role of caregivers more burdensome. Home duties became more intensive and work which shifted remotely, became challenging. In this context, the gender inequalities faced by mothers who are survivors of IPV were intensified, as the lockdowns disrupted the social support systems they relied on. This study examines the link between parenting, IPV, and the COVID-19 crisis. More precisely, we shed light on how the lockdown restrictions affected the daily lives of young mothers who were survivors of IPV (with or without the abusers) in Toronto, Canada. We highlight how these mixed stressors impacted them. This study used a community-engaged research method and a Marxist feminist lens to analyze 24 interviews with women IPV survivors. The first part of our study aimed at highlighting the activities that women were involved in, overloaded with, and how these tasks intensified during the lockdown. Next, we discuss how the abusers weaponized children and disagreements about restrictions, showing how the pandemic brought additional tiredness and unpaid work for women. By empowering survivors' voices and experiences, this poster demonstrates how intersecting stressors during the pandemic impacted them.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 126331 - Printed Poster

Perspectives of Autistic Older Adults and Care Providers on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Boucher, Troy Q

Additional Authors: Shafai, Fakhri ; Reedy, Morgan; Share, Maxine; Robson, Terri; Iarocci, Grace

Abstract: *In Canada, Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) is legal for grievous and irremediable suffering, with expansion to psychiatric conditions planned for 2027. Reports indicate that autism has already been cited in MAID requests (Verhofstadt et al., 2024; WV v MV, 2024 ABKB 174). Advocates caution MAID could substitute for needed supports for vulnerable Autistic people, including older Autistic adults facing inadequate services and health challenges (Hand et al., 2020; Stanton, 2019). A semi-structured interview was created with a community-based participatory research team. Participants included 8 Autistic adults (ages 63-75) and 10 care providers of Autistic older adults.*

Data were analyzed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis. Six themes emerged: (1) MAID is justified for physical conditions; (2) MAID for autism/mental health is a service failure; (3) MAID for autism devalues Autistic lives; (4) Vulnerability factors increase MAID contemplation; (5) Conditions to support MAID for autism; (6) Ethical tensions by care providers. MAID was viewed as appropriate for biomedical suffering; autism- or psychiatry-related requests reflected unmet needs and systemic inequities. Expanding MAID to mental health risks devaluing Autistic lives unless poverty, housing, and health gaps are addressed, echoing calls to strengthen supports and include Autistic voices in policy.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124620 - Printed Poster

Prevalence of Sleep Apnea in Indigenous Peoples of Canada: A meta-analysis - Part 3

Main Presenting Author: Sepehry, Amir A.

Additional Authors: Zelman, Diane C.; Lacey, Lauren ; Lee,, K.S. Felicia ; Tahmasian, Masoud; Rashke, Morgan

Abstract: *Background: Sleep apnea is causally implicated in the onset and morbidity of cerebrovascular, cardiovascular, and neurometabolic conditions, as well as clinical outcomes. To date, the true prevalence among Indigenous peoples of Canada remains obscure mainly due to the limited availability of community-level studies, overlapping research, and underrepresentation in national health surveys. Existing studies come from different provinces and cohorts and report heterogeneous data. Thus, we hypothesize that the prevalence in Indigenous communities may be higher, given the higher rates of risk factors such as obesity, diabetes, and limited access to sleep-health resources. Method: This meta-analysis assessed the aggregate prevalence of apnea (any) and examined the influence of selected demographic factors among First Nations peoples in Canada. Results: The systematic search of the electronic literature and file-drawer search yielded 788 studies after duplicates were removed. Data from 4 studies show variability in how sleep apnea was defined and assessed over the years, with the rate being higher than the nationally reported aggregate from 2016-17 (6.4%). Conclusion/Impact: Given the higher prevalence of apnea in First Nations communities compared to the Canadian population, this study urges stakeholders to promote health equity for Indigenous peoples and invite an updated census.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 122950 - Printed Poster

Sexual health education and digital harassment: Examining the impact of messaging on the willingness to non-consensually disseminate nudes among undergraduates

Main Presenting Author: Laurienzo, Maritza

Additional Authors: Holmes, Emma J; Davidson, Myles; Babchishin, M Kelly

Abstract: *Sending nudes involves sending or forwarding sexually explicit text messages, photographs, or videos, typically using electronic devices. Currently, there is a lack of empirical research*

examining the effectiveness of educational messaging aimed at preventing the non-consensual sharing of nudes. As such, this study aimed to examine how different types of messaging affected undergraduate students' willingness to disseminate others' nudes without consent, controlling for the effect of sex drive and impulsivity-two risk-relevant factors. Participants (N = 290, M age = 20) were randomly assigned to one of four experimental conditions, wherein they were presented infographics presenting: (1) facts about sending nudes, (2) legal consequences of sending nudes, (3) information about safely sending nudes, or (4) information about an unrelated topic. Our preliminary analyses found that the messaging condition did not affect participants' willingness to disseminate sexts (F(3, 284) = 0.12, p = .949, ηP2 = 0.001), after we controlled for impulsivity and sex drive. These findings suggest that more research is needed to identify whether other types of interventions (i.e., other than infographics) or different content is better able to reduce willingness to non-consensually disseminate nudes.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125775 - Printed Poster

Social Connectedness and Life Satisfaction in Women of Colour in STEM: Examining the Mediating Role of Barrier Coping Self-Efficacy

Main Presenting Author: Rho, Kate
Co-Presenting Author: Park, Chan Jeong

Abstract: *Background: Numerous research has shown that social connectedness is associated with life satisfaction (e.g., Blau et al., 2016), yet the mechanism underlying this link is poorly understood. Self-efficacy, which has been linked to both social connectedness (Crone & Babb, 2025) and life satisfaction (Döş, 2023), may serve as a potential mediator. Current study thus aims to examine whether academic self-efficacy (ASE) and barrier coping self efficacy (BCSE) mediate this relationship. Methods. 542 women university students of colour majoring in STEM self-reported their level of social connectedness, ASE, BCSE, and life satisfaction. Results. A parallel mediation analysis via structural equational modeling (SEM) revealed that BCSE, but not ASE, significantly partially mediated the relationship between social connectedness and life satisfaction (β =0.166; p < 0.001). Exploratory subgroup analyses revealed that BCSE, but not ASE, fully mediated the relationship among Black (β =0.246; p < 0.01) and Asian (β =0.130; p < 0.05). The effect was marginally significant among Latinx women (β =0.104; p = 0.058). Conclusions: Findings suggest that BCSE may be a key pathway linking social connectedness and life satisfaction. Impact: Promoting BCSE through community-based intervention may be key to improving the wellbeing of women students in STEM.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123802 - Printed Poster

Stories in the Glass: Queer and Transgender South Asian Youth on Identity and Drinking

Main Presenting Author: Amarasekera, Anurada U

Additional Author: Dermody, Sarah

Abstract: *Background. LGBTQ+ South Asians are a substantial yet understudied group who experience compounded minority stress rooted in racism, cissexism and heterosexism. These intersecting forms of oppression contribute to decreased psychological wellbeing, heightened stigma around mental health, and increased barriers to accessing substance-related support. Methods. We interviewed 17 queer and transgender South Asian young adults to understand their experiences, perceptions and meanings that alcohol use has, as well as identify pathways to improve access and utilization of alcohol related treatment services. Interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed verbatim, and are currently undergoing thematic analysis. Results. Preliminary analyses show that participants struggled to identify relevant treatment services or relatable models of recovery and often preferred mutual aid. Many linked these gaps to cultural norms, exemplified in the phrase "what will people think," that discourage discussing mental health, substance use, or identity outside the family and contribute to stigma, isolation, and delayed help-seeking. Conclusions. Substance use supports for queer and transgender South Asians must account for cultural values of reputation, privacy, and collectivism, and should be developed collaboratively with community members to ensure relevance, accessibility, and cultural alignment.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 124819 - Printed Poster

Strength in the Struggle: An Examination of Stressors, Psychological Distress, and Academic Success Among Canadian Student Parents in Higher Education

Main Presenting Author: Spoor, Jessica J M

Additional Authors: Barker, Erin ; Linden, Brooke; Morin, Alexandre

Abstract: *Student-parents- students raising dependent children while pursuing a postsecondary education- represent an understudied group at increased risk of psychological distress and academic dropout (van Rhijn, 2011; Wladis et al., 2018). This study examined which stressor domains (e.g., academics, interpersonal, and personal), demographic factors, and educational context factors predict psychological distress and lower academic performance among student parents. Using data from the 2023/2024 Post Secondary Stressor Index dataset (Linden, 2025), a subset of student-parents (N =876) completed validated self-report measures of distress, stressors, and GPA. Structural equation modelling was used to examine associations between stressor domains, demographic and educational predictors and psychological wellbeing and academic outcomes. Greater distress was significantly predicted by academic, exam, discrimination, and healthy lifestyle management stressors, several of which also predicted lower academic performance. Younger age and being female were associated with greater distress, whereas older age was associated with higher GPA. Analyses by level of study revealed differences in the impacts of stressors. Findings highlight distinct stressors and risk factors for student-parents' wellbeing and academic success and underscore the need for tailored institutional support and policies.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123833 - Printed Poster

Stress, Stigma and Support: Understanding the Mental Health Needs of Black Females in University.

Main Presenting Author: Makam, Princesse

Additional Authors: Hadgu, Ephrathah ; Sunohara, Momoka; Qadomi, Nadine; Epoupa Mpacko, Rachel-Diane; Ryder, Andrew G.

Abstract: *University students from ethnic and racial minority backgrounds encounter additional barriers to accessing culturally appropriate care, such as limited cultural awareness, communication challenges, and uncertainty about available services, compared to non-minority students (Grey et al., 2013). These challenges are particularly pronounced for Black women, whose help-seeking behaviours often conflict with cultural norms (Taylor & Kuo, 2024). To better understand the mental health needs of Black women at an English-speaking university in Montreal, Quebec, a qualitative study was conducted through a focus group (N=5). Discussions explored perceptions of mental health, life stressors, help-seeking behaviours, stigma, and available resources. We conducted a thematic analysis using ChatGPT (Naeem et al., 2025) to analyze our focus group's data. Preliminary results revealed that multiple areas of participants' lives were sources of stress linked to systemic issues. Participants often relied on community support rather than professional services, though many expressed openness to using mental health resources and addressing stigma. Findings highlight the need for Canadian Universities to promote culturally sensitive mental health services and provide equitable funding and flexible support to address Black students' basic needs.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 125817 - Printed Poster

Supporting Disabled Students in North American Higher Education: A Narrative Literature Review through an Intersectional Lens

Main Presenting Author: Bhambhani, Ishika R

Additional Authors: Kassan, Anusha ; Rho, Kate

Abstract: *Although the representation of disabled students in North American higher education has increased in recent decades, program completion rates among these students remain disproportionately low. While existing reviews have synthesized literature on disabled students' experiences in higher education, there is a notable lack of research that focus on these experiences through an intersectional lens. This narrative literature review (2013-2023) synthesizes research on disabled students' experiences in higher education, with particular attention to the intersections of disability and other marginalized identities. Through two rounds of structured narrative synthesis, four key themes emerged: (1) heterogeneity of disability, (2) facilitators of learning, (3) barriers in learning, and (4) barriers in accessing accommodation. These findings reveal persistent structural and institutional gaps that impact disabled students' educational experiences and contribute to inequitable outcomes. While this review centers primarily on North American research, the absence of perspectives from the Global South points to critical gaps in the literature. In response, this study highlights the urgent need for institutions to adopt more intersectionally informed accessibility policies, refine accommodation processes, and create a more equitable and supportive learning environment for all students.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124949 - Printed Poster

Supporting Students with Intersectional Identities During the Post-Secondary Transition

Main Presenting Author: Mackenzie, Jenna
Co-Presenting Author: Peddigrew, Emma

Additional Authors: Pollock, Beth ; Hai, Tasmia

Abstract: *The Regional Assessment and Resource Centre (RARC) On-Line Transition Support (OLTS) program assists students with disabilities in transitioning to post-secondary, however limited research examines how transition programs like OLTS support students whose identities intersect with race, gender and class. Using a mixed-methods design and grounded in an intersectional, anti-oppressive framework, this study analyzed program metrics and survey data (n=45) alongside semi-structured interviews of 12 students from diverse backgrounds. Findings showed that OLTS promoted greater self-advocacy, organization and time management skills, understanding of accommodations and overall academic preparedness. Yet, students continued to encounter culturally unresponsive services, limited representation, racialized and gendered disablism, socioeconomic barriers and limited mental health supports. Recommendations include enhanced training for service providers, integrated mental health supports, redesigned programming to address intersectional barriers and the development of mentorship opportunities. Overall, this study highlights the need for culturally responsive, equity-oriented transition programming that addresses barriers faced by students with multiple marginalized identities. Findings offer guidance for strengthening inclusivity and responsiveness in transition programs in Ontario and beyond.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125334 - Printed Poster

The influence of culture on subjective cognitive decline in White, East Asian, South Asian, and Southeast Asian adults

Main Presenting Author: Romero, Kristoffer

Additional Authors: Biss, Renée K; Sharp, Delaney; Galper, Michelle

Abstract: *Background: Canada's aging population will see a rapid increase in the number of persons with dementia. By 2050, about 1 in 4 Canadian older adults with dementia will be of Asian descent. However, there is very little psychological research on how culture affects the reporting of psychological symptoms such as subjective memory decline (SCD), which is central to identifying cognitive deficits. We explored whether adults from four ethnoracial groups differentially report SCD, and whether SCD reporting correlated with endorsing independent vs. interdependent self-construals.Methods: White, East Asian, South Asian, or Southeast Asian adults globally (N=113, M age = 51) completed the Metamemory in Adulthood and Vignoles Self-Construal scales online.Results: Significant group differences emerged in SCD, with Southeast Asians reporting the highest levels of SCD. Higher SCD positively correlated with stronger independent self-construal, with different slopes within each group.Conclusions: There are general differences in reporting SCD across ethnocultural groups. The extent of reporting SCD correlated with self-construal, a well-studied cultural variable.Impact: This is the first study to show that culture does influence SCD across several Asian communities. These results boost Asian representation in aging research and may inform culturally responsive care for Asian older adults.*

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 125891 - Printed Poster

The Processes of First Nations Adolescent Girls on their Pathway of Identity Development Formation

Main Presenting Author: McKenzie, Stephanie D

Additional Authors: Pepler, Debra J; Madsen, Kirsten; Dion, Susan

Abstract: *The ongoing impacts of 500 years of colonialism have challenged and continue to challenge First Nations girls' identity development. In response, girls are seeking to reclaim their Indigenous identity through a reconnection to power, place, and culture. There is a dearth of research that elucidates the processes of identity formation to pave and mobilize the pathway in preserving their identity amidst colonial harm. Sixteen Anishinaabe adolescent girls aged 12 to 18 years from Dilico, an Indigenous health and wellness centre, were included in this study. The data gathering process was grounded in a conversational Indigenous method of relational knowledge-sharing. The secondary data analysis followed an inductive thematic approach, illustrated through the analogy of a growing strawberry plant (i.e., Indigenous girls' voices take root; codes represent the sprouting of buds…). There were three overarching themes of identity development for Indigenous girls: Being (present development), Becoming (active exploration), and Envisioning (future-oriented goals). A wholistic identity formation model was provided, illustrated in the form of a ribbon skirt. It is imperative for those in supportive mental health roles to recognize the processes of identity formation to better support identity reclamation and reconstruction as a mechanism of healing and wellness.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 126010 - Printed Poster

The Progressive Paradox: Examining Left-Wing Authoritarianism and Discrimination

Main Presenting Author: Steeves, Macey L

Additional Authors: Perunovic, Mihailo ; Perunovic, W. Q. Elaine

Abstract: *Authoritarianism involves a preference for social conformity, punishment of norm violators, and submission to authority. While most research focuses on Right-Wing Authoritarianism, recent work has examined Left-Wing Authoritarianism (LWA), which shares the same psychological structure, but applies it to progressive ideology. LWA has three parts: Anti-hierarchical aggression (AHA; wanting to punish groups in power), Top-down censorship, and Anticonventionalism. LWA has been associated with negative attitudes toward nonconforming groups, but little research has tested whether it predicts discrimination. This study examined whether LWA predicts hiring discrimination against Jewish applicants. Undergraduates (N=58) evaluated a neutral resume or one with subtle Jewish cues and completed LWA and other self-report measures. Results showed that anti-hierarchical aggression interacted with condition to predict discrimination. That is, although AHA did not correlate with a decision to hire the applicant in the control condition, it did so negatively in the Jewish-applicant condition. This was mediated by self-reported dislike of the Jewish applicant, not by how qualified the applicant was viewed to be. Even though the Jewish applicant was seen as qualified*

for the job, personal dislike reduced hiring likelihood. Further analyses and implications of these results are also presented.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125752 - Printed Poster

The Status of Decoloniality of University Introduction to Psychology Courses in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Jackson, Lynne M

Additional Authors: Lizotte, Sarina ; Larochelle, Marcie M

Abstract: *The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the Canadian Psychological Association recommend decoloniality in education. Decolonial scholarship is active in psychology, but it is unclear to what extent this work is reflected in undergraduate education. Because introduction to psychology courses frame the discipline to new students, we content coded ninety-nine publicly available English-language syllabi from 30 Canadian universities for themes reflecting individualism-collectivism, decoloniality and Indigenization of course content, and inclusive pedagogy. Course descriptions had significantly more individualistic than collectivist content. Statements reflecting inclusive pedagogy were significantly more common than attention to decoloniality of content. Thirty-nine percent of syllabi contained a land acknowledgement, 28% had statements of inclusive pedagogy, 6% mentioned diversity, but only 2% contained referents to decoloniality or Indigenization of course content. Ten years after the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's report, only preliminary steps toward decoloniality are evident in English-language Canadian university course syllabi for introduction to psychology. This information may be helpful to academic psychologists in suggesting ways to develop undergraduate courses and syllabi.*

Section: *Teaching of Psychology*
Session ID: 123943 - Printed Poster

Towards Ecological Validity: Multilevel Confirmatory Factor Analysis of a Daily Stress Scale for Diverse Canadian Parents

Main Presenting Author: De Luca, Paul

Additional Authors: Prime, Heather ; Simms, Christina; Dua, Isha

Abstract: *The early parenting years are marked by high, multi-domain stress. Though daily diary methods provide an ecologically valid way to capture stress, existing measures do not capture the diversity of Canadians (e.g., race/ethnicity, immigration history, etc.), limiting their generalizability. Thus, the present study aims to develop and validate a daily stress scale relevant to diverse Canadian parents. Data consists of parents (N = 430) of children under six (50.1% racially minoritized; 57.7% women). In September 2024, parents completed baseline sociodemographic questionnaires and a 7-day daily diary reporting on daily stress in the domains of financial, physical, relational, environmental, child, parent, and discrimination-related stress. Data were analyzed using multi-level confirmatory factor analysis to account for within (Level 1) and between (Level 2) fluctuations of daily stress, with a single latent daily stress factor specified. Preliminary analyses showed day-to-day variability in stress, with differential strength across item domains (e.g., more variability in child-*

related and parenting stress and less variability in financial, physical, and environmental stress). Our results support a single within-person latent stress factor relevant to diverse Canadian parents, but point to possible multidimensionality warranting further investigation.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124147 - Printed Poster

Understanding Social Location and Counselling Experiences Among Clients with Low-Income

Main Presenting Author: Richards-Anthony, Cheyenne Elaine

Additional Authors: Jay, Melissa ; Lengyell, Marguerite ; Finnigan, Charlotte; Brown, Jason

Abstract: *Individuals experiencing low income face greater mental health risks and limited access to counselling services, particularly since the COVID-19 pandemic. Systemic and financial barriers ensure that higher-income individuals are overrepresented in counselling, leaving low-income clients' experiences underexplored in both practice and research. Limited research exists on how clients from low-income backgrounds experience counselling and how their backgrounds shape that experience. As part of a broader multi-stage study, this project, grounded in an anti-oppressive practice framework, addressed the question: "How do individuals experiencing low income perceive their advantages and disadvantages across dimensions of ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, gender and sex and how do these perceptions influence their experiences in counselling?" In stage 1, participants completed Zoom-based semi-structured interviews, and in stage 2, a subset of participants completed a sorting activity using interview statements. Data from both stages were consolidated to generate a thematic understanding of clients' social locations, counselling experiences, and their connections. This study's findings will enhance counselling psychology by exploring clients' views on their advantages and disadvantages, which is essential for addressing inequalities and power imbalances to improve mental health care.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126258 - Printed Poster

University Students' Allyship with Muslim People: The Roles of Gender and Ethnicity

Main Presenting Author: Plett, Jessica L.

Additional Authors: Starzyk, Katherine B. ; Fontaine, Aleah S. M.

Abstract: *Religious minorities in Canada experience discrimination. For example, Québec's Bill 21 restricts many public-sector workers from wearing religious symbols, and its use of the notwithstanding clause limits legal challenges despite concerns that it disproportionately harms Muslim people. Since its passage, Muslim communities-especially Muslim women-report feeling less safe and less included. Because efforts to reduce such discrimination are more effective when outgroup members also support the cause, we examined who is likely to stand in solidarity with Muslim people in Canada. In an online survey, 344 non-Muslim undergraduates read a passage describing discrimination against Muslim people and completed measures of six emotions, inclusive victim consciousness, and political solidarity. A 2 (Gender: men, women) × 2 (Ethnicity: White,*

Racialized) ANOVA showed one interaction: the ethnic difference in inclusive victim consciousness was larger among women than men. Main effects indicated that women reported higher empathy, anger, sadness, guilt, and political solidarity than men, and that Racialized participants reported much higher inclusive victim consciousness and slightly higher solidarity than White participants. These findings highlight the need to recognize differences among outgroup members to more accurately predict allyship.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126041 - Printed Poster

Unlabeled and Unstable: Attachment Insecurity in Girls and Women with Suspected ADHD and the Costs of Missed Diagnosis

Main Presenting Author: Lowe, Catherine T

Additional Authors: Simoneau, Ashlyn A; Callahan, Brandy L; Miller, J Carlin; Hai, Tasmia; Rogers, Maria A; Climie, Emma A

Abstract: *Attachment styles describe patterns of relating to others, with insecure attachment associated with greater emotional and interpersonal difficulties. Girls and women with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) face barriers to diagnosis, limiting intervention access to preserve their relational functioning, with impairments potentially impacting attachment security. Community-recruited girls and women self-reported ADHD status (diagnosed, suspected, control), age, and measures of attachment style (n = 163). Binary logistic regression examined whether ADHD status predicted odds of insecure vs. secure attachment style, accounting for age. Those reporting suspected ADHD were three times more likely to endorse an insecure attachment style compared to controls (OR = 3.10, p = .034). Diagnosed ADHD and age did not predict attachment security.Unmitigated ADHD-related dysregulation is associated with interpersonal impairment, which can impact relational stability and dependence, manifesting in reassurance-seeking instead of secure attachment behaviours. Comparatively, those with a diagnosis may be more likely to access treatment, with improved social functioning, protecting relationships and reducing the likelihood of insecure attachment style. These results underscore the importance of timely diagnosis and access to treatment to preserve attachment security and well-being.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123475 - Printed Poster

What does bisexuality mean? Exploring how bi and non-bi people understand bisexuality

Main Presenting Author: Vonlanthen, Caroline

Additional Authors: Savoie, Érica ; Roy-Charland, Annie

Abstract: *Many studies define and measure bisexuality as a sexual behavior or attraction toward both women and men. However, these conceptualizations often overlook nonbinary genders and tend to restrict bisexuality to sexual aspects. To better inform research practices, this study analyzed definitions of bisexuality provided by 462 Canadian residents. Thematic analysis and chi-square tests of independence were used to examine and compare the understanding of this term among bi (n = 83),*

heterosexual (n = 250), and other-identified (n = 129) participants. Results showed that the bi group mainly described bisexuality as an attraction to multiple genders/sexes and formulated definitions that were inclusive of nonbinary genders. Additionally, no bi participant limited bisexuality to a sexual behavior. In contrast to the other two groups, heterosexual individuals primarily mentioned an attraction to two genders/sexes, which was confined to a gender/sex binary. These findings highlight the need to revise how research conceptualizes bisexuality to better reflect bi individuals' identities and lived experiences. More efforts should be made to address various forms of biphobia, including pressure to engage in sexual behaviors and accusations of transphobia/enbyphobia, that harm the bi community.

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 122866 - Printed Poster

What makes a Conversation Safe? Student Perspectives on Talking about Racial-Ethnic Identity

Main Presenting Author: Le-Ba, Kimberly

Additional Author: Costigan, Catherine

Abstract: *The Canadian Multiculturalism Act affirms diversity, yet many remain uncertain about how to discuss race and ethnicity. Intergroup Contact Theory shows that interaction across groups can reduce prejudice, especially with equal status, shared goals, institutional support, and opportunities for exchange. Cultural socialization research finds that positive conversations about heritage with diverse peers encourage ethnic-racial identity (ERI) engagement. Although ERI dialogue can enhance self-esteem and life satisfaction, colour-blind norms discourage engagement. Informal peer dialogue in universities-where students share equal status and common goals-offers promise, due to fears of offending or being misunderstood. Avoidance of ERI conversations may be explained by Anxiety/Uncertainty Management (AUM) Theory which suggests that reducing anxiety and uncertainty increases willingness to interact with outgroups. This study examines dynamics through four semi-structured focus groups where diverse participants discuss ERI in casual peer settings. Using micro-interlocutor analysis and provisional and elaborative coding, the results expand AUM Theory to identify conditions that reduce anxiety and foster affirming dialogue. Findings inform peer-based interventions that promote inclusive ERI conversations and advance equity in higher education.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 123999 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

"He used my alcoholic past, my history": How survivors of intimate partner violence navigate mental health and substance use coercion

Main Presenting Author: Xiang, Angela

Additional Author: Scott, Katreena Louise

Abstract: *Intimate partner violence (IPV) disproportionately affects marginalized women. Mental health and substance use coercion (MHSUC), which involves abusers taking advantage of the*

survivor's mental health or substance use to exercise control, creates obstacles to treatment and recovery. Current IPV research seldom recognizes mental health and substance use status as part of identity, and research on how intersectional identities interact with seeking safety within a Canadian context is limited. This study examined how MHSUC exacerbates cycles of trauma in abusive relationships, and how survivors find and maintain safety in restrained conditions. Thematic analysis of semi-structured interviews with twenty survivors of IPV revealed five overarching themes: weaponized vulnerabilities and mental health as a target and tool for control; interwoven complexities of trauma; systems reinforcing harm and barriers to safety; survivors creating room to breathe, and; finding steady grounds for change and healing. Implications of these results include informing future practices and policy by improving individual-level change (e.g., MHSUC training and resources for professionals, or tailoring clinical practices to better mitigate this risk), and by shifting towards addressing the systemic barriers in mental healthcare tied to historical marginalization and underrepresentation that prevent recovery.

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124617 - Virtual Poster

Effects of Institutional Betrayal on Post-Partum PTSD: A Longitudinal Study

Main Presenting Author: Adedun, Ayomide Danielle

Additional Authors: Tamaian, Andreea ; Klest, Bridget

Abstract: *The current study employed a longitudinal design (N = 171) to investigate the impact of institutional betrayal on women's postpartum PTSD, and to better understand the role of individual factors in explaining this link. Online questionnaires were completed in the third trimester of pregnancy, one-month postpartum, and three-months postpartum. After controlling for demographics, individual and interpersonal factors, and previous trauma, linear mixed-effects models revealed that institutional betrayal predicted PTSD symptoms across time. The current study corroborates the additive effects of institutional betrayal on traumatic and vulnerable experiences such as childbirth. Our findings suggest that, similarly to other traumatic experiences, institutional betrayal contributes to long-standing PTSD symptoms in perinatal women and may lead to chronic presentations of postpartum PTSD. The findings from the current study point to the importance of prioritizing staff education and training in the medical system, as well as accountability and sensitivity in addressing patient complaints. Hospitals should aim to promote institutional courage among their staff, and advocate for patient well-being through updated policy, practice, and education within the healthcare system.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125612 - Virtual Poster

Racialized Students in Graduate Counselling Psychology: Invisible Work and Institutional Challenges

Main Presenting Author: Johns, Cheyenne

Abstract: *This study examines the experiences of racialized students in Athabasca University's Master of Counselling program. Using Institutional Ethnography, it explores how cultural competency expectations, online learning contexts, and the invisible labour of educating peers about race, culture, and social justice create emotional strain for many racialized students. Six semi-structured virtual*

interviews were conducted to document how students' everyday experiences are organized by institutional texts, policies, and pedagogical practices. Preliminary findings show that racialized students often feel responsible for advancing cultural learning in the program while navigating inconsistent supports and inequitable classroom dynamics. Their invisible work is reinforced by curriculum design, instructor approaches to equity, and online discussion structures. The study concludes that institutional practices unintentionally rely on racialized students' labour and contribute to ongoing burden. Recommendations include clearer equity guidelines, stronger faculty training, and policy changes that reduce hidden labour and strengthen support for racialized students.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125371 - Virtual Poster

Raised in the Hyphen: Identity and Belonging for Black-White Mixed-Race Canadians

Main Presenting Author: Rudder, Deanna

Additional Author: Moodley, Roy

Abstract: *Previous research has shown that mixed-race Black-White individuals can experience heightened racism and exclusion, including scrutiny of their racial authenticity through "racial policing", and that such experiences can hinder positive racial identity development and contribute to mental health challenges. While research on mixed-race identity has largely focused on the United States and the United Kingdom, the Canadian context remains largely under-researched. Canada has its own unique history of race, colonialism, immigration, and multiculturalism that influences individuals' racial identity. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to explore: How does being mixed-race (of Black and White descent) influence individuals' sense of identity and sense of belonging in Toronto and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)? Semi-structured interviews were conducted with adults who identify as having one Black and one White parent. The data was analyzed using a Grounded Theory approach, involving the transcription of interviews, systematic coding, and the generation of themes. Results showed that mixed-race individuals in Canada face unique challenges related to identity and belonging, often navigating complex social dynamics and experiences, such as with their families, in their communities, amongst peers, and within institutions. This research will increase awareness of the complexities of racial identity, challenge racial stereotypes, inform policy, and promote inclusivity.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124900 - Virtual Poster

Review Session

Financial Psychology for Marginalized Communities

Main Presenting Author: Lee, John
Co-Presenting Author: Kasprzak, Emilia

Abstract: *Financial psychology offers a powerful framework for understanding how thoughts, emotions, identities, and cultural narratives shape money behaviours. Yet despite its relevance to mental health, this field remains underrepresented in clinical training and rarely applied through an equity lens. This Review Session synthesizes key theoretical perspectives in financial psychology -*

including behavioural economics, scarcity theory, narrative psychology, and culturally informed models - to examine how financial stress develops and why it disproportionately affects marginalized communities.The session will explore how systemic inequities, immigration experiences, racialized stress, disability-related barriers, and intergenerational poverty influence money beliefs, financial decision-making, and emotional wellbeing. By integrating theories across psychology, behavioural science, and social determinants of health, this presentation highlights the need for a more comprehensive and culturally attuned understanding of financial distress in clinical work.The purpose of this Review Session is to clarify foundational concepts, identify gaps in current training, and outline how clinicians can incorporate financial psychology principles into assessment, case conceptualization, and psychoeducation. This synthesis aims to elevate financial psychology as a critical domain within equitable mental health care in Canada.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125717 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

From Crisis to Capacity: A National Vision for Black Psychology in Canada Through Strengthening Research, Training, and Service Infrastructures

Main Presenting Author: Cénat , Jude Mary

Abstract: *Drawing on empirical studies and theoretical models from the V-TRaC Lab at the University of Ottawa, this presentation advances a national vision of Black psychology as a field essential to understanding, preventing, and treating racial mental health inequities and racism in psychological care in Canada. Findings point to a mental health crisis in Black communities, with high rates of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, suicidal ideation, and related conditions. Repeated racial discrimination - from daily microaggressions to overt institutional racism across systems - emerges as a robust predictor of this crisis beyond traditional sociodemographic factors. The presentation supports recognition of racial trauma as a core construct that captures the chronic, multigenerational, and intersectional effects of racism on mental health, identity, and social functioning. Qualitative results highlight major systemic barriers to mental health care, including institutional mistrust, cultural incongruence of services, and the underrepresentation of Black psychologists. Together, the evidence underscores the urgent need for structures that can strengthen Black psychology nationwide as a critical pathway to reducing mental health disparities, advancing antiracist and culturally safe care and reinforcing research, training, and service infrastructures in Black psychology across Canada.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 126712 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

A Review of Visual Arts as a Tool for Mental Health Education in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Mulholland, Janna

Abstract: *Arts-based interventions and research are increasingly recognized as culturally responsive approaches to promote mental health in diverse communities; however, limited evidence exists regarding the use of visual arts specifically to support the mental health of immigrant populations in*

Canada. To inform the development of an arts-based participatory research project addressing mental health education for recently arrived refugees, a literature review was conducted. Four databases were searched for English-language studies in which visual arts were integral to the intervention or methodology and aimed at improving immigrant mental health or wellbeing. Fourteen qualitative studies met inclusion criteria. Preliminary thematic analysis indicated that visual arts interventions foster emotional safety, support identity exploration, enhance empowerment, and facilitate expression, transformation, and social connection. Further, visual arts can offer mental health equity for marginalized groups through overcoming common barriers. Despite demonstrated benefits, the use of visual arts within mental health promotion for immigrant communities in Canada remains limited. Findings underscore the need for broader implementation and evaluation of visual arts-based strategies and directly inform the design of forthcoming participatory research to advance mental health equity for newcomer groups.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126392 - Snapshot

Assessing Sentencing Decisions in Canadian Non-Consensual Intimate Image Distribution Cases

Main Presenting Author: Handford, Melissa

Additional Author: Harkins, Leigh

Abstract: *Non-consensual intimate image distribution (NCIID) involves the creation, distribution, or threatening to create or distribute sexual images of another person without consent. It is typically perpetrated by men towards women, in the context of an ended romantic or sexual relationship. There are a variety of ways that images can be created and obtained by a perpetrator, but previous research has indicated that victims often face increased victim-blaming when the image was taken with their consent. Because of factors such as victim-blaming, NCIID is not often reported to police, and it is rare for cases to reach trial or result in a conviction. This research assessed differences in how NCIID cases are sentenced, to better understand what characteristics of these cases correspond with more severe sentencing. This study consisted of an archival analysis of Canadian NCIID sentencing decisions to search for trends in how the image was created, and the gender of, and relationship between, the victim and offender. No significant relationships were found with any of these variables when assessing sentence severity. These results indicate that judges do not appear to be influenced by societal victim-blaming narratives or stereotypical views of victims and offenders 'should' be, and increase our understanding of why victims do or do not report these crimes to police.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126016 - Snapshot

Building Climate Resilience with People in Precarious Housing Situations at the Intersections of Poverty, Disability and Age

Main Presenting Author: Escoffery, Emily XinFang Hua

Additional Author: Riemer, Manuel

Abstract: *Background:As the climate crisis continues to escalate within the broader context of intersecting social and economic crises, the ability to adapt swiftly has become increasingly necessary. Precariously housed individuals not only have to navigate these intersections, but are also excluded from decision making processes involved in developing local climate action strategies. There is limited research on how to guide the development of just climate resilience strategies that meaningfully centre the lived experiences of precariously housed individuals.Methods:A participatory action research approach was used in collaboration with the Social Development Centre and the Lived Expertise Consultant Team. Focus groups and semi-structured interviews were conducted to explore how participants engaged with the co-creation process of the Grassroots Climate Resilience Project. Reflexive thematic analysis was used to identify key themes. Results indicate the importance of relational accountability and decolonial approach to challenging systemic barriers to climate decision-making processes.Conclusion: These findings indicate support for relationship building and a shared language may provide opportunities for more locally grounded and sustainable climate resilience strategies. Insights offer a model for other communities to adapt to center lived experience in climate resilience planning.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125795 - Snapshot

Contextualizing and Reframing Psychology's Approach to Indigenous Peoples' Mental Health: A Review of Worldview- and Evidence-Based Interventions

Main Presenting Author: Major, Melissa

Additional Authors: Pepler, Debra ; Haigh, Emily

Abstract: *The Canadian, American, and Australian psychological communities (APA, 2023; APS, 2014; CPA, 2018) highlight the need to prioritize Indigenous service users by insisting all clinical psychologists gain cultural competence to address the pervasive impact of colonization. We conducted a narrative review of international literature on Indigenous mental health interventions (n =78), only selecting studies that were worldview- and evidence-based, or, meeting two criteria: Indigenous research, clinical, and/or cultural leadership (evaluated with the Quality Appraisal Tool; Harfield et al., 2018) and Indigenous service users or community reporting benefit from the intervention (evaluated with the Wise Practice framework; Wesley-Esquimaux & Calliou, 2010). Two narrative themes (with subthemes) arose from preliminary thematic coding: Reframing Mental Illness Through Storytelling (subthemes: 'Big Picture' Storytelling; First-Person Storytelling; and Collective Storytelling) and Power-to-Decide as Treatment: Self-Determination Over Treatment Options (subthemes: Talk vs. Experiential Trauma Recovery; Guilt-Free Involvement in Western and/or Traditional Healing; Sharing the Trauma Debt and Power; and Addressing Collective Problems with Collective Solutions). We discuss worldview- and evidence-based possibilities for psychological approaches to intervention with Indigenous service users.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 126005 - Snapshot

Evidence of Indirect Discrimination Against Black and Indigenous Men in a Simulated Hiring Scenario

Main Presenting Author: Bilsbury, Tanya

Additional Authors: Carter-Rogers, Katelynn ; Smith, Steven

Abstract: *Racialized and criminalized men represent intersecting groups of marginalized workers. In a simulated hiring scenario with 726 subjects, participants were randomly assigned to assess the résumé of a fictional candidate who did or did not have a criminal record. Participants were asked to make a hiring decision for a position that the candidate was fully qualified to hold. We manipulated names to evoke the perception that the résumé holder was a White, Black, or Indigenous man. We found evidence of direct discrimination based on criminal record status, and of indirect discrimination based on race and criminal record status, such that the presence of a criminal record was a greater disadvantage for racialized candidates. Content analyses showed explicit discrimination against supposed candidates with criminal records, but implicit discrimination against supposed candidates with racialized names. Notably, race was never reported as a reason for rejecting supposed candidates. Rather, supposed candidates with racialized names were ostensibly rejected for other reasons, such as the criminal record or the professionalism of the résumé. The implications of the study underscore the need for affirmative action or quota-based hiring models, because even when overt discrimination is avoided, discrimination can still manifest through indirect means.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125364 - Snapshot

From Deficit to Strength: Re-framing Digital Fluency and Social Media Use as aPsychosocial Skill in Young Women's Friendships

Main Presenting Author: Moteva, Lily

Additional Authors: Cameron, Catherine Ann ; Figueiredo, Vanessa

Abstract: *Existing literature often frames girls' social media use as passive, distracting, or a precursor to anxiety and depression. This study offers an alternative perspective: In today's digital landscape, online communication skills have become a key psychosocial skill, allowing young women to exercise agency and intentionally manage one of the most meaningful parts of their lives - their friendships. We conducted a thematic analysis of semi-structured interviews with 40 friendship pairs (ages 18-24) and systematically categorized how girls used varied platforms to navigate friendship dynamics and communicate emotional intent. Findings reflect high degrees of intentionality. Participants deliberately switched platforms (e.g., escalating from text to a synchronous call) to signal urgency or heightened emotional intensity, showing an understanding of each platform's affordances and social weight. They also matched platform types (e.g., synchronous calls for emotional exchanges; asynchronous texts for low-pressure updates) to relational goals. Thus, girls' digital fluency reflects perspective-taking and can serve as a psychosocial regulation tool. These findings exhibit accomplished psychosocial skills that challenge deficit-focused reports. Programs targeting youth social skills should adopt a paradigm that treats digital fluency as a strength that sustains strong friendship networks.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124106 - Snapshot

'It's Shown Me a Possible Career Path": A Qualitative Exploration of Acceptance Attitudes and Experiential Learning With Autistic Adults

Main Presenting Author: HUNT, MICHELLE

Additional Author: Im-Bolter, Nancie

Abstract: *Autistic individuals often face social integration challenges. Research indicates non-autistic (allistic) people with autism-related knowledge, acceptance, and experience have positive interactions with Autistic individuals, and can play a key role in supporting inclusion. Field-based learning has been shown to improve student attitudes toward Autistic children, yet studies with adults are lacking. This gap is significant, as Autistic individuals entering adulthood face greater social barriers as they age out of school. This study conducted semi-structured interviews with five allistic undergraduates (Mage = 21.2) taking part in a 12-week placement facilitating social interactions with Autistic adults in a community setting. Thematic analysis revealed that students felt they gain self-efficacy in interacting with Autistic adults during program placement. They also reported strengthened and substantiated acceptance and advocacy attitudes. Importantly, vocational aspirations shifted: no students intended to work with Autistic individuals prior to the course, but after completing the course all expressed interest in supporting neurodivergent people, with some pursuing autism-related work or graduate training. These results show that field-based learning can be an effective way to increase awareness, acceptance, and vocational intentions to support Autistic adults.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 123966 - Snapshot

Structural Barriers and Psychological Consequences: A Scoping Review of First-Generation Students Access to Student Services

Main Presenting Author: Gao, Mingjun

Additional Author: Chen, Meiting

Abstract: *Background: First-generation students (FGS) often navigate postsecondary systems not designed for their diverse starting points, lived experiences, and psychological needs. Most previous studies treat FGS as a homogeneous group, overlooking challenges arising from intersecting identities. Methods: This scoping review examines how institutional barriers in higher education affect FGS access to student services. From PsycINFO and EBSCO, 2307 papers were retrieved for title and abstract screening, with 618 advancing to full-text review. Following predefined criteria, 63 studies were retained and coded for thematic synthesis. Results: Preliminary coding of 20 papers identifies three intersecting factors shaping FGS engagement with services: economic constraints, institutional barriers, and cultural capital gaps. These structural barriers contribute to psychological consequences, including heightened anxiety, reduced belonging, and lower help-seeking. These burdens further limit service utilization, reinforcing inequities. Conclusions: This study shows how higher education systems inadvertently reproduce class inequality and highlights the need for culturally responsive, psychologically informed service design. Action: Implications include strengthening proactive outreach and embedding mental health considerations across support programs to reduce structural inequities.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126170 - Snapshot

Supporting Students with Intersectional Identities During the Post-Secondary Transition

Main Presenting Author: Peddigrew, Emma

Abstract: *This mixed-methods study evaluated the Regional Assessment and Resource Centre's (RARC) On-Line Transition Support (OLTS) program, which assists students with disabilities during the transition to post-secondary education. While OLTS effectively builds self-advocacy and readiness, little is known about how the program supports students whose disabilities intersect with race, culture, gender, and socioeconomic status. Using an intersectional, anti-oppressive framework, we analyzed program metrics and survey data (n=45) alongside semi-structured interviews with 12 participants representing diverse identities. Results showed that students valued OLTS for improving confidence, understanding accommodations, and feeling academically prepared. However, participants also reported barriers related to culturally unresponsive services, limited representation, racialized and gendered disablism, socioeconomic stressors, and insufficient mental health supports. These findings indicate that transition programming must better address intersecting forms of marginalization. Recommendations include culturally responsive staff training, mentorship opportunities, and integrated mental health supports. This study highlights the need for equity-focused redesigns to ensure transition programs effectively meet the needs of students with multiple marginalized identities.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124808 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

"Lost in Translation": Navigating Language, Power, and Gender Identity with Immigrant and Refugee Families

Main Presenting Author: Wong, Wallace
Co-Presenting Authors: Toews, Julia CW; Han, Regina CW

Abstract: *Clinicians working with transgender children and youth (TCY) from immigrant and refugee families face unique complexities at the intersection of gender, culture, and migration. This presentation explores the critical, often-overlooked barriers of language and colonial legacy that disempower these families. We begin by contextualizing gender diversity within Asia's history, highlighting indigenous third-gender roles (e.g., Hijras, Kathoey) and the impact of colonial laws that suppressed them and erased affirming vocabulary.The core of the presentation examines how the lack of LGBTQ+ terminology in many Asian languages creates a fundamental disconnect, leading to miscommunication, pathologizing, and erasure of TCY identities within the family system. We further analyze the power dynamics when Western-trained clinicians, often unconsciously operating from a "white savior" framework, impose individualistic narratives on collectivist families, potentially replicating historical traumas of colonial authority.The session will provide concrete, decolonizing strategies for culturally humble care. These include utilizing cultural brokers over standard interpreters, reframing "coming out" through values of family harmony and acknowledging clinical positionality. Participants will learn to improve accessibility, build trust, and effectively support TCY and their families in navigating gender identity consolidation without sacrificing cultural belonging.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122955 - Standard Workshop

Adapting an Asian Identity Group Therapy Protocol for Supervision

Main Presenting Author: Ko, Gina
Co-Presenting Authors: Sohal, Pooja; Nguyen, Linda

Additional Authors: Chou, Fred ; Chia, Mikaela

Abstract: *Background: There is a lack of culturally responsive group supervision models and approaches. Many counsellor education programs continue to provide training models that adhere to colonial and Eurocentric perspectives (Clegg, 2020; Lei, 2025; Wong, 2025). The authors adapted (Re)claim and Connect for supervision purposes to support culturally reflexive supervision and learning. (Re)Claim and Connect is a counselling group intervention for the Asian diaspora who want to explore and reflect on their racial identity. The goal of the group is to foster belonging by exploring Asian racialized identity and experiences through intentional and guided storytelling. Methods: The authors were trained to facilitate the (Re)Claim and Connect group therapy protocol. The authors adapted the intervention for group supervision to learn the intervention process and to cultivate cultural reflexivity regarding their Asian therapist identities and in relation to their therapeutic work. Results: The authors immersed themselves in the group supervision model for seven weeks and gained a deeper understanding of themselves, their upbringing, and racial wounds; they found healing together by reclaiming their Asian identity. The supervision experience became more connected and authentic, while keeping in mind that clients may experience transformation in various ways through a culturally responsive lens. Conclusion:There is a need for culturally responsive supervision and ethical considerations. Supervisor and supervisees will share such considerations throughout the workshop. ActionsMoving forward, participants will take away some how-tos regarding their supervision experiences. Specifically, supervisors can adapt a more nuanced, culturally responsive and reflexive lens. Supervisees could share some of this learning with their supervisors to generate discussion.*

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 125146 - Standard Workshop

Theory to Practice: Overcoming System Barriers to Implementing MTSS and Redefining School Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Desbois-Ramsden, Angele
Co-Presenting Author: Bolduc, Richard

Abstract: *This session outlines a practical model for implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) within a Canadian school board, specifically addressing resource shortages and aiming for equitable access to mental health and academic support. This will be facilitated by a School Psychology Lead and a Mental Health and Well-Being Lead, exploring the rationale, components, and implementation strategies for transforming school psychology services within the public education system.Participants will gain a foundational understanding of MTSS and its alignment with evolving priorities such as the Ontario Right to Read Inquiry and "Right Time, Right Care." The presentation explores strategies for engaging leadership buy-in, progressing from fragmented services and understanding of MTSS to integrated delivery. A case study of a five-year implementation plan will illustrate how system-wide screening, progress monitoring, and data-based decision-making were*

introduced across gifted education, literacy, math, and social-emotional/mental health supports within a data-based tiered framework.This session highlights the evolving role of school psychologists-centering advocacy, leadership, and data literacy-amid growing recruitment and retention challenges. Grounded in social justice, it offers strategies for building equitable, inclusive, responsive systems and expanding access to psychological and mental health services for all students in publicly funded schools.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123661 - Standard Workshop

When policy meets practice: The impact of Alberta's political climate and our responsibilities as psychologists

Main Presenting Author: Shinbine, Danielle L
Co-Presenting Authors: Dabbs-Petty, Madison ; Caso , Taymy J

Abstract: *Anti-LGBTQ+ and anti-EDI policies are becoming increasingly prevalent in Canada, impacting the lives of thousands of Canadians daily (French, 2025). Psychologists have an ethical obligation to be educated on these topics and how they impact our clients in order to provide competent care (Canadian Psychological Association, 2017). In this workshop, we will introduce key aspects of Canadian and provincial legislation that are critical for psychologists to understand as our political landscape grows increasingly complex. Using Alberta and Ontario as examples, we will educate participants on the notwithstanding clause and its recent impact on Canadian legislation. We will discuss recent legislative shifts in mental health and education and explain its relevance for practicing psychologists through an examination of psychologists' ethical obligations as outlined in the Canadian Psychological Association Code of Ethics. Through group discussions and the use of case studies, we will engage participants directly, enabling them to practice skills that they can bring back to their jurisdictions and to the therapy room. Following our workshop, we anticipate that participants will have an improved understanding of how to support clients experiencing the impacts of marginalizing legislation and how to leverage our social power to enact change in our local communities.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125513 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

Making Inequality Visible: Challenging Systemic Inequality at Individual, Interpersonal, and Societal Levels

Moderator(s): Kachanoff, Frank

Abstract: *Three talks explore how individuals respond to efforts aimed at challenging systemic inequality: through personal contextualization, interpersonal dialogue, or collective action. Although different efforts share the goal of reducing inequity, contextual and individual difference factors may interact to shape effectiveness. In Talk 1 U.S. adults (N =1335) evaluated medical school applicants who varied in socioeconomic status and credentials. Low-SES applicants successfully mitigated their credential disadvantage by contextualizing their merit with a statement of "achievements earned despite hardship" or "hardship-built strengths." Talk 2 (N =369) explores White people's responses to*

conversations about structural racism. Individuals who challenge structural racism because of core values (versus to avoid guilt or negative appraisals) engaged in discussions more constructively and challenged structural racism more day-to-day. Talk 3 examines reactions to society-wide collective action to challenge inequality: Pride month activities. A longitudinal study tracked 2SLGBTQ+ (N=254) and CisHet (N=280) individuals a month before, during, and after Pride. Unexpectedly, for both CisHet and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals, Pride month either had no significant effect or was associated with less perceived prejudice and allyship/action.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126349 - Symposium

Contextualized Merit Narratives Improve Perceived Potential and Admissions Recommendations for Low-SES Applicants

Main Presenting Author: Son Hing, Leanne S
Co-Presenting Author: Dou, Tianzi

Additional Author: Wilson, Anne E

Abstract: *Low socioeconomic status (SES) limits access to elite education partly because economic and educational barriers give low-SES applicants fewer chances to build strong credentials, obscuring potential. We tested whether applicants can actively reduce this disadvantage by contextualizing their records. In an online experiment (N = 1335), U.S. adults evaluated one of five medical school profiles: high SES-high credentials, high SES-moderate credentials, low SES-moderate credentials, or low SES-moderate credentials paired with a statement highlighting either (a) achievements earned despite hardship or (b) strengths developed through hardship. Without contextualization, the low-SES candidate with moderate credentials was rated lower than the high-SES, high-credential applicant but higher than the high-SES candidate with moderate credential, suggesting that credentials-not SES bias-drive lower recommendations. However, when the low-SES applicant with moderate credentials added a "contextualized merit" statement, admission recommendations improved substantially. Both contextualized merit framings were similarly effective in boosting perceived potential and narrowing the gap with the high SES-high credentials candidate. This suggests that in the face of structural barriers, low-SES applicants can strategically contextualize achievements to meaningfully improve gatekeepers' evaluations.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126367 - Paper within a symposium

Polarized perspectives: The motivational dynamics of challenging structural racism among White people

Main Presenting Author: Jiao, Yang

Additional Authors: Saini, Parmjot ; Caceros, Erik S; Hsueh, Ting; Barlow, Meaghan; Kachanoff, Frank

Abstract: *Recognizing that racism exists at a structural level, through systems of beliefs and policies that disproportionately disadvantages racialized groups while benefiting White individuals, can be challenging - especially for White people. We suggest that people vary in why they choose to challenge structural racism: Some people challenge structural racism because it feels inherently*

important and valuable to them (i.e., autonomous motivation), whereas others may only do so avoid feelings of guilt or negative judgements from others (i.e., controlled motivation). Across two studies, we found that White people's motivation to challenge structural racism was consequential for how they engaged in challenging conversations about structural racism and for their sustained engagement over time. In study 1 (N=245), having autonomous versus controlled motivation to challenge structural racism was associated with White people having more constructive conversations about structural racism, and having greater support for education about structural racism post conversation. In study 2 (N=124), we found that autonomous versus controlled motivation was associated with greater self-reported structural racism challenge over a 14-day diary study. Together, our results speak to how motivational dynamics shape whether, and how reliably, White people engage in efforts to challenge structural racism.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126376 - Paper within a symposium

Pride Month's collective action impact among LGBTQ2S+ and CisHet individuals

Main Presenting Author: Hsueh, Ting

Additional Authors: Szczyglowski, Kamila ; Caceros, Erik S; Knowlton, Jordan; Kachanoff, Frank

Abstract: *Diversity focused initiatives like Pride Month can promote collective action for marginalized groups by making their historical/current oppression salient. However, by signaling social progress, diversity initiatives may reduce people's perceptions of ongoing discrimination and reduce perceived needs for further action. We conducted a 3-wave longitudinal study before, during, and after Pride month among 2SLGBTQ+ individuals (a marginalized group; N=254) and Cisgendered and Heterosexual (CisHet) individuals (a dominant group; N=280) to test the impact of Pride month on 2SLGBTQ+ individuals' and CisHet individuals' perceptions of ongoing discrimination and their collective action/allyship on behalf of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. While patterns varied based on the nature of discrimination (realistic versus symbolic) and the type of action/allyship (broad support versus personal engagement), we generally found among both CisHet and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals, Pride month either had no significant effect on people's perception of anti-2SLGBTQ+ prejudice and allyship or was associated with less perceived prejudice and allyship support. This was true for individuals relatively high and low in social dominance orientation (SDO; i.e., those this relatively high or low in tolerance for inequality).*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126379 - Paper within a symposium

Addressing the need for universal access to school-based psychological services

Moderator(s): Jiang, Yuanyuan

Abstract: *School-based psychological services are urgently needed as the current ratio of students to school psychologists are well below recommendations to allow for reasonable wait-times and affordable care. School psychologists complete specialized training and are uniquely positioned to provide psychological services in the education system. How can we advocate for greater access to qualified psychological services based in schools? In this symposium, three talks will be presented by experts in the field of school psychology. The first talk focuses on the collection of nation-wide data on publicly-funded school psychology services, highlighting important areas to address. The second*

presentation describes the renewal of Canadian practice guidelines for school psychologists, with implications for professional development. The third talk highlights strategies to strengthen the outreach of school psychology, such as by collaborating with other professions in our collective goal of improving child and youth mental health. Through discussion, presentation of data and working papers, and advocacy insights, this symposium aims to respond to the question of how science, practice, and advocacy can best promote the leadership of school psychologists in their contribution to making accessible, responsive, and qualified psychological services a reality for children and families in our schools.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123091 - Symposium

Finger on the pulse: What does our national survey tell us about the health of Canadian School Psychology?

Main Presenting Author: Kokai, Maria

Abstract: *The Canadian Psychological Association's (CPA) position paper, Mental health care for Canadian children and youth - The role of school psychologists (2021), make it clear that no national data on access to and roles of school psychologists exist. Data was therefore collected by the CPA's Educational and School Psychology section on school psychologist services in publicly-funded school boards across Canada. A survey was created and distributed to each province and territory following a pilot period in British Columbia. The CPA helped collect and analyze this data, which was collected between 2023 and 2025. Results regarding school psychologist availability and roles were extremely varied between and within provinces and territories. In most cases, the school psychologist to student ratio was well below the recommended benchmark of 1:500 to 1:1000. Overall, the main school psychologist responsibility appeared to be assessment. Variability in how school psychologist services were organized made it challenging to find appropriate sources and receive responses (response rates of 22-63%). Given that effective advocacy need to rely on credible data, these results give us an initial picture of the status of school psychology today. Building on this, we must continue with greater specificity to conduct periodic and improved data collection for universal access to school psychologists.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123517 - Paper within a symposium

Guiding the Future of School Psychology: The renewal of Practice Guidelines for Canadian School Psychologists

Main Presenting Author: Spice, Kerry

Abstract: *Given that the existing Professional Practice Guidelines for School Psychologists in Canada (2007) document was published 18 years ago, and given extensive changes to the practice of school psychology in the past decades, an updated Practice Guidelines document is needed. The Educational and School Psychology Section of the Canadian Psychological Association had formed a school psychology working group to develop an updated version of the Professional Practice Guidelines for School Psychologists in Canada. These updated Guidelines are meant to be aspirational and comprehensive. They focus on current and evidence-based roles, responsibilities, principles, and practice competencies, for the purpose of informing professionals and policy makers about the scope of practice of school psychologists and to develop consistent roles and responsibilities central to a professional community. Limited resources, incomplete understanding of the nature of school*

psychology, role restriction, increased needs for mental health providers, few accredited training programs, and low salaries make the work of school psychologists increasingly difficult. Adopting the Guidelines as a framework for school psychology services and aligning evaluations and professional development with these Guidelines allow school psychologists, systems, and policy-makers to progress toward comprehensive service delivery.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123519 - Paper within a symposium

Strategies to strengthen the visibility, sustainability, and overall impact of school psychology within public-sector systems

Main Presenting Author: Lisaingo, Simon

Abstract: *This symposium presentation will address emerging strategies to strengthen the visibility, sustainability, and overall impact of school psychology within public-sector systems. Drawing on the work of the Canadian Psychological Association's (CPA) Educational and School Psychology section's Psychology in the Public Sector working group, this presentation will outline practical approaches for articulating the value of school psychology to important others, such as government and system-level stakeholders. Topics will include effective service models, the development of clear and compelling messaging, and the growing need for coherent national data on workforce capacity, pay bands, and vacancy trends. Case studies will be provided to further illustrate concepts presented. This presentation will also highlight opportunities for greater national coordination, in particular through demonstrating the cost-effectiveness of in-house school psychology services in education systems, aligning the contributions of school psychology as a profession with broader child and youth mental health priorities, and strengthening partnerships with provincial ministries of education and related public-sector agencies. The overarching goal of this presentation is to equip the profession with the tools and evidence needed to advocate effectively in supporting sustainable service delivery across Canada.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123520 - Paper within a symposium

Beyond the Record: Quantitative Insights on Stigma and Reintegration in Canada

Moderator(s): Carter-Rogers, Katelynn

Abstract: *Employment, relationships, and public attitudes are central to community reintegration after criminalization, yet justice-involved people still face stigma based on race, offence type, and media narratives. This symposium presents four quantitative studies of how Canadians think about and respond to people with criminal records, identifying levers for policy, practice, and reintegration. First, a mock hiring experiment with Canadian employers' tests how applicant race, offence type, and industry shape willingness to hire, revealing industry-specific patterns and lower selection rates for Black and Indigenous applicants. Second, a two-study design with employers and a Canadian sample examines whether government, university, and community-based certificates reduce hiring bias. Third, an experimental vignette study investigates how prior intimate partner violence and self-esteem influence willingness to romantically engage with a man convicted of intimate partner violence. Fourth, an experiment using victim-focused, offender-focused, or neutral videos tests how narratives shape attitudes toward people convicted of sexual offences. Together, these studies clarify how stigma*

operates across work, intimacy, and media and highlight strategies for advancing fair-chance hiring, reducing prejudice, and promoting evidence-based community reintegration.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125712 - Symposium

Advancing Fair Chance Hiring in Canada: Employer Decision-Making Across Race, Offence Type, and Industry

Main Presenting Author: McGeer, Rachel

Additional Authors: Carter-Rogers, Katelynn ; Macfadyen, Brooke; McKay, Courtney; Smith, Steven M; Anazodo, Kemi

Abstract: *Employment is a critical factor in successful reintegration, yet individuals with criminal records, particularly Black and Indigenous Peoples, continue to face substantial barriers to obtaining work. Given that 3.8 million Canadians have a criminal record, understanding how employer decision-making contributes to these barriers is essential. This study examined how race, offence type, and industry sector shape employer willingness to hire justice-involved jobseekers. Using a mixed-methods design, 600 Canadian employers across various industries completed a mock hiring scenario in which applicant race and offence type were manipulated. Results showed clear industry differences, with healthcare and finance reporting the most restrictive record check practices. Across conviction types, Black applicants were selected at lower rates than White and Indigenous applicants, particularly for assault and fraud convictions. In most industries, Black applicants were selected at lower rates, whereas in manufacturing, Indigenous applicants showed the lowest selection rates. Overall, findings highlight how racial bias, offence-specific stigma, and industry norms intersect to limit employment opportunities, indicating the need for sector specific strategies that reduce these barriers and support fair chance hiring.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125721 - Paper within a symposium

Exploring Predictors of Romantic Interest in Men who have Committed Intimate Partner Violence

Main Presenting Author: Young, Katelyn

Additional Authors: Corbett, Melissa ; Patry, Marc; Ternes, Marguerite

Abstract: *The impact of romantic relationships on human behaviour is well outlined. Within the context of former justice-involved individuals, these relationships significantly promote crime desistance. Despite this understanding, little research has examined individual willingness to engage romantically with this population, which is becoming increasingly relevant when examining stigmatized crimes like intimate partner violence (IPV). This study examined willingness to romantically engage with a man previously convicted of IPV and its relationship with attachment, self-esteem, empathy, trust, and helping attitudes. Ninety participants read a short vignette that described a date with a man who had no criminal history, a one-time offence of IPV, or repeated offences of IPV. Participants answered questions regarding the vignette they read and measures of identified variables. A regression analysis showed participants were less willing to romantically engage with someone who had committed IPV (single or repeated) than someone who had not committed IPV, and participants with higher self-esteem were less willing to romantically engage. No additional variables*

predicted willingness to romantically engage. Future research should investigate the impacts of personal experience of IPV and offender remorse on willingness to romantically engage with former IPV justice-involved individuals.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125733 - Paper within a symposium

Exploring Public Attitudes Toward Individuals Convicted of Sexual Offences: The Impact of Knowledge Mobilization Videos

Main Presenting Author: Pitre, Maryann

Additional Authors: Summersby, Emma ; Turnbull, Lily; Macfadyen, Brooke; Gordon, Catherine; Monaghan, Jordyn; McPhee, Payton

Abstract: *Individuals convicted of sexual offences often face substantial barriers to community reintegration. The public's misunderstanding of risk, interventions and recidivism regarding sexual offending contributes to stigma towards this population. Recidivism rates are lower for individuals who commit sexual offences compared to general violent offences, and there is support for interventions for individuals convicted of sexual offences. The present study explored how the content of video reports (victim-focused, offender-focused, or neutral) influence the public's perceptions and attitudes towards the reintegration of this population. The sample comprised N = 175 (Mage = 23.29) Canadians. Participants were randomized to one of three video stimuli conditions and then completed a series of measures related to attitudes and perceptions of this population. Results indicated that participants who viewed the victim-focused video reported stronger feelings of disgust and anger towards the reintegrating individual, while participants who viewed the neutral video expressed stronger feelings of sympathy. Results highlight strategies to decrease stigma toward perpetrators of sexual crimes and suggest that media outlets can be used to educate the public about the community re-entry of those who have sexually offended.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125744 - Paper within a symposium

Race, Criminal Records, and Employment: Examining the Impact of Certificates on Hiring Bias in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Macfadyen, Brooke

Additional Authors: Smith, Steven M; Carter-Rogers, Katelynn; Anazodo, Kemi

Abstract: *Individuals with criminal records, particularly Black and Indigenous applicants, face significant barriers to employment. Identifying effective strategies to reduce hiring bias is essential for improving employment access and supporting reintegration. This research uses a two-study design, with Study 1 evaluating five types of certificates and Study 2 assessing how the highest-rated certificates influence hiring outcomes across applicant races. For study 1 (n = 578 employers), a repeated-measures ANOVA indicated that a Government Certificate of Employment (COE) and a University Skills Certificate were perceived most favorably. Based on these results, Study 2 data were collected from a representative Canadian sample (n = 1,000) using a 3 (Race: White, Black, Indigenous) × 4 (Certificate: None, COE, University, John Howard Society) between-subjects mock hiring design to test how race and certificate type influence willingness to hire. Study 2 data are being*

analyzed using factorial ANOVA, logistic regression, and mediation analyses. Findings will identify which certificate-based strategies effectively reduce hiring bias and improve employment outcomes for people with criminal records, particularly racialized applicants. Ultimately, this research will inform policies and practices that increase fair-chance hiring, meaningfully support reintegration, and reduce recidivism.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125725 - Paper within a symposium

Crossing Cultures and Classrooms: Bridging Gaps in School Psychology Services for Newcomer Students

Moderator(s): King, Sara

Abstract: *In recent years, Canada has seen an influx of newcomers, with a significant portion of these being under the age of 19 and therefore attending public schools. These students have diverse educational and life experiences that must be considered when providing school-based support. School psychologists play an important role in providing academic and social-emotional support to newcomer students as they adjust to their new learning environments. However, although there has been a growing emphasis on the development of cultural competence for psychologists over the last decade, it is unclear how school psychologists are being prepared to work with newcomer students and their families, especially those who speak English as an Additional Language (EAL). Some research suggests that school psychologists feel confident in their general cultural awareness but less confident in their ability to implement practices, especially when language barriers are present; it is therefore necessary to understand how current curricula, referral guidelines, and school psychology training align with the needs of newcomer students and families to ensure they receive adequate support across multiple domains. This symposium will examine school psychological services in relation to newcomer students from three perspectives: (1) the appropriateness of Canadian social-emotional learning (SEL) curricula for newcomer students; (2) current referral and assessment guidelines for newcomer students; and (3) practicing school psychologists' self-perceived competency to work with newcomer students. Implications for school psychology training and practice will be discussed.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122926 - Symposium

"Learning on the Fly": School Psychologists' Experiences Supporting Newcomer Students in Nova Scotia.

Main Presenting Author: Yazbek, Yara

Additional Authors: Doe, Christine D; Ritchie, Krista C; Yorke-Phillip, Natasha; King, Sara

Abstract: *RATIONALE. Nova Scotia schools are experiencing increased newcomer student enrolment, resulting in greater cultural and linguistic diversity. These students sometimes face complex academic, language, and mental health challenges that require specialized support. School psychologists are well positioned to play an important role in addressing these needs, yet little is known about their preparedness to support this population. METHOD. This study used qualitative description to examine how school psychologists in Nova Scotia understand and describe their knowledge and experiences working with newcomer students, particularly English as an Additional Language (EAL) learners. Nine currently practicing school psychologists participated in semi-structured interviews,*

and data were analyzed to identify common experiences and challenges. RESULTS. Participants expressed a strong commitment to ethical and inclusive practice but reported limited training, language barriers, and systemic constraints that make it difficult to adequately support newcomer students and their families. IMPLICATIONS. Findings highlight the need for targeted professional development, culturally appropriate tools, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Suggestions for school psychology practice and training and possibilities for future research will be discussed.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122929 - Paper within a symposium

Aligning Social-Emotional Learning Theory, Evidence, and Assessment for EAL Learners: A Scoping Review of Canadian Evidence.

Main Presenting Author: Ritchie, Krista C

Additional Authors: Becker, Emma ; Doe, Christine D

Abstract: *RATIONALE. Although social-emotional learning (SEL) outcomes are included in curricula in schools across Canada, very little is understood about the suitability of current SEL programming for students who speak English as an Additional Language (EAL). This scoping review explored the convergence of published research on SEL and EAL learning in Canadian public elementary, middle and high schools. METHOD. Following Arksey and O'Malley's (2005) framework for scoping reviews, this study mapped concepts from retrieved studies that integrated SEL and EAL in Canada over the past 25 years. RESULTS. Four themes synthesized core constructs: identity affirmation, self-awareness and self-esteem, socialization, and instructional strategies. All themes related to both fostering academic performance and social integration for EAL learners. Effective SEL practices used identity-affirming and culturally responsive instructional methods and offered opportunities for collaborative learning and multilingual classroom activities. Following these approaches can foster EAL learners' confidence, promote socialization with peers, and facilitate successful acculturation, thereby positively fostering language proficiency and overall mental health. IMPLICATIONS. Results indicated minimal applied research conducted in Canada, with limited explicit instruction of SEL, emphasizing the necessity for research on implementation of structured culturally and linguistically responsive SEL curricula in Canadian public schools. Suggestions for targeted SEL interventions within Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) frameworks, meeting the diverse needs of EAL learners in Canada (particularly students with a refugee background), and the need to refine SEL frameworks for improved clarity and with culturally humility will be discussed.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122927 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding Referral Barriers: A Scoping Review of Psychoeducational Assessment Pathways for EAL Students.

Main Presenting Author: King, Sara

Additional Authors: Hammam, Christina ; Ritchie, Krista C; Doe, D Christine

Abstract: *RATIONALE. Research examining the psychoeducational assessment process for English as an Additional Language (EAL) students has largely been focused on distinguishing language*

acquisition from learning disorders; however, limited attention has been given to how institutional tools, policy frameworks, and educator perceptions collectively shape school psychology referral decisions. METHOD. Guided by Disability Critical Race Theory (DisCrit), a scoping review was conducted to examine systemic inequities and missed opportunities in the psychoeducational referral process for EAL students in Canadian schools. RESULTS. Fourteen empirical and 18 grey literature sources met the inclusion criteria. Four key themes relating to referral dynamics emerged: bias and misclassification, multilingual and sociocultural considerations, inadequate professional knowledge, and limitations in referral decision-making tools and practices. These themes operate across two interrelated dimensions: Interpretive Frames, (i.e., how educators perceive and respond to student difficulties), and Systemic Instruments, (i.e., the institutional structures that formalize or reinforce educator perceptions). IMPLICATIONS. Despite increasing policy emphasis on inclusion, this review highlights persistent variability in practice, a lack of Canadian empirical research, and entrenched structural norms that privilege Whiteness, monolingualism, and normative ability. Recommendations include embedding culturally and linguistically responsive frameworks into referral policy, expanding professional learning grounded in cultural humility, and generating context-specific research to support more equitable and linguistically responsive assessment pathways for EAL learners.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 122928 - Paper within a symposium

Increasing Support for Reconciliation Through Inclusive Victim Narratives, Critical Historical Knowledge, and Social Norm Interventions Among Non-Indigenous University Students

Moderator(s): Neault, Sharissa M

Abstract: *On the 10th anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, only 14 of 94 were addressed. This emphasizes the need for non-Indigenous people to prioritize reconciliation. Education is an effective intervention to promote reconciliation, but other interventions may help. In this symposium, we present three experimental studies that examine the effects of brief interventions on support for reconciliation. We measured non-Indigenous participants' empathy, political solidarity, behavioral intentions, and attitude toward reconciliation. In Study 1 (N = 499), critical historical education and storytelling increased empathy and support for government action, with historical education also enhancing solidarity and behavioral intentions. In Study 2 (N = 255), norm-based messages about colonial statue removal had limited impact and provoked backlash among right-leaning participants. In Study 3 (N = 481), an inclusive victimhood narrative increased agreement that reconciliation is necessary, and perceptions of shared harm indirectly predicted behavioral intentions through empathy (and other emotions) and solidarity. Our brief interventions may shift reconciliation support, though effects vary by content and audience. These interventions can be easily integrated into everyday conversations, media, or advertising to foster public support for reconciliation.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125990 - Symposium

Social Norms and Ideological Resistance in the Context of Colonial Statue Removal in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Ferry, Caitlin V

Abstract: *Social justice efforts benefit from allies who think, feel, and act to support change. Social norms can signal growing support and persuade others to join a cause. We examined how norms influence responses to removing colonial statues from public spaces. Specifically, we tested two norm types: a static norm (current support) and a dynamic norm (increasing support). Using an online survey, we randomly assigned 255 non-Indigenous university students to one of three conditions: no-norm (control), static-norm, or dynamic-norm. All participants read a passage about colonial statues describing Canada's first Prime Minister's harmful policies toward Indigenous peoples. Static and dynamic norm participants then read that 32% of Canadians support statue removal; dynamic-norm participants read that support is growing. We anticipated support would increase with static and dynamic norms (especially dynamic). We measured empathy, political solidarity, behavioral intentions, and attitudes toward statue removal, as well as political orientation. Unexpectedly, norm conditions did not increase empathy, solidarity, or behavioral intentions. Attitudinal support increased only after removing outliers. Right-leaning participants reported less support when presented norm messages, suggesting resistance. Findings highlight the need to tailor messaging to political ideology to avoid backlash.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126001 - Paper within a symposium

Support for Reconciliation in Canada: The Role of Shared Harm Perceptions

Main Presenting Author: Dela Rosa, Jaden F

Abstract: *December 2025 marked the 10th anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, sparking reflection on progress and the work that remains toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Support from non-Indigenous people is critical to this work. Inclusive victimhood narratives, which emphasize shared harm (e.g., discrimination, prejudice, stereotyping), may promote this support. In an online experiment, we randomly assigned Canadian university students (N = 481) to consider whether members of different marginalized groups share experiences of harm (inclusive victimhood) or not (control). Participants read a passage about residential school harms and calls for reconciliation, reported emotional responses (i.e., love, empathy, anger, sadness, sorry, hope), and completed measures of political solidarity, behavioral intentions, and attitudes toward reconciliation. The inclusive victimhood narrative increased agreement that reconciliation is necessary but did not affect other outcomes. Exploratory structural equation modeling within the inclusive victimhood condition (n = 222) revealed that perceptions of shared harm predicted behavioral intentions through emotional responses and political solidarity. This suggests that perceiving shared harm can foster solidarity, but this intervention needs refinement to promote these perceptions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125998 - Paper within a symposium

The Effects of Critical Historical Knowledge and Storytelling on Reactions to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit Peoples

Main Presenting Author: Sinclair, Erin M

Abstract: *Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people in Canada experience high rates of violence. Indigenous communities continue to call for stronger education and awareness. Critical historical education is one effective intervention, and storytelling may complement this approach. In an online experiment, we tested the effects of critical historical education and storytelling with Canadian undergraduate students (N = 499) using a 2 (Critical Historical Knowledge: None, critical*

historical passage) × 2 (Storytelling: None, personal story video) factorial design. Participants read a critical historical passage, watched a personal story video, received both interventions, or completed dependent measures of empathy, political solidarity, behavioral intentions, and support for government action. We analyzed data using factorial ANOVAs, pairwise comparisons, and mediation models. The passage and personal story increased empathy and support for government action. The passage also increased political solidarity and behavioral intentions. Unexpectedly, the combined intervention was not significant for any variable. Mediation analyses showed that the passage predicted behavioral intentions through empathy and political solidarity. These findings suggest that either intervention strengthened emotional, attitudinal, and behavioral responses, highlighting mechanisms of enhancing public support.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126002 - Paper within a symposium

Same- Versus Cross-Race Social Support: Understanding, Racial Shared Reality, and Flourishing

Moderator(s): Yee, Shawn

Abstract: *How do disclosures to same- or cross-race friends uphold or undermine well-being, especially in contexts where people of color (POC) regularly experience racism? Drawing on optimal matching and shared reality theory, three talks address this question. Overall, POC share as much in their close same- (vs. cross-) race relationships, but may feel better understood in same-race relationships (Talk 1). Misunderstanding may stem from White friends' underprovision of validation and acceptance (forms of social support preferred by POC) and overprovision of reframing and minimizing (Talks 2 & 3). Gaps in desired versus expected support are larger for cross- versus same-race relationships (Talk 2). When POC imagine receiving non-validating (vs. validating) responses from a cross-race friend, they anticipate worse affect, more rumination, lower trust, and more avoidance (Talk 2). Finally, live-interaction experiments find that White participants intend to provide high levels of validation to POC's experiences of racism but their actual responses often feel minimizing and can produce more negative affect, although effects may be buffered by increased racial shared reality (Talk 3). Implications for fostering more responsive cross-race support to discrimination disclosures are discussed.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126163 - Symposium

Responding to Racial Discrimination in Real Time: The Role of Racism Recognition and Racial Shared Reality

Main Presenting Author: Yee, Shawn

Additional Authors: Ayekun, Ashling ; Marigold, Denise; Rehman, Uzma; Bergsieker, Hilary B.

Abstract: *Research on social support in response to racial discrimination often relies on imagined scenarios, which may diverge from real-life interactions. Two experiments investigated live same- or cross-race conversations among Canadian students about lived experiences of racism. In video calls, White participants (Study 1; N = 154) reported greater intentions to validate (vs. reframe) racial (vs. non-racial) negative experiences, yet Black confederates felt less validated by their White partners after racial (vs. non-racial) disclosures. Then in live chats (Study 2; N = 226), POC participants*

found support from ostensibly White (vs. same-race) partners less responsive and more upsetting. However, recipients perceived support as more responsive when White providers (privately) attributed racial experiences to racism (Study 1) or any providers made validating comments that conveyed racial shared reality (Study 2). These results underscore the value of acknowledging race when responding to disclosures of racial discrimination, suggesting avenues for improving social support in cross-race contexts.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126201 - Paper within a symposium

Responsive Support to Disclosures of Racism: Expectations and Well-Being Implications

Main Presenting Author: Caceros, Erik S.

Additional Authors: Campos-Ordóñez, Pamela ; Ayekun, Ashling; Edalatkhah, Mahsa ; Bergsieker, Hilary B.

Abstract: *Social support helps people of color (POC) cope with stressors such as racial discrimination. Yet when POC disclose lived experiences of racism, friends may fail to provide support that meets disclosers' emotional needs. Drawing on theories of shared reality and emotion reappraisal, we compare two emotion-focused social support approaches: validation (conveying that disclosers' feelings are appropriate) and reframing (seeking to reduce disclosers' distress by offering a more positive perspective). Two POC samples of Canadian young adults (35% South Asian, 32% East Asian, 9% Black, 8% Southeast Asian, 7% Middle Eastern, 6% Other, 2% Latine, 1% Indigenous) recalled a lived experience of racism then were randomly assigned to imagine disclosing it to a White or same-race friend. In Study 1 (N = 430), POC rated validation as more helpful than reframing and anticipated larger gaps between desired and expected support from White versus same-race friends. In Study 2 (N = 651), which experimentally varied support type, imagining a reframing (vs. validating) response from a friend led to feeling less perceived support, less shared racial reality, more negative affect, and more rumination.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126180 - Paper within a symposium

Sharing Across Racial Lines: Linking Disclosure, Understanding, and Well-Being in People of Colour's Close Relationships

Main Presenting Author: Débrosse, Régine

Additional Authors: Thai, Sabrina ; Auger, Emilie; Brieva, Tess

Abstract: *Feeling seen and being offered the space to share in the first place are central to close relationships; in fact, they are associated with the benefits that these relationships can yield, notably for well-being. For people of color, understanding and disclosure could unfold differently with close others who share or not their racial/ethnic background, however. The present paper examines this question with young Black, Latine, and Asian people in a cross-sectional national U.S. sample (N = 1,285) and in a weekly diary study (N = 101). In Study 1, young people of color felt more understood in same-race than in cross-race close relationships. Moreover, feeling understood in both types of relationships distinctly predicted depressive symptomatology one year and two years later. In Study 2, same-race understanding was uniquely associated with depressive affect and flourishing, but cross-*

race understanding was not. In both studies, same-race and cross-race disclosure did not differ or predict outcomes. Together, these findings suggest that young people of color disclose similarly in their close same-race and cross-race relationships but feeling understood is more directly associated with their psychological well-being.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126172 - Paper within a symposium

The Gendered Roots of Mass Violence: Insights Across Individual and Sociocultural Levels

Moderator(s): McSweeney, Tara

Abstract: *This symposium explores how violence against women (VAW) operates as an underrecognized pathway to broader interpersonal and mass violence. Although public discourse increasingly notes these links, empirical integration across domains remains limited, making this a timely topic for conversation. Johnson et al. will provide a perpetrator-centered analysis of 59 school shooters, showing that most had documented histories of VAW and threatened masculinity, positioning gendered violence as a precursor and potential intervention point. Building on this, Moscovitz et al. will present an ongoing scoping review synthesizing how scholarship conceptualizes the intersection between VAW and mass violence. Their contribution highlights where clearer empirical work is needed to trace how private forms of gendered harm escalate into public acts of mass violence, guiding more targeted future research. Finally, Calene et al. shift to sociopolitical dynamics, demonstrating how rape-culture acceptance aligns with political affiliation, sexism, hostility toward women, and emerging manosphere and red-pill ideologies that intensify gendered grievance. Together, these presentations integrate individual, structural, and sociocultural perspectives, offering a multifaceted understanding of how gendered violence escalates across contexts and highlights the need for coordinated prevention strategies.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125911 - Symposium

Before the Gunfire: Gendered Violence as a Precursor to Mass Attacks

Main Presenting Author: Moscovitz, Aly

Additional Authors: Johnson, Nicole L; Calene, Elise

Abstract: *Emerging literature suggests that violence against women (VAW) may play a significant role in pathways leading to mass shootings. Although case reports and media analyses often note perpetrators' histories of gendered aggression, no comprehensive synthesis has mapped these connections. Yet this link is often minimized, reflecting broader tendencies to downplay men's VAW and limiting our ability to anticipate and respond to firearm-related violence. We present an ongoing scoping review examining how VAW is situated within scholarship on mass shootings. The review aims to: 1) map evidence linking VAW and misogynistic attitudes to mass shooting perpetration; 2) identify theoretical frameworks explaining these pathways; and 3) highlight gaps requiring further empirical attention. Following Arksey and O'Malley's framework and PRISMA-ScR guidelines, we are searching multidisciplinary databases and grey literature for empirical, theoretical, and policy sources on the VAW-mass gun violence nexus. The extracted data are being charted and descriptively mapped to capture how these relationships are represented. We expect to identify recurring patterns*

in perpetrator histories, particularly how misogyny and gendered grievances shape pathways to mass violence. Findings aim to inform interdisciplinary approaches to prevention long before gunfire.

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125928 - Paper within a symposium

Red, Blue, and Rape Culture: Politics and Gendered Power in the Manosphere

Main Presenting Author: Calene, Elise

Additional Authors: Johnson, Nicole L. ; Moscovitz, Aly

Abstract: *Research conducted during and after the 2016 U.S. presidential election offers insight into personal factors associated with acceptance of rape culture. Across two data collections with 196 U.S. undergraduates, most of whom identified as women, Republican voters showed higher rape-culture endorsement than Democratic voters. However, across political affiliations, several personal indicators were positively associated with rape-culture acceptance, including adherence to traditional gender roles, hostile and benevolent sexism, acceptance of violence, and hostility toward women. These factors remain highly relevant amid contemporary spaces such as the manosphere, red-pilling communities, and ideologies promoted by figures like Andrew Tate, which echo the rigid gender hierarchies and male-dominance norms characteristic of the 2016 Make America Great Again movement and its resurgence in Trump's current presidency. These findings underscore concern about the intensification of rape culture and highlight the need for educators, researchers, and policymakers to address the personal and cultural drivers of violence to inform prevention efforts.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125933 - Paper within a symposium

When Gender Strain Turns Deadly: Linking Violence Against Women and School Shootings

Main Presenting Author: Johnson, Nicole L

Additional Authors: Calene, Elise ; Moscovitz, Aly

Abstract: *This presentation will discuss a recent study that examined the proposed relationship between violence against women (VAW) and school shootings. Directed content analysis was used to determine the prevalence of acts and social-ecological features of VAW among profiles of 59 school shooters between 1966 and 2018. The majority of shootings profiled occurred in the United States (47, 79.7%), followed by Canada (five, 8.5%). The vast majority of shooters were cisgender men, White, and non-immigrants to the country where the shooting occurred. Most shooters had documented instance(s) of perpetrating VAW (42, 71.2%), with many instances occurring prior to the shooting (26, 44.1%), identifying VAW as a potential precursor to shootings and therefore a target for intervention. Further, all shooters, with the exception of one who experienced severe psychosis, had a documented history of threatened masculinity, consistent with constructs of masculine gender role strain and precarious manhood, and frequently both. Masculine gender role strain was defined as documented experiences of distress that occur when one fails to live up to internalized colonizer masculine ideals. Precarious manhood was defined as documented engagement in actions to prove one's manhood following a perceived threat to one's masculinity (e.g., rejection). Implications for research and intervention will be discussed.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125923 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: SERVING COMMUNITIES

Strengthening communities by seeking to understand and address the specific needs of a given community

12-Minute Talk

A comparison of dimensionality assessment methods in factor analysis under second order, bifactorial, and oblique factor models

Main Presenting Author: Caron, Pier-Olivier

Abstract: *Over the past 125 years, several dimensionality assessment methods have been proposed to address the challenge of determining the number of factors to extract in factor analysis. Among them, several recent promising methods warrant comparison under hard but realistic conditions. In this study, we compared the performance of four contemporary methods (Next Eigenvalue Sequential Test, Exploratory Graph Analysis, Empirical Kaiser Criterion, Sequential χ^2 test, and Out-of-Sample Prediction Error) alongside two versions of the traditional parallel analysis. These methods were tested within sophisticated factorial structures, including second order (2ND), bifactor (BIF), and oblique (OBL) models, the former two having received relatively little attention in prior studies. A Monte Carlo simulation was conducted, varying sample sizes (N = 250, 500, 750, 1000), number of factors (2 to 6) minimum factor loadings (λ = .40, .50, .60), and the three population models and their corresponding parameters, resulting in 540 conditions, each replicated 1000 times. Results indicated that methods frequently under-extracted the correct number of factors in 2ND and BIF models, either due to the general factor merging with the first specific factor or the final factor being too weak to detect. The presentation highlights the strengths and limitations of each method and offers guidance on their suitability across different conditions.*

Section: *Quantitative Methods*
Session ID: 125138 - 12-Minute Talk

Academic focused self-concept predicts worsening depressive symptoms over time among university students

Main Presenting Author: Enouy, Sarah

Additional Author: Tabri, Nassim

Abstract: *Background. Many people develop depressive symptoms when they enter university (Moghimi, 2023), yet little research has examined why. I propose that a heretofore unexamined construct, academic-focused self-concept (overvaluing the importance of academic success for self-worth and success in other life domains), may help explain the increase in depression among university students. Methods. Two cross-sectional studies (n=481; n=825 undergraduates) evaluated the psychometrics of the 20-item academic-focused self-concept scale (AFSC), and its links with depressive symptoms. Study 3 (n=294 first-year undergraduate students) examined links between academic focus at the start of the semester and change in depressive symptoms over the first semester. Results. Across all studies, factor analyses showed AFSC reflected one factor. In Studies 1 and 2, academic focus was positively associated with depressive symptoms (r=.30, .36). In Study 3, growth curve analysis showed depressive symptoms increased linearly each month among those higher in*

academic focus (+1SD) b=.12, p<.001, but not lower (-1SD), b =.01, p=.69.
Conclusions. Academic focus is associated with depressive symptoms and exacerbates symptoms over time. Impact. Universities can implement interventions that reduce excessive academic focus among students, thereby helping to prevent the escalation of depressive symptoms.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125237 - 12-Minute Talk

Attributional Style Predicts Psychological Resilience in Ukrainian Survivors

Main Presenting Author: Vanderkam, Tomas

Additional Author: Toskova, Ula

Abstract: *How people explain adversity shapes how they recover from it. This study tests attributional style-the tendency to explain negative events as internal or external, stable or unstable, and global or specific-as a predictor of resilience among Ukrainian survivors of political violence. Using the Content Analysis of Verbatim Explanations (CAVE) method, we extracted and coded naturally occurring attributions from survivor narratives, then evaluated whether attributional dimensions linked to perceived control and permanence statistically correspond with stronger or weaker resilience outcomes. Analyses indicated that distinct attributional profiles differentiate more adaptive versus maladaptive patterns of meaning-making following prolonged trauma. These findings support the conclusion that explanatory tendencies captured in narratives are informative markers of resilience under sustained threat. The study's impact is to provide an empirically grounded basis for targeting attributional processes in support efforts (e.g., narrative-based or cognitive interventions) and for improving risk identification by incorporating attributional indicators into survivor assessment.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125633 - 12-Minute Talk

Beyond Burnout: What a Groundbreaking National Study of the Canadian Music Industry Reveals About the Music Ecosystem as a Workplace and the Impact on Workers' Mental Health

Main Presenting Author: Harrison, Catherine

Abstract: *Background / RationaleThe Canadian music industry is facing a documented mental health crisis, yet until now there has been no comprehensive, sector-wide dataset to understand its root causes. Soundcheck is the first national study to examine the music ecosystem explicitly as a workplace, capturing the lived realities, pressures, and structural conditions impacting mental health across roles, identities, and provinces. Driven by clear gaps in leadership, workplace design, and cultural norms, the study was created to uncover what is truly happening beneath the surface-and to build an evidence-informed foundation for industry-wide change. This overdue Canadian perspective will be added to rapidly growing global research in this area.MethodsSoundcheck used a mixed-methods research design combining:A year-long national survey gathered feedback at scale (>1,200 respondents, representing artists, freelancers, administrators, executives, and technical workers).Qualitative interviews (before, during and after the survey) and open-text responses (within the survey) deepen understanding of lived experience, contextual factors, and patterns not visible*

through metrics alone.Cross-analysis across demographic variables, including gender identity, race, role type, age, region, and employment structure. Perspectives on leadership/persons in power, workplace dynamics and psychological safety were included (a novel inclusion for this industry).Integration of organizational behaviour, I/O psychology, mental-health research, and workplace culture frameworks to interpret findings.ResultsAnalysis reveals an ecosystem strained by chronic instability, unclear leadership, inconsistent expectations, and psychologically unsafe work environments. Key findings include extremely high rates of mental health challenges, widespread experiences of stigma, discrimination, and unsafe workplace behaviour, and profound impacts from financial precarity and identity-based harm. Leadership practices, workload design, and the absence of protective structures consistently predict higher psychological risk.ConclusionsThe Canadian music ecosystem, as it currently functions, operates with structural and cultural conditions that routinely undermine mental health. The results point to a need for industry-wide shifts in leadership capability, workplace design, communication norms, and psychological-safety practices. Improving mental health outcomes requires a systems-level approach-not just individual coping strategies.Action / ImpactSoundcheck has informed the development of new evidence-based leadership models, mental health literacy programs, and organizational interventions designed specifically for creative and high-pressure environments. The author provides actionable recommendations for industry partners (to shape policy, improve governance, strengthen workplace protections, and begin leadership training), and for I/O psychologists, clinicians, educators, and industry leaders seeking to reduce psychological harm while improving performance, belonging, and sustainability across the music ecosystem.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123783 - 12-Minute Talk

Development and Validation of the Moral Injury Screener for Forensic Psychiatric Patients

Main Presenting Author: Lall, Megan k

Additional Authors: Roth, Sophia ; Streiner, David L; Moulden, M Heather ; McKinnon, Margaret C; Losier, Bruno

Abstract: *Moral injury (MI) is recognized in clinical and forensic settings, yet research with justice-involved people is limited. We developed and initially validated the Moral Injury Screener for Forensic Psychiatric Populations (MI-FPP), the first self-report tool tailored to forensic psychiatric patients (FPPs). Grounded in phenomenology and a syndromal framework, items capture morally salient experiences. FPPs (N=174) from four Ontario forensic psychiatry programs completed the MI-FPP alongside measures of potentially morally injurious events (PMIEs), shame, guilt, psychiatric symptoms, trauma history, and emotion regulation. Exploratory factor analysis of a six-item screener yielded two dimensions-Betrayal and Guilt-explaining 61.3% of variance. Betrayal reflected perceived moral violations by others/institutions; Guilt indexed self-directed transgression. Both dimensions correlated with higher psychiatric symptoms, greater trauma, and poorer emotion regulation ($p<.01$), supporting construct and criterion validity; links with PTSD were stronger for Betrayal. Findings highlight betrayal and guilt as core MI components in FPPs and support the MI-FPP as a brief, context-sensitive screen. Further psychometric work is needed to establish reliability, generalizability, and clinical utility across settings. Results support early feasibility and acceptability in routine forensic assessment.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 122826 - 12-Minute Talk

Identification with Male Identity and Mental Health in Male Survivors of Sexual Violence

Main Presenting Author: Erentzen, Caroline

Additional Authors: Yun, Sung Hyun; Moasun, Festus; Nikolova, Kristina ; Branget, Carol

Abstract: *Background: Male survivors of sexual violence often suffer serious harm to their mental health, although counselling services remain underutilized by this population. Less is known about how male survivors feel connection to their male identity more generally and whether this may be related to psychological outcomes. Methods: Data were collected from male survivors of sexual violence who were referred for service to sexual assault clinics in Southwestern Ontario. They completed measures of depression, anxiety, and trauma (DASS), and connection to male identity (RGIDS) over a two-year period. Results: A series of hierarchical regression models were conducted to predict mental health outcomes. Although all men reported clinically elevated mental health symptoms, outcomes were also predicted by male identification. Those men who were disconnected from male identity showed worse outcomes overall, emerging as the strongest predictor of mental illness. Those who felt connected to male identity had better mental health overall. Action/Impact: These results suggest that positive association with male identity may be a protective factor for male survivors of sexual violence, with therapeutic implications for incorporating a male-positive focus.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 125234 - 12-Minute Talk

Indigenous Cultural Supports Within the Early Years Program

Main Presenting Author: Wood, Lakota

Abstract: *Previous research shows that culturally grounded wellness supports foster Indigenous wellbeing, but less is known about how cultural support practices are used in community programs. This study explores how such supports are integrated into the Early Years (EY) program, an Indigenous maternal-child health initiative offering home visits, centre-based services, and cultural resources delivered by community staff members, who are referred to as Visitors. A qualitative descriptive analysis of interviews and focus groups with Visitors revealed six key insights: Visitors supported families relationally; Visitors engaged families in cultural arts, teachings, Elder access, and Cree language activities; Visitors described their own cultural connections, growth, and facilitation roles; cultural supports created positive impacts for families, staff, and the community; the pandemic disrupted relationships and cultural access, but prompted resiliency and adaptation; Visitors emphasized cultural safety through breaking cycles of harm and using trauma-informed care. Overall, cultural supports in the EY program are relationally enacted and strengthen Indigenous wellness through shared knowledge, community connection, adaptability, and culturally safe practice, contributing to family wellbeing and cultural continuity while informing future program and policy development.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126206 - 12-Minute Talk

Indigenous Students' Post-Secondary Transitions: Insights into Intersectional Identities and Support Systems

Main Presenting Author: Moreau, Julia M

Additional Authors: Pollock, Beth ; Flores, Luis; Carr-Braint, Betty; Demmon, Jenna; Doxtator, Lisa; Gardner, Julieann

Abstract: *Post-secondary education transitions are challenging, yet resource programs often focus on disability, overlooking intersectional identities. Indigenous students may face additional barriers. Using intersectionality theory, this research considers the compounded inequities and strengths of Indigenous students navigating Indigenized and Westernized systems. With Two-Eyed Seeing, this participatory action research recruits first-year Indigenous post-secondary students. Participants use photovoice to capture images of their transition and accessibility experiences, then discuss them in research circles. They also complete a medicine wheel-informed self-report survey assessing mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical aspects of their transition. Ten participants (30.7 Mage; 50% women) completed the study and reflexive thematic analysis is underway. Many participants reported difficulty accessing the curriculum, including diagnosed/ suspected neurodevelopmental disability (70%), mental health challenges (50%), and due to intergenerational trauma (50%). Following member checking this winter, this talk will share themes and photos. Findings will be returned to community through recommendations for culturally appropriate changes to resource programs. Knowledge-translation outputs informed by participants will be shared to promote community-driven action and institutional impact.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 123186 - 12-Minute Talk

Natural Language Analyses Reveal Resilience Patterns in 2,580 Ukrainian War Narratives

Main Presenting Author: Vanderkam, Tomas

Additional Authors: Suedfeld, Peter ; Xie, Sally

Abstract: *How do people sustain psychological resilience under conditions of war and displacement? This study draws on 2,580 firsthand narratives from Ukrainian civilians affected by the ongoing Russian invasion (2014-present) to examine resilience-related psychological processes expressed through language. Using large-scale computerized language analysis, we quantify narrative indicators of motivational themes and cognitive complexity in meaning-making, then test whether these features are associated with resilience. Early results indicate that achievement motive and integrative complexity reliably distinguish more resilient profiles from less resilient ones. These findings support the conclusion that resilience under sustained threat is linked to both motivational orientation and cognitively complex meaning-making, and that these signals can be measured at scale in real-world narratives. This large dataset offers rare insight into scalable language-based indicators that can refine resilience models and inform evidence-based approaches to supporting adaptation in trauma and displacement contexts.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125656 - 12-Minute Talk

Peer involvement in grooming dynamics: A court transcript analysis of child sexual abuse cases

Main Presenting Author: Thompson, Kailey T

Additional Authors: Bruer, Kaila C; Evans, Angela D; Williams, Shanna; Wylie , Breanne E

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Grooming is a common tactic in child sexual abuse, and in some cases this process can involve peers (R. v. McColeman, 2017). However, we have no understanding of how often cases involve peers or what roles those peers play. Methods: A sample of 96 Canadian court transcripts of children's testimony (ages 5 to 17) in child sexual abuse cases from 2011-2019 were analyzed for information regarding the nature and frequency of grooming and peer involvement. Results: Overall, 49% of transcripts involved grooming-related behaviours, and 41% of those transcripts indicated the presence of a peer. Peers were friends (74%), siblings (26%), or other family (5%). Peer involvement varied across cases: 45% were co-victims, 20% knowingly recruited the victim, 25% unknowingly provided access to the perpetrator, and 10% were unaware but referenced in threats or invitations used to gain compliance. Conclusions: Findings suggest that peer involvement plays a more substantial and multifaceted role in grooming dynamics than previously recognized, including facilitating contact, creating opportunities for interactions, or by being used to exert pressure or gain compliance from victims.Action/Impact: These patterns highlight the need for prevention and education efforts that support children in recognizing grooming tactics across different social scenarios.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 122684 - 12-Minute Talk

Roots of Wellbeing and Sources of Strength in Matimekush-Lac John Innu People Returning to their Community Following an Addiction Therapy

Main Presenting Author: Garneau, Mathilde

Additional Authors: Bellefleur, Marie-Pier ; Wendt, Dennis C.; Phillips, K. Morgan; Plourde, Chantal; Tougas, Anne-Marie

Abstract: *The challenges of recovery from addiction are evident in Indigenous remote communities, where people must travel outside their community to receive required addiction therapy, while recovery continues upon return. This presentation will share findings from a CBPR project, grounded in the two-eyed seeing framework, conducted in the Innu Nation of Matimekush-Lac John, Northern Quebec, in partnership with local social services. This study aims to identify the needs of Matimekush-Lac John community members who suffer from addiction, and their families, in terms of wellbeing, following addiction therapy. To identify factors that have the potential to support or hinder their wellbeing and recovery, community members shared their post-therapy experiences, through photo-VOICE and talking circles. Pictures and voices of participants allowed to identify roots of wellbeing and sources of strength supporting community members, with "Connections" emerging as the overarching theme: connection to the community, to the sacred, to culture, to the body, to oneself, and to the territory. Still, past and ongoing traumas continue to hinder post-therapy wellbeing. Findings advance knowledge on the needs of Indigenous individuals from remote communities and informs aftercare approaches. This CBPR project also contributes to self-determination and building trust between the academia and community.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 126141 - 12-Minute Talk

Service Strengths and Barriers to Care at Skipping Stone Foundation: Perspectives of Trans and Gender Diverse Youth

Main Presenting Author: Hopley, Anara

Additional Authors: Bezerra, Renata B; Dadial, Arpan; Berg, Lindsay; McArthur, Brae A

Abstract: *Background: Transgender and gender diverse (TGD) individuals experience high rates of discrimination, stigmatization, and victimization, putting them at risk for poorer mental and physical health and socioeconomic outcomes (McArthur et al., 2025; Rafferty et al., 2018). To address these challenges, Skipping Stone Foundation (SSF) offers programs supporting TGD youth, adults, and families in Alberta. Due to growing demands for affirming care, this study conducted a needs assessment of SSF services. Methods: In partnership with SSF and TGD youth advisors, we developed a semi-structured 45-minute interview. TGD youth aged 12-24 (N = 31) participated, and transcripts were analyzed using a qualitative descriptive approach. Results: TGD youth identified strengths across affirming gear, the hearts and crafts program, care navigation, and group programs. Several themes emerged for areas of growth, including promotion, improving group and community coaching programs, expanding service locations and age eligibility, promoting trans board game night, and developing a virtual community. Conclusions: This study underscores the importance of affirming environments to promote resilience and reduce mental health disparities among TGD youth.Impact: These findings extend beyond SSF, setting a precedent for community organizations to co-create effective support systems for TGD communities.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 124879 - 12-Minute Talk

Stronger, Closer, Together: Evaluation of an EFT-Informed Group Intervention for Military Couples

Main Presenting Author: Becker, Eleanor Sarah

Additional Authors: Lapsley, Sara ; McDaniel, Matthew

Abstract: *Military couples face distinct stressors, including deployment cycles, frequent relocations, and the effects of operational stress injuries. The Veterans Transition Network piloted Stronger, Closer, Together (SCT), a 5-day group program integrating psychoeducation, communication and co-regulation skills, and EFT-based couples interventions. Methods: Participants (n=62) completed surveys at pre- and post-group, and at 3- and 6-month follow-up. Measures assessed group cohesion, relationship satisfaction, and caregiver burden. Results: Participants reported high group cohesion and significantly increased relationship satisfaction post-group ($p<.001$, $d=.56$), with scores returning to baseline at follow-up time points. Half of participants reported caregiver burden, with no change over time. Conclusion: SCT may improve short-term relationship functioning for military couples through structured skills and EFT-based interventions. Follow-up supports may be required to sustain gains and address caregiver burden. Impact: The SCT group provides important support to military couples across Canada who face unique relational stressors.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124957 - 12-Minute Talk

The BIPOC Perceptions of Psychedelics Framework: A Culturally Responsive Framework for Engagement in Psychedelic-Assisted Psychotherapy

Main Presenting Author: Tullis-Robinson, Lianna

Abstract: *BIPOC communities remain dramatically underrepresented in psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy (PAP) research, limiting the field's ability to understand culturally shaped attitudes, concerns, and healing needs. This talk presents the BIPOC Perceptions of Psychedelics Framework (BPPF), a culturally responsive conceptual model developed to examine how attitudes toward psychedelics, openness to PAP, and psychological distress interact to shape perceptions of PAP among racially and ethnically diverse populations.The framework will be examined through a constructivist comparative case study design using racially specific focus groups and a thematic framework analysis. Rather than reporting results, this presentation outlines the anticipated interactions among the framework's core constructs: attitudes toward psychedelics, openness to PAP, and psychological distress, and the theoretical expectation that these constructs are shaped by intersecting influences such as cultural identity, racialized experiences, medical mistrust, and community-defined healing values.The BPPF offers a structured way to understand how to improve culturally grounded PAP recruitment, supporting informed consent processes, and advancing equity within psychedelic science. This model highlights actionable pathways for increasing accessibility, safety, and alignment between PAP providers and BIPOC communities.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126062 - 12-Minute Talk

The RESPECT study: Research framework for Engaging intimate partner violence Survivors as Partners in Empowering Collaborative Transformation

Main Presenting Author: Melnyk, Carissa

Abstract: *Background: Involvement of people with lived experience is becoming more common in other fields (e.g., health), but is less common in criminal justice research. Methods: Using an iterative participatory approach, the RESPECT study developed a framework for engaging survivors/victims of intimate partner violence (IPV) as full research partners. A team of academic, lived experience, community-based, and student researchers conducted a rapid scoping review, organized a roundtable event, and held focus groups. Sixteen IPV survivors/victims and/or service providers attended the roundtable event, providing input into recommendations, and nine participated in the focus groups during which they gave feedback on the draft framework. Results: The framework has five overarching foundations accompanied by supporting recommendations: (1) Centering Safety, Well-Being, and Emotional Support; (2) Sharing Power Between Organization-Affiliated and Lived Experience Researchers; (3) Respect, Trust, and Relationship Building; (4) Ensuring Equity and Accessibility; and (5) Respecting and Celebrating Diverse Identities. Conclusion: This co-created framework offers a practical approach to conducting ethical, equitable, and intersectional participatory research with IPV survivors/victims. Action/Impact: The framework will be shared in an open-access platform to facilitate use by all researchers.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124834 - 12-Minute Talk

Tracing tech trajectories: Applying an SEVT lens to women's experiences during and beyond technology bootcamps

Main Presenting Author: Mackie, Samantha

Additional Authors: Shankar, Sanheeta ; Hunter, Jessica; Perkins, Sydney; Leong-poi, Kyla; Robinson, Kristy; Ranellucci, John

Abstract: *Women are underrepresented in the tech workforce; tech bootcamps (i.e., short and intensive training programs) could be an efficient way to quickly diversify this space. This study applies Situated Expectancy Value Theory (SEVT) to examine how sociocultural and contextual factors shape women's motivation, emotions, engagement, and persistence in these programs. To answer this question, we used a multi method case study (3 surveys, 3 interviews, over 9 months) of five women enrolled in tech bootcamps to answer this question. Data captured participants' backgrounds, expectations, motivation, emotions, engagement, classroom climate and job outcomes. Thematic analyses suggest that participants began with high expectancy and value but experiences varied. Some reported strong engagement and supportive mentors, while others noted gender bias, inconsistent feedback and emotional strain. Only one participant secured a tech job. Several showed declines in confidence and motivation post program. Sociocultural and contextual factors (e.g., financial pressures), shaped expectancy, value, and perceived cost, which influenced engagement and job outcomes. Findings extend SEVT to a non-traditional learning environments and highlight the need for bootcamps to better align curricula with labor market demands and strengthen career support for women entering tech*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123008 - 12-Minute Talk

Understanding the Lived Experiences of Older Adults in Low-Income Housing: A Qualitative Study

Main Presenting Author: Hytman, Lauren

Additional Authors: Marshall, Max ; Kaushal, Sanya; Fiocco, J Alexandra

Abstract: *Background: Almost 20% of older adult Canadians experience housing instability. Low-income housing supports aging in place as it allows older adults to age in the community, but these individuals often report poorer levels of physical and mental health compared to housing-secure counterparts. There is a need to develop accessible programming to support healthy aging among this population. Prior to doing so, it is important to explore the lived experiences of older adults in low-income housing to inform program development. Objective: The purpose of the study was to explore facilitators, barriers, and programming needs of older adults in low-income housing. Method: Qualitative interviews were conducted with 32 aging tenants and 6 staff of Neighbours Housing, a low-income housing organization in Ontario. Interviews were transcribed and analyzed using thematic analysis to generate codes, themes, and subthemes. Preliminary Results: Three overall themes were generated: Relationships, Accessibility, and Purpose. Subthemes continue to be formalized. Conclusion: Older adults living in Neighbours Housing experience physical, psychosocial,*

and financial challenges but maintain a sense of purpose through connection with others and engaging in daily activities. Action: Findings will be used in the co-creation of a program to support the healthy aging of older adults in low-income housing.

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 126309 - 12-Minute Talk

Weaving Indigenous Community-led and Interdisciplinary Research to Develop Culturally-Safer Wholistic Brain Health Assessment: Project Overview

Main Presenting Author: Skov, Brittany C

Additional Authors: Elliot, Michelle ; Fiddler, Stacey; Grinnell, Tom; Maranzan, Mark; Stasiuk, Kristine; Wabigwan, Aungelle; Walker, Jennifer; Smith, Rhonda; Wabigwan, Aungelle; Mushquash, Christopher

Abstract: *Background: Dementia rates among Indigenous Peoples are projected to rise more than non-Indigenous people. Dementia assessment plays a critical role in risk reduction, diagnosis, and care planning, yet conventional approaches often do not reflect Indigenous perspectives. In this presentation, we will share details of the 6-year Weaving Indigenous Community-led and Interdisciplinary Research to Develop Culturally Safer Wholistic Brain Health Assessment project, which is currently in its first year and funded by the New Frontiers in Research Fund, focused on community engagement. This national and multi-site project aims to support the development of Indigenous-grounded dementia assessment tools, education, training, and guidance for Indigenous communities. Attendees will learn about the project's rationale, methodology, and intended outcomes. This presentation will have relevance for psychologists and trainees who conduct psychological assessment with Indigenous people. Method: Mixed methods will be used to examine culturally grounded dementia perspectives and practices across sites. A national gathering will integrate perspectives from each site. Results: Data collection and analysis will occur over the six-year duration of the project. As the project is in its community engagement and implementation phase, results will not yet be available. Action/Impact: This project will contribute to the creation of more culturally safe approaches to dementia assessment in Canada.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 123016 - 12-Minute Talk

What do you need? Findings from an Indigenous Mentorship Training Needs Assessment

Main Presenting Author: Zalevski Pierosan, Fernanda C
Co-Presenting Author: Nasr, Ethan

Additional Authors: Atay, Elaine ; Murry, Adam

Abstract: *Background: Mentorship has been proposed to rectify educational and employment disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. However, Indigenous and non-Indigenous mentors alike may be ill-equipped to address Indigenous mentees' needs. Thus, providing training on Indigenous mentorship (IM) practices is warranted. Method: A training needs assessment was conducted using open-ended surveys and follow-up focus groups across three organizational*

affiliations to understand the training needs and psychosocial considerations of mentors. We analyzed the data using content analysis and ran cross-tabs for between-group differences. Results: Broadly, mentors expressed not wanting to feel unprepared, come across wrong, and be judged. All mentors wanted increased knowledge, skills, resources, and self-efficacy. Indigenous mentors' responses were specifically motivated by a desire to support their community, whereas non-Indigenous mentors' motivations encompassed a desire to be more informed and supportive, while avoiding harm or cultural insensitivity. Conclusions/Recommendations: Training program developers should consider the shared and unique needs of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals interested in IM training. By doing so, training developers can increase engagement in IM training, thereby improving outcomes for Indigenous mentees.

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 123129 - 12-Minute Talk

Why Don't They Seek Help? Understanding Help-Seeking Intentions in First- and Second-Generation Immigrant Youth

Main Presenting Author: Feng, Ruo Ying

Additional Author: Vitoroulis, Irene

Abstract: *Immigrant youth consistently underutilize mental health services compared to their non-immigrant peers. While potential barriers and facilitators have been studied among immigrant adults, less is known about immigrant youth, who may encounter unique factors related to developmental and social changes in identity and relationships. Our study investigates the indirect effects of immigration status on help-seeking intentions via perceived barriers and ethnic identity among first-generation, second-generation, and non-immigrant youth ages 17-24 recruited in the community (N=934, M age=19.29, SD=1.54). Preliminary path analyses revealed that higher perceived stigma contributed to lower intentions to seek help from family for both first- and second-generation immigrant youth. For second-generation youth only, higher emotional barriers (e.g., discomfort with emotions) contributed to lower intentions to seek help from friends and family. In contrast, ethnic identity may play a facilitating role, such that greater exploration of ethnic identity was associated with greater willingness to seek formal help for both first- and second-generation immigrant youth. Our findings contribute to a better understanding of barriers and facilitators to help-seeking among immigrant youth, which can inform interventions and policies to foster more equitable access to mental health resources.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123693 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Beyond Rent and Repairs: Emotional and Cognitive Dynamics of Landlord-Tenant Conflict

Main Presenting Author: Raghunath, Rakshita

Additional Authors: Amir, Rose ; Faisal, Sarah; Sunderani, Shafik

Abstract: *Landlord-tenant relationships are often treated as legal or economic exchanges, yet they also reflect interpersonal processes of trust, dependency, and power imbalance. When these relationships fracture-through eviction, non-renewal, or hostile disengagement-the psychological consequences for both parties remain underexplored. Landlords may experience frustration, anxiety, and even burnout from chronic disputes, financial uncertainty, or feeling vilified, while tenants may experience rejection, powerlessness, and ambiguous loss. This roundtable invites participants to examine landlord-tenant conflict as a relational rupture rather than a transactional dispute. Drawing on social exchange, procedural justice, and boundary-regulation theories, we will discuss how unmet expectations, communication failures, and fairness perceptions intensify emotional strain on both sides. Discussion questions include: (1) What parallels exist between housing conflict and other relationship ruptures? (2) How can fairness, closure, and ambiguous-loss concepts inform mediation or policy? (3) How do both tenants and landlords experience relational stress, and what repair processes reduce hostility? (4) How can psychologists and community practitioners address housing conflict as an emotional and relational issue? Through this dialogue, participants will connect housing disputes to broader models of rupture, boundary management, and repair in adult relationships.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124783 - Conversation Session

Celebrating the role of language in an e-mental health intervention designed by Inuit youth: learning CBT in Inuktitut through Virtual Qaggiq

Main Presenting Author: Danz, Cassie
Co-Presenting Author: Singh, Yogita

Additional Authors: Thomas, Alaina ; Zhang, Xintong; Clarke, Alanna; Kalluk, Letia; Temela, Leo; Qaunaq, Reuben; Qumuaqtuq, Madeleine; Bohr, Yvonne

Abstract: *Reclaimed language is about more than just communication; it holds identity and hope. Language and culture have been identified as prominent protective factors in supporting youth amidst the mental health crisis across Nunavut (NU). Inuit communities have advocated for the development of resources that help youth strengthen their connections with language and culture, thus enhancing mental wellness. The Virtual Qaggiq (VQ), co-created with 9 communities across NU, is a bilingual psychoeducational game that integrates Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit with southern CBT and DBT frameworks, delivering the content in English and Inuktitut. In this round table, youth leaders, cultural advisors, and researchers will invite participants to critically reflect on: i) the links between culture, language, and mental wellness, while sharing perspectives from Inuit youth researchers and Elders from the VQ project, ii) key milestones and lessons from integrating language into VQ and, iii) the potential role of VQ, or similar mental wellness initiatives, in supporting language reclamation by reinforcing the use of indigenous languages for youth involved in the development of the intervention and those utilizing the intervention. Through a brief introduction followed by a guided group discussion, we will explore what it means to truly centre Indigenous language in mental wellness projects.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 125503 - Conversation Session

Co-research and capacity building to advance mental health and anti-violence responses to intimate partner violence (IPV)

Main Presenting Author: Moghimi, Elnaz
Co-Presenting Author: Deljavan, Sevil

Abstract: *Topic: This round table will explore how co-research approaches and capacity building strategies can strengthen IPV research, knowledge mobilization, and service development. The discussion draws on knowledge mobilization from four interconnected initiatives: the RESPECT Study, the IPV Service Study, the Our IPV Story campaign, and the MHAV-HEARTS project. Novelty: Survivor involvement in research beyond participant roles remains limited, and few models exist to support meaningful engagement, reduce stigma, or integrate lived experience into research and program development. Bringing together survivor partnership frameworks, service needs findings, creative knowledge sharing, and emerging capacity building efforts addresses a timely and underexplored gap. Purpose: This round table aims to identify strategies for engaging people with lived experience as co-researchers, improving representation among equity-denied groups, and supporting community-driven IPV initiatives. Relevance: Advancing co-research capacity aligns with Canadian priorities in equity, trauma- and violence-informed practice, community engagement, and knowledge mobilization in psychology. Risks: Discussion may evoke emotional responses and will be facilitated using grounding, sensitive language, choice, and voluntary participation principles.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124865 - Conversation Session

School-based mental health: Bridging the gap by improving supports for educators

Main Presenting Author: Petrakos, Hariclia
Co-Presenting Authors: Blondin, Ella; Muthukumaru, Nirujah

Abstract: *Escalating concerns for the mental well-being of Canadian youth, necessitates positioning educators as frontline personnel for recognizing and responding to youth experiencing mental health difficulties. Despite the proliferation of school-based mental health training programs in schools-utilizing trauma-informed approaches-a significant efficacy gap exists. Many educators report feeling inadequately prepared for responding to their students' mental health needs. Specifically, educators report a lack of awareness of resources and evidence-based guidance for practical implementation within school environments. This session will critically analyze the systemic barriers to implementation and gaps between research and practice. Highlighted risks include educator burnout, inconsistencies in program quality/delivery, and missed opportunities for timely intervention among vulnerable youth. This roundtable aims to synthesize actionable strategies informed by psychological science and methodological rigor that can better inform the development, dissemination, and evaluation of trauma-informed resources for educators. By prioritizing the needs of educators, this discussion posits that robust support systems for teaching staff are an essential and foundational component of comprehensive efforts to improve the overall mental well-being of Canadian students.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126312 - Conversation Session

Printed Poster

Understanding psychosocial outcomes of family achievement guilt among first-generation students

Main Presenting Author: Pandya, Manasvi

Additional Authors: Dimitrova, Nicole ; Bakken, Kaja; Rawana, Jennine

Abstract: *First-generation students (FGS; first in their family to attend higher education) are vulnerable to psychosocial challenges (e.g., mental health, loneliness), sometimes related to limited social support. Often, families can play a key role in social support, and relatedly, researchers have identified the novel role of family achievement guilt (FAG) on the psychosocial outcomes of FGS. FAG refers to the feelings of guilt that FGS experience when their academic achievement creates psychological distance between them and their families (i.e., a sense of leaving loved ones behind). Despite the potential of FAG to shed light on the functioning of FGS, little is known about FAG. Thus, this study reviewed the current state of the literature on FAG and its relationship to psychosocial outcomes among FGS. Thirteen studies were selected from Sociological Abstracts, PsycINFO, and JSTOR databases based on inclusion criteria. Research findings suggest that higher FAG is associated with increased stress, anxiety, and challenges in academic adjustment. In contrast, some studies highlighted potential adaptive outcomes, including pro-social behavior towards family. Future research could expand the use of culturally diverse samples and consistent measurement of FAG, and use existing findings to guide the development of programs that target the social support, including familial, of FGS.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126128 - Printed Poster

A Qualitative Application of a Conceptual Model of Post-Incarceration Opioid Overdose Risk to a Canadian Sample

Main Presenting Author: Corbett, Melissa

Additional Author: Ternes, Marguerite

Abstract: *Background/Objectives: Reintegration following incarceration presents unique risks for individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), including heightened vulnerability to overdose due to disrupted treatment, stigma, and structural inequities. This study qualitatively applied Joudrey et al.'s (2019) Conceptual Model of Post-Release Opioid Overdose Risk to explore how psychological, social, and systemic factors shape overdose vulnerability during reintegration in Canada.Methods: Five formerly incarcerated Canadian adults with OUD completed semi-structured interviews (M = 49 min) conducted via Zoom. Data was analyzed through qualitative content analysis that combined inductive and deductive approaches, based on the model's four domains: underlying exposures, intermediate determinants, proximate risks, and biological outcomes.Results: Participants described significant institutional barriers to opioid agonist treatment (OAT), limited naloxone training, and poor linkage to community supports. Stigma, trauma, and social disconnection emerged as key mediators of risk. Proximate factors included polysubstance use, reduced tolerance, and solitary use, all exacerbating overdose potential post-release.Conclusions/Implications: Reintegration processes remain hindered by the fragmentation of correctional and community systems. Expanding in-custody OAT access,*

structured pre-release harm-reduction planning, and continuity of psychological support are critical for preventing post-incarceration overdose and promoting reintegration success.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125353 - Printed Poster

A school- and rhythm-based music program on the self-esteem of school-age neurodivergent children.

Main Presenting Author: Servant, Alexa

Additional Authors: Wong, Samantha ; Jack, Nathalie; Kaedbey, Mira; Lippé, Sarah; Quintin, Eve-Marie

Abstract: *Self-Determination Theory posits agency, competence, and relatedness as key to well-being. Schools offer a meaningful setting to support self-esteem in neurodivergent youth. Music-based activities, particularly drum-circles, build self-expression, skill mastery, and peer connection. This study examined whether a drum-circle program could enhance self-esteem in NS compared to a music appreciation program. We hypothesized that participants in the drum-circle program would show greater self-esteem improvements, reflected in student and teacher (music and homeroom) ratings. Forty-three NS aged 8-13 years (M = 11) were assigned to a drum-circle (n = 20) or music appreciation (n = 23) program. Both programs involved weekly 45-minute sessions for 14 weeks. Self-esteem was assessed using the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale and the Single-Item Self-Esteem scale pre- and post-program. Results revealed a significant program × time interaction for music-teacher ratings as students in the drum-circle group showed increased self-esteem from pre- to post-program ($p = .002$), while no change was observed for the music appreciation group ($p > .05$). No other interaction effects emerged. Homeroom teachers indicated a main effect of time ($p = .013$), suggesting greater self-esteem scores from pre- to post-programs. These findings support the use of musical activities to foster self-esteem in NS.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 123139 - Printed Poster

A systematic review of early communication interventions for neurodivergent children

Main Presenting Author: Di Nitto, Selina

Additional Author: D'Amico, Miranda

Abstract: *Background: The preschool years (ages 2-5) are a key developmental period where children acquire communication, social, and self-regulatory skills that support later learning. For autistic children who remain minimally verbal, using few spoken words, this period is especially consequential, as communication lays the base for participation in social and educational contexts. Prior reviews often mix ages, limiting clarity on effective interventions during this developmental transition. This systematic review examined recent evidence (2015-2025) on communication interventions for minimally verbal autistic preschoolers. Methods: Searches across APA PsycNet, ERIC, and PubMed identified 711 records. Applying inclusion criteria (autism diagnosis; <30 spoken words) yielded 33 studies for appraisal and synthesis. Results: Two approaches consistently improved*

communication: (1) tools that do not rely on speech, such as pictures, and (2) interventions that coach parents to support their child's communication. Both enhanced children's expressive skills, functional communication (e.g., pointing to a picture to request), and social reciprocity (e.g., turn-taking). Conclusion/Impact: Integrating these approaches can allow practitioners to align interventions with developmental processes, strengthening communication, engagement, and school readiness during a critical period of growth.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126446 - Printed Poster

Accessing Neuroaffirming Support in Canadian Universities: A Mixed-Methods Study of Barriers Faced by Neurodivergent Students

Main Presenting Author: Kim, Yijae

Additional Authors: Watanabe Sunohara, Momoka ; Bayeh, Rebeca; Avola, Isabelle; Ryder, Andrew; Francavilla, Alex; Selvan, Phoorani

Abstract: *Neurodiversity refers to neurodevelopmental or neurocognitive differences in people, and is often associated with conditions such as Autism, ADHD, and learning disabilities (Bayeh & Ryder, 2022). Despite evidence that neurodivergent (ND) students are more likely to drop out of higher education institutions than their peers (McDowall & Kiseleva, 2024), there is little research on the academic support provided to ND students in Canadian university settings. We conducted a two-part mixed-methods study to investigate whether ND students face more barriers in accessing higher education, and to explore challenges they face in accessing support from universities. Preliminary quantitative analysis revealed that ND (N=208) participants are less likely to attend graduate school and more likely to follow an unconventional academic path compared to their peers (N=1998). The second phase of data collection was a focus group, where five ND students shared their experience with mental health and receiving support at an English-speaking University in Quebec. Qualitative thematic analysis was conducted using ChatGPT prompts (Naeem et al., 2025). Participants felt that concrete support is unavailable at the university without a diagnosis and that support is often at the discretion of the professor. The findings of this study will contribute to improving the academic support for ND students.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125103 - Printed Poster

Adapting Psychotherapy for Autistic Adults: Clinician and Client Experiences, Standards, Practices, and Recommendations - A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Hughes, Sara

Additional Authors: Turkoglu, Ayse ; Perlinghis, Connie; Drapeau, Martin

Abstract: *Autistic individuals often have complex clinical needs due to elevated rates of co-occurring mental health difficulties. Many evidence-based psychosocial interventions have shown promise for autistic individuals, such as psychotherapy. However, the evidence also highlights that these interventions are not adequately meeting autistic individuals' needs due to inappropriate adaptation. Hence, the current scoping review examines the literature on adapting psychotherapy for autistic*

adults. Using Arksey and O'Malley's framework, literature published by January 22, 2025, examining best practices for, as well as client and clinician experiences with and barriers to, psychotherapy adaptation for autistic adults was included in the database search. Our review included 75 studies. Data extraction and thematic analyses were completed to identify themes linked to our research questions. Results identified a variety of recommended structural, relational, and content-based adaptations including increased sensory accommodations, collaborative and client-led approaches, more concrete communication styles, strengths-based and trauma-informed care, among others. Notable barriers included inadequate clinician training and autism-related knowledge, and poor service accessibility. Findings highlight a dire need for standardized autism-informed clinician training and clearer practice guidelines.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124317 - Printed Poster

Adult Attachment Style Mediates Relations between Adverse Childhood Experiences and Maladaptive Personality Traits in Community-Based Men with Pedohebephilic Interests

Main Presenting Author: Doyle, Jessie

Additional Authors: Stewart, Hannah ; Boyle, Brianna; Campbell, Mary Ann

Abstract: *Understanding men who endorse sexual interest in children ("MSICs," i.e., pedohebephilic interests) but who have not offended could help prevent childhood sexual abuse (CSA). Higher rates of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), insecure attachment, and maladaptive personality traits are observed in forensic CSA perpetrators, but few studies have examined these risk/destabilizing factors in community-based, non-forensic MSICs. With online recruitment methods, we found that our community MSICS group (n = 609) reported significantly more ACEs, greater insecure attachment, and elevated maladaptive personality traits than our community group with non-pedophebephillic paraphilias (Other Paraphilia group; n = 224). Attachment anxiety and avoidance partially mediated relations between ACEs and most measured maladaptive personality traits for both groups. By understanding these relations, clinical and societal interventions can address the expression and severity of these factors, and reduce vulnerability of MSICs acting on pedohebephilic urges, while also improving their psychosocial and mental health outcomes.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123915 - Printed Poster

Attitudes of Paramedics and Firefighters towards Supervised Consumption Services: A Cross-Sectional Survey using Moral Foundations Theory

Main Presenting Author: Dryden, Robert P.

Additional Authors: Pijl, Emme M. ; McDonald, Neil; Weldon, Erin; Golding, Michael ; Fries, Christopher J.; Serieux, John; Shaw, Souradet Y.

Abstract: *Paramedics and firefighters play a crucial role in responding to drug overdoses. Given their frequent encounters with people who use drugs these first responders may possess unique, and perhaps divergent, perspectives on harm reduction and supervised consumption services (SCS). Using*

moral foundations theory, this study aimed to determine if first responders' morals predict attitudes toward SCS, and if differences between firefighters and paramedics in their morals could explain their views towards SCS. 74 firefighters and 91 paramedics working in Winnipeg participated in this cross-sectional survey. We combined care and fairness scales into Individualizing Foundations (IF), and loyalty, authority, and purity scales into Binding Foundations (BF). Paramedics (vs. firefighters) had higher IF (β = .40) and lower BF (β = −.51). In turn, IF predicted greater support for SCS [β = .51] and BF predicted lower support for SCS [β = −.65], thus mediating the relationship between professional designation and attitudes toward SCS. This study shows that paramedics and firefighters may differ in terms of their moral foundations, which can influence their likelihood of supporting the establishment of SCS. These findings can inform researchers, policymakers, and decision-makers in developing strategies to consider first responders as essential stakeholders in implementing SCS across Canada.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123664 - Printed Poster

Avenues to Support the Mental Health of Cisgender Black Male Students in a Canadian University

Main Presenting Author: Valcourt, Joshua R

Additional Authors: Boadi, Gordon K; Sunohara, Momoka; Ryder, G Andrew; Hadgu, Ephrathah

Abstract: *A cross-university Quebec study revealed that 58% of students were in the lowest mental health quintile within the Quebec population (Union Étudiante du Québec, 2018). A potential at-risk group is Black male students because 1) Black individuals and 2) male students have been found to access psychological services at lower rates (Cheng et al., 2018; Taylor, 2018). Our study investigated mental health experiences among Black male students attending an English-speaking University in Quebec. Five undergraduate Black cisgender men participated in a focus group. We conducted a systematic thematic analysis to explore how participants conceptualized mental health and how their university supports it (Naeem et al., 2025). Our results indicate that participants conceptualize mental health as cultivating inner stability by achieving a balanced state in mind and body. To sustain mental health, they heal with their community while preserving their individual identity. This shows a hybridization of Western and African views of the self. This study's findings could help Canadian universities identify key factors to improve the mental health support of Black male students.*

Section: *Black Psychology*
Session ID: 124793 - Printed Poster

Bridging the Gap: Scoping Review Insights into the Experiences of Accompanying Partners of International Students.

Main Presenting Author: Begg, Morgan
Co-Presenting Author: Woodend, Jon

Abstract: *A common misconception is that international students come to Canada alone, when many are accompanied by their partners. These unique partnerships are often overlooked within Canadian communities, as the partners are often not considered part of the student population, nor as*

immigrants. Making an international transition as a couple has inherent adjustment challenges that can affect well-being, such as culture shock and shifting relationship roles, and the successful adjustment of partners is often interconnected. Research has primarily focused on the experiences of international students, with little attention in the counselling psychology field to the experiences of the accompanying partners. To shift the perspective to include accompanying partners, this JBI-informed scoping review considered peer-reviewed articles, theses, and book chapters that addressed their experiences. This poster presentation will highlight key insights from this scoping review relevant to counselling psychology practice, such as common barriers to meaningful transitions, interpersonal and personal coping, and identity-related considerations. This presentation will also note gaps in the research to support continued exploration to support accompanying partners, such as the experiences of partners who are men and gender diverse.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125515 - Printed Poster

Building BRIDGEs: Adapting Evidence-Based Parent Wellness Supports for a Community Population of Families of Children with Developmental and Mental Health Needs

Main Presenting Author: Tongol, Nicole

Additional Authors: Cameron, Emily ; Roos, Leslie; Paton, Allyson; Penner, Kailey; Unger, Jo Ann; Afifi, Tracie; Protudjer, Jennifer

Abstract: *Neurodevelopmental disorders (NDDs) are the most frequently diagnosed disability in children. These concerns emerge early, but can take years to diagnose and receive intervention due to long waitlists. Parents of children with an NDD are at a greater risk for mental health concerns due to increased parenting demands of caring for a child with additional needs. This study aimed to adapt a program (BRIDGE) to meet the needs of this child population with emerging development concerns and to test its implementation with a community partner (KIDTHINK). The program was designed to target mental wellness and parenting practices of caregivers with elevated symptoms of depression who had 3- to 8-year-old children with parent-reported emerging behavioural, emotional, or developmental concerns. Overall, participants found the program feasible and acceptable, as indicated by quantitative and qualitative measures which will be fully analyzed this year. Repeated measure ANOVAs were used to analyze pre and post data; findings indicated significant improvements in child emotional symptoms, child hyperactivity, and negative parenting behaviours. Small and non-significant effects were observed for improvements in child internalizing problems, parent emotional dysregulation, and social support. Altogether, the program helped to improve parent wellbeing and promote supportive parenting practices.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126265 - Printed Poster

Child Language Brokering in Clinical Contexts: An Arts-Based Engagement Ethnography with Newcomer Families

Main Presenting Author: He, Laurie X

Additional Author: Kassan, Anusha

Abstract: *Current global events have created an unparalleled immigration crisis in Canada, with more than 500,000 newcomers resettling in the country within the last two years. A lack of translators makes accessibility and adherence to care difficult for newcomer families, who will oftentimes resort to using their children as ad-hoc interpreters - a phenomenon known as Child Language Brokering (CLB). Within CLB, children face competing demands, alongside the emotional toll of navigating sensitive interactions. This study offers both individual and collective nuanced insights of CLB experiences in clinical contexts, addressing the question: How can we engage with newcomer families in culturally responsive ways to understand their nuanced experiences of Child Language Brokering? Rooted in a social justice framework, an arts-based engagement ethnography (ABEE) approach is used to guide the study, allowing marginalized groups to share experiences by breaking down language barriers through creative means. The findings from n = 3 case studies will have lasting implications in (1) supporting culturally and linguistically diverse groups in their psychosocial well-being; (2) informing healthcare providers and researchers about the nuances of CLB as Canada's population continues to diversify; and (3) increasing cultural responsiveness in healthcare and interpreter training.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125988 - Printed Poster

Compassion on Campus: Addressing the Needs of Students Affected by Global Conflicts

Main Presenting Author: Babineau, Mireille

Additional Authors: Liu, Duofei ; Guan, Elaine; Suhan, Shelby

Abstract: *Students affected by global conflicts face unique mental health and academic challenges, yet universities often lack trauma-informed supports. This study examines how University of Toronto students with direct war zone exposure, intergenerational trauma, or cultural ties to conflict-affected countries perceive available accommodations. A mixed-methods qualitative survey was designed to collect demographic information, experiences with conflict, awareness and use of mental health and academic supports related to the university, along with recommendations for improvement. Preliminary analyses of 13 participants show low awareness of accommodations, with only 2 students having accessed mental health services and academic accommodations. Barriers to access included stigma, limited visibility of services, confusing processes, and a lack of support for specific needs. Students emphasized the need for clearer advertising, culturally and trauma-informed care, flexible support options, and more consistent implementation of academic accommodations as advertised. Early findings suggest that UofT should increase outreach, simplify the process for requesting accommodations, and provide culturally and trauma-informed training to support staff. These results will guide future recommendations aimed at strengthening institutional responses to students impacted by global conflicts.*

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 124576 - Printed Poster

Connection with Creation & Wellbeing in Curve Lake First Nation

Main Presenting Author: Parsons, Ella J. K.

Additional Authors: van Haaften, Jacob ; Johnson, Shannon; Cultural Centre, Curve Lake

Abstract: *Nature connection is increasingly acknowledged as a key factor in mental health and wellbeing. Yet, current measures of this connection often lack cultural relevance for Indigenous communities. This project examines community-driven research questions centered on the Curve Lake First Nation Connection with Creation Index (CLFN-CCI), a culturally grounded instrument co-created with CLFN. Specifically, (1) are levels of connection with Creation impacted by residential location (i.e., on-reserve, off-reserve, both on/off-reserve)? and (2) what are the associations between the CLFN-CCI and measures of satisfaction with life, psychological distress, and positive/negative affect? CLFN community members were invited to complete an online survey containing the measures of interest. Data analyses are currently underway. For RQ1, a one-way ANOVA with planned contrasts will be conducted. For RQ2, bivariate correlations will be computed. This project reflects community priorities and answers calls to Indigenize research through culturally specific methods, while advancing understandings of how connection with Creation relates to mental health and overall wellbeing.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 126334 - Printed Poster

Correctional Interventions and Risk Reduction: Supporting Parole-Decision Making Through Person and Variable Centred Approaches

Main Presenting Author: Singh, Matthew

Additional Authors: Clark, Heather ; Babchishin, Kelly

Abstract: *The Parole Board of Canada (PBC) makes conditional release decisions for federally sentenced individuals so they can transition gradually from custody to the community. Prior research supports the importance of public safety in parole decisions with lower risk individuals more likely to be granted parole. However, there has been limited research regarding the impact of other policy factors such as treatment completion on parole decisions. The current study addressed that gap in a sample of 3,514 federally sentenced individuals (94% males). All individuals began their sentence in 1997 or later and had a full parole decision between 2022 to 2024 (31% granted, 69% denied). Hierarchical logistic regression models were used to assess the influence of risk level and program completion on parole decision making. After accounting for dynamic and static risk, more successfully completed treatment programs (OR = 1.55, $p < .001$) were related to higher likelihood of being granted parole. More treatment failures were related to lower chance of being granted parole (OR = 0.90), but this was not statistically significant ($p = .277$), after accounting for risk levels and treatment success. These findings indicate that program engagement is functioning as a substantive decision-making factor for the PBC and may be contributing to more individualized, risk-responsive release decisions.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124956 - Printed Poster

Cross-Cultural Adaptations of Gambling Treatments for East Asians: A Comprehensive Scoping Review and Strategic Recommendations

Main Presenting Author: Sinclair, Eliscia S. L.

Additional Authors: Kim, Andrew H. S.; Thomas, Fiona C.; Yang, Lixia

Abstract: *Background: Gambling disorder is a growing public health concern, particularly among East Asian people, where cultural beliefs, stigma, and limited access to culturally tailored treatments may hinder help-seeking. Despite substantial literature on gambling interventions, cultural factors influencing treatment efficacy for East Asian people remain largely understudied. This scoping review examined existing literature on gambling treatments tailored to East Asian populations. Methods: A systematic literature search was conducted using PubMed, Scopus, EBSCO, and PsycInfo, yielding 769 articles. Eight studies, including cross-sectional studies, longitudinal studies, a case study, and a narrative review, met inclusion criteria. Results: Findings indicate that effective adaptations extend beyond solely language translation and incorporate cultural frameworks that address acculturation, emotional regulation, and therapeutic relationships. Research supports the use of cognitive behavioural therapy, culturally sensitive messaging, and family-centred approaches to reduce stigma and improve treatment engagement. Conclusions: Based on this review and existing cultural adaptation frameworks, several recommendations emerge for developing gambling treatments tailored to East Asian populations. Actions: Effective models should be grounded in comprehensive needs assessments and prioritize stigma reduction and trust-building. Integrating financial counselling, vocational support, and partnerships with community stakeholders can further strengthen long-term recovery outcomes.*

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 122620 - Printed Poster

Cultural Consensus Analysis of Depression Beliefs Among Shami (Levantine)-Canadians

Main Presenting Author: Khoury, Kristina

Abstract: *The following study aims to validate areas in which there may be a consensus among Shami (Levantine)-Canadians regarding depression beliefs. The study will be the last step of a broader study using the Cultural Consensus Method (CCM), which is a mixed method that uses an emic approach to explore cultural beliefs. To collect data, an online questionnaire will be circulated via word of mouth and online platforms with the aim of recruiting 100 participants from the Shami-Canadian community Canada wide. The questionnaire will ask participants to rate to which extent they believe that their community would agree that certain causes, symptoms and negative consequences, and help-seeking behaviour pertain to depression. Cultural Consensus Analysis will be run to see how strongly participants agree on their ratings. The terms that receive higher levels of agreement will subsequently become part of the shared cultural model of depression beliefs among Shami-Canadians. This model could be a guide to understanding Shami-Canadians' beliefs on depression. This in turn will open doors for future research and clinical implications, such as informing culturally sensitive interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125119 - Printed Poster

Cultural gender role beliefs and cycles of domestic violence within South Asian immigrant communities

Main Presenting Author: Hans, Henna

Additional Author: Starr, Lisa

Abstract: *Domestic abuse is highly prevalent yet significantly underreported within South Asian (SA) immigrant communities. Cultural gender role beliefs held closely by SA families have been closely linked to increased vulnerability to abuse and reduced help-seeking. This qualitative study aimed to explore how these beliefs may be contributing to the manifestation and perpetuation of domestic violence within the SA immigrant community. Using a multiple case study design, semi-structured interviews were conducted with three SA immigrant women. Interviews explored the participants' perspectives on how cultural gender role beliefs may have impacted the abuse experienced and created barriers to seeking support. Thematic analysis and cross-case comparison revealed four preliminary themes: marital status as a determinant of women's social value, discouragement of women's autonomy, normalization of abuse within marriage, and family honour as a constraint on disclosure. These themes reflect how limited autonomy and the responsibility to protect family reputation in a collective community create a cycle that perpetuates ongoing abuse and discourages seeking support. Implications include the need for improved culturally informed prevention efforts, increased access to community-based resources, and initiatives to strengthen women's autonomy and encourage dialogue within SA communities.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124752 - Printed Poster

Dropping the Mask: How Age and Diagnosis Shape ADHD Masking Patterns in Women

Main Presenting Author: Simoneau, Ashlyn AM

Additional Authors: Lowe, Catherine T; Callahan, Brandy L; Rogers, A Maria; Hai, Tasmia; Miller, Carlin J; Climie, Emma A

Abstract: *Women are disproportionately impacted by late attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) diagnoses compared to males. Masking, or behaviour suppression to avoid judgement, makes detection of ADHD challenging, though the extent of masking in women and how it varies by age and diagnostic status remains unclear. Using the Adult ADHD Masking Measure, relationships between self-reported ADHD status (i.e., diagnosed, suspected, or control), age, and masking in women ($n = 201$; aged 18-87) were examined using ANOVA and multiple linear regression. Masking differed significantly by ADHD status, $F(2, 199) = 12.12$, $p < .001$, with diagnosed ($M = 78.26$) and suspected ($M = 77.71$) groups showing greater masking than control women ($M = 57.38$). Regardless of ADHD status, masking decreased with age ($\beta = -0.41$, $p = .002$). Specifically, older women (ages 41-87) showed fewer masking behaviours than younger women ($\beta = -0.80$, $p = .012$). Although ADHD status impacts masking intensity, independently, older women may put less emphasis on social acceptance than younger women, thus deprioritizing judgement avoidance. Still, masking incidence occurs more widely in those with ADHD symptoms, regardless of identification. Better understanding and recognition of masking in women exhibiting ADHD traits may inform implications for providing timely diagnoses and accessing resources for this population sooner.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123222 - Printed Poster

Effects of Interpretation on Deception Detection Performance

Main Presenting Author: Louati, Alia

Additional Authors: McArthur, Claudia ; Cameron, Nicole; Leach, Amy-May; Dufraimont, Lisa

Abstract: *People are less likely to believe non-native (vs. native) speakers and are less accurate at detecting their deception. Although interpreters might address these disparities, there is no published work on the topic. We examined the effects of language proficiency and interpreter assistance on deception detection. Undergraduate students (N = 117) were randomly assigned to watch 8 videoclips (4 lie-tellers and 4 truth-tellers providing mock testimony) in one of 8 conditions (beginner vs. intermediate vs. advanced vs. native English speakers - communicating either with or without interpreters). A Veracity x Proficiency x Interpreter Use ANOVA revealed a significant interaction: participants were more accurate when judging beginners who used interpreters than native speakers who did not. Signal detection analyses (e.g., ANOVAs on bias and discrimination) will be conducted next. We hypothesize that observers will have more difficulty discriminating between lie- and truth-tellers speaking in their non-native (vs. native) language without the assistance of interpreters, and those witnesses will be viewed more negatively. Our study suggests that interpreters improve deception detection accuracy for beginner non-native speakers. This is the first empirical evidence that interpreter use can be advantageous when detecting deception in legal settings.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125683 - Printed Poster

Engagement in Community-based Indigenous Healing Programs in Toronto: Findings from Interviews with Leaders

Main Presenting Author: Obomsawin, Anik

Additional Author: Fiocco, Alexandra

Abstract: *Despite overwhelming evidence pointing towards the benefits of community-based, culturally grounded services, colonial services and practices continue to be used by many Indigenous people in urban areas. No known research has been done to understand what factors promote access to and engagement in community-based, culturally grounded services among urban Indigenous people in Toronto. As such, through interviews with managers and supervisors of holistic healing programs at Native Child and Family Services of Toronto (NCFST; n = 9), this project aimed to identify strategies that promote engagement across group healing programs from a leadership perspective. Thematic analyses of interviews revealed 8 interrelated strategies: 1) Addressing systemic factors, 2) offering a range of supports, 3) ensuring supports are interconnected and collaborative, 4) helping community thrive beyond survival, 5) centering community, 6) fostering connection to culture, 7) prioritizing relationality, and 8) creating and protecting space. Leaders also highlighted persistent challenges, including difficulties integrating diverse cultures, a lack of consistent funding, and difficulties ensuring inclusive spaces for all community members. Findings may help to identify actionable strategies to improve engagement and accessibility not only across NCFST programs, but also similar programs in Toronto.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 125055 - Printed Poster

Explanatory Models of Depression and Wellbeing Among Montreal's "Two Solitudes"

Main Presenting Author: Milazzo, Katherine

Additional Authors: Ryder, Andrew ; Solomonova, Elizaveta; Nachabe, Jude

Abstract: *Cultural idioms of distress guide local understanding of normalcy, deviance, and where mental illness falls along this spectrum. While there are universal aspects to suffering, culture shapes how people experience and express symptoms, make sense of their causes and consequences, and the nature of treatment sought. This study is part of a larger project investigating the explanatory models of depression among minority groups in Montreal, for which it will serve as a comparison. It employs the Free Listing protocol of the Cultural Consensus Method (Dressler, 2017) to determine whether cultural models exist for understanding depression among Montreal's historical "Two Solitudes" (n=15 French first language, n=15 English first language). Smith's S was used to identify salient characteristics of each model (i.e., Smith's S > .10). Cultural consensus analysis on the combined data revealed consensus around a single shared cultural model, but follow-up analyses of the second eigenvalue revealed some specific differences based on the different histories of these two groups. Results will inform culturally specific mental healthcare pertaining to these two groups, and provide a comparison point for ongoing research using the same method to study migrant and minority groups in Montreal.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125263 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Psychometric Properties of the Curve Lake First Nation Connection with Creation Scale

Main Presenting Author: van Haaften, Jacob

Additional Authors: Cultural Centre, Curve Lake First Nation ; Johnson, Shannon

Abstract: *Connection with nature is increasingly recognized as a determinant of mental health and well-being. However, existing measures of nature connection are not culturally appropriate for Indigenous communities, where relationships with nature are deeply rooted in identity. This study explores the psychometric properties of the Curve Lake First Nation Connection with Creation Index (CLFN-CCI), a culturally grounded scale co-developed with CLFN in response to community desires for such a measure. The CLFN-CCI is a 27-item self-report measure structured around the Medicine Wheel's five domains: Mino-bimaadiziwin, mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual. Items were generated through thematic analysis of sharing circle conversations with community members and refined using the Delphi Method. To examine psychometric properties of the CLFN-CCI, CLFN members were asked to complete it alongside other measures. Data analyses are currently underway. Psychometric analyses will include exploratory factor analysis, internal consistency, construct validity testing, and community consultation. This project responds to calls for reconciliation in psychological research by centering Indigenous knowledge and community priorities.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124674 - Printed Poster

Fear of Institutional Betrayal as a Predictor of Campus Service Use Intentions in a Sexual Violence Context

Main Presenting Author: Dufour, Gena K

Additional Author: Senn, Charlene Y.

Abstract: *Background: Students' willingness to use campus support after sexual violence (SV) is an important factor in recovery. Fear of Institutional Betrayal (IB) is a belief that in the event campus SV, the institution might fail to respond supportively. This study explores fear of IB as a predictor of willingness to use campus-based support services. Method: This study was an online survey of 412 women from postsecondary institutions across Canada. Participants completed a measure of fear of IB and several measures of help-seeking intentions. Results: Structural equation modelling revealed that fear of IB was associated with lowered willingness to use campus-based services for students with and without SV experiences. However, Fear of IB was not associated with general help-seeking, suggesting that the impacts of fear of IB are exclusive to institutional service use. In addition, survivors who experienced negative reactions to past disclosures of SV reported higher fear of IB, which in turn predicted lower intentions to seek help. Conclusion: Fear of IB is related to students' awareness of campus-based resources and campus climate around SV. For survivors, Fear of IB may result from how others responded to disclosures in the past. Impact: Fear of IB is associated with lower willingness to use campus-based services, warranting consideration from institutional decision-makers.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124807 - Printed Poster

Finding A Voice: Exploring Parent, Teacher, and Education Assistant Experiences with Augmentative and Alternative Communication

Main Presenting Author: Beauchamp, Rachel

Additional Authors: Audet, Karyn ; Thompson, Joseph

Abstract: *Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) is an evidence-based practice offering individuals with complex communication needs (CCN) the opportunity to engage in meaningful communication. Barriers may exist that contribute to a lack of AAC use with adverse effects on children with CCN. Potential barriers were explored through this mixed-methods, exploratory study, including quantitative analysis of data for 60 school districts across British Columbia and qualitative analysis of questionnaire data from parents at an urban elementary school. Results of the thematic analysis helped create connections to temporal trends that were present in the quantitative analysis. Findings suggest a discrepancy between support and reported district-wide needs for children with disabilities and diverse abilities. The results could inform future practice and policy for psychologists working in elementary schools regarding accessible communication and identify potential targets for promoting the use of AAC.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 126114 - Printed Poster

Gender Differences in the Experience of Finding Employment with a Criminal Record

Main Presenting Author: Groves-Meagher, Riley

Additional Authors: McKay, Courtney ; Smith, Steven; Carter-Rogers, Katelynn

Abstract: *Background: Finding employment after being incarcerated can be a challenge for many people but can be one of the major steps for reintegration. Much existing research on this topic has focused primarily on the experience of men under these circumstances or does not identify the key differences between the experiences of individuals based on their gender. Purpose: This study was conducted to identify barriers or needs associated with finding employment that may differ based on the gender of the individual.Methods: This study used a semi-structured interview and thematic analysis to determine perceived barriers to employment from a sample of 35 individuals. The sample included 19 males, 14 females, and 2 nonbinary individuals.Results: In terms of specific gendered barriers, it was found that men experienced barriers including ethnicity, lack of relevant experience, and trauma/anxiety. Women experienced barriers including gender, education, trauma/anxiety. Finally, nonbinary individuals experienced barriers related to education, gender, and ethnicity. This demonstrates that while those with criminal records of all genders need similar support for finding employment, there are some unique challenges that should be addressed separately.Conclusions/Impact: Needs expressed by participants in this study can be used to design and implement programs which can be beneficial and meaningful for those experiencing difficulty finding employment.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125360 - Printed Poster

Heterogeneity in Social Connectedness and Its Relationship to Racial Trauma Among Immigrants and Refugees in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Guo, Zixin

Additional Authors: Yung, Christine ; Jin, Ling

Abstract: *Background: Social connectedness includes ties to mainstream society and ethnic community. No study examined subgroups of immigrants and refugees based on social connectedness in Canada, nor if/how these subgroups differ in racial trauma symptoms, including depression, intrusion, anger, hypervigilance, physical reactions, low self-esteem, and avoidance. Methods: The community sample included 184 immigrants and refugees. We used Latent Profile Analyses (LPA) via MPlus to identify profiles. Their associations with racial trauma symptoms were tested with one-way ANOVAs with Benjamini-Hochberg adjustment. Results: LPA revealed three profiles: Class 1 Marginalization (low connectedness to both communities); Class 2 Integration (high connectedness to both); and Class 3 Assimilation (high mainstream, low ethnic connectedness). Class 1 reported more depression symptoms (p=.017) than Class 2. Class 2 reported lower avoidance symptoms than Class 1 (p=.003) and Class 3 (p=.022). No other significant differences were observed. Conclusions: Trauma-exposed immigrants and refugees in Canada comprise three distinct subgroups based on their social connectedness. Impacts: Professionals should be aware that immigrant and refugee clients with low connectedness to both communities may be prone to depression and avoidance symptoms and may benefit from strengthened social connections.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124767 - Printed Poster

Identifying risk factors for intrafamilial child sexual abuse (ICSA) by fathers against daughters: Individual, evolutionary, and familial context predictors

Main Presenting Author: Samithamby, Abiraam

Additional Authors: Babchishin, Kelly M.; Seto, Michael C.

Abstract: *Intrafamilial child sexual abuse (ICSA) by fathers against daughters remains a highly understudied yet deeply harmful form of abuse. This study examined individual-level (e.g., antisocial traits, pedohebephilia), evolutionary (e.g., paternity confidence), and familial context (e.g., parent-child warmth and conflict, spousal conflict) risk factors for father-daughter ICSA . Using survey data from 1,673 fathers (Mage = 40.05) from North America and Germany, we assessed both self-reported ICSA behaviour and proclivity based on arousal and disgust responses to a hypothetical vignette describing father-daughter sexual abuse. Overall, 7.3% of fathers reported sexual contact with a daughter, 38% reported some arousal, and 53% reported less than complete disgust to the vignette. Antisocial traits predicted ICSA behaviour (AUC = .82 [.77, .87], p < .001), parent-child conflict predicted arousal (AUC = .65 [.62, .68], p < .001), and pedohebephilic interests predicted reduced disgust (AUC = .70 [.67, .73], p < .001). Across both biological and stepfathers, paternity confidence indicators performed at chance level (AUCs ~ .50), suggesting minimal relevance to father-daughter ICSA risk. Overall, these findings indicate that individual traits and family dynamics may be key predictors of father against daughter ICSA.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125097 - Printed Poster

Knowledge of contemporary Indigenous people and settler colonial logic predict positive attitudes, feelings, and behaviours toward Indigenous people in Canada and the US.

Main Presenting Author: Efimoff, Iloradanon

Additional Author: Davis-Delano, Laurel

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Indigenous people in Canada and the US experience significant prejudice, but are largely absent from the prejudice-reduction literature in psychology. The purpose of the current research is to begin to fill this gap. Method: We conducted two parallel surveys with White Canadians (N=817) and White Americans (N=1018). Results: Using structural equation modelling, results indicated that the more White participants know about contemporary Indigenous people and settler colonialism, the more favourable their self-reported attitudes, feelings, and actions toward Indigenous people. The relationships among variables were mostly the same between the Canadian and US samples. Conclusions: Knowledge about contemporary Indigenous people and settler colonialism predicts favourable attitudes, feelings, and behaviours toward Indigenous people. Action/Impact: This is the largest known study to assess attitudes, feelings, and behaviours toward Indigenous people with parallel Canadian and US surveys. As such, it provides unique insight into how settler-colonialism presently operates in Canada and the US. It is becoming increasingly clear*

that curricular changes are required. In particular, it seems important to increase knowledge of contemporary Indigenous people to counter the belief that Indigenous people are "people of the past."

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 121326 - Printed Poster

Lien entre l'anxiété et la qualité de vie chez les personnes proches aidantes des individus vivant avec un TNCM-MA

Main Presenting Author: Trudel, Joline
Co-Presenting Author: Radi, Maïssame

Additional Authors: Boucher, Sofie-Anne ; Gallagher, Amanda

Abstract: *L'impact de l'anxiété est davantage important pour les individus vivant des situations de stress prolongé, comme la population des personnes proches aidantes. L'intérêt de la présente recherche est donc d'approfondir les connaissances à propos des personnes proches aidantes, particulièrement du lien entre leur anxiété et leur qualité de vie. Pour y arriver, deux hypothèses ont été développées. La première s'articule autour de la présence d'une relation entre l'anxiété vécue et la qualité de vie perçue des personnes proches aidantes auprès des individus vivant avec la maladie d'Alzheimer. La deuxième se centre plutôt sur la question du genre comme variable modératrice. L'échantillon recueilli auprès de l'étude initiale est constitué de 28 personnes proches aidantes (20 femmes et 8 hommes). Les analyses réalisées supportent l'existence d'une relation négative significative entre l'anxiété vécue et la qualité de vie des personnes proches aidantes, mais aucune différence n'a été trouvée entre hommes et femmes. Ces résultats rappellent l'importance de mettre en place des ressources pour améliorer la qualité de vie et réduire l'anxiété des proches aidants afin qu'ils puissent procurer de meilleurs soins aux personnes vivant avec un TNCM-MA.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 125327 - Printed Poster

Listening to lived experiences: Qualitative explorations of incarceration and community reintegration among diverse Canadian populations

Main Presenting Author: Ternes, Marguerite

Abstract: *Successful community reintegration after incarceration supports well-being and public safety, yet people re-entering the community often face significant psychological and structural barriers, especially people already marginalized by factors such as gender identity or addiction. Using semi-structured interviews and thematic analyses, this presentation will review studies which have examined reintegration challenges among diverse groups of Canadians with incarceration histories. The first study identified barriers to opioid agonist treatment and weak connections to community supports among previously incarcerated adults w/ opioid use disorder. The second study's interviews with criminalized transgender and gender-diverse adults described increased restrictions and a lack of understanding from justice personnel. The third study found that previously incarcerated women and nonbinary participants viewed gender and education as key barriers to post-release employment, whereas men more often cited lack of experience. The fourth study described a staged reintegration process among criminalized women, moving from emotional and structural difficulties*

toward longer-term stability. Collectively, these studies underscore persistent reintegration challenges faced by those who have been incarcerated and point to critical areas for improvement, including more effective pre-release planning.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125078 - Printed Poster

Making Inuktitut accessible: Using syllabics and roman orthography in a mental wellness serious game for Inuit youth

Main Presenting Author: Singh, Yogita
Co-Presenting Author: Danz, Cassie

Additional Authors: Clarke, Alanna ; Zhang, Xintong; Thomas, Alaina; McKenzie, Stephanie; Kalluk, Letia; Temela, Leo; Qaunaq, Reuben; Qumuaqtuq, Madeleine

Abstract: *In Nunavut (NU), historical and ongoing colonialism has violently disrupted intergenerational knowledge transmission, resulting in a myriad of adversities and injustices, that account for one of the highest suicide rates globally. Nunavummiut have advocated a need for resources that leverage a revival of connection to language, a protective factor in supporting mental wellness and identity for Inuit youth. Yet, not all youth across Inuit Nunangat are fluent in syllabics. Owing to this, youth and cultural advisors from 9 hamlets in NU collaborated with mental health researchers to co-create the Virtual Qaggiq (VQ), a serious game that delivers culturally grounded wellness strategies in Inuktitut, both syllabics and Roman orthography (RO). This non-linear process was shaped by community members. The game script was prepared in English, translated into syllabics and collaboratively edited. Later, it was used to generate an Inuktitut RO version in response to a youth-identified need for an additional language option. The finalized VQ game aims to support mental wellness through cultural connection and accessibility of the Inuktitut language, offering both syllabics and RO options. VQ's language accessibility is expected to invite more youth to meaningfully engage with and retain the intervention's wellness content while contributing to Inuktut language reclamation.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 125417 - Printed Poster

Methodological and Safety Considerations for a Digital Health Hackathon Event in Qualitative Co-Design Research with Individuals in Treatment for Opioid Use

Main Presenting Author: Tackaberry-Giddens, Leah
Co-Presenting Author: D'Arcey, Jessica

Additional Authors: Zedan, Saleena ; Kidd, Sean

Abstract: *Background. Inadequate treatment engagement for opioid use is associated with poor clinical, social, and economic outcomes. Co-design approaches, such as hackathon-style workshops, may support the development of more engaging solutions, like digital health tools. However, limited research exists on the adaptation of hackathons for qualitative research involving lived experts with opioid use. This study explores methodological and safety considerations for such designs.Methods. The hackathon aimed to enhance an opioid recovery app. Participants included lived experts (n=13)*

and treatment providers (n=5), who were invited to a 1-day hackathon following a 1-week exploration of the app. Rotating breakout sessions that explored app design and real-world implementation were recorded, transcribed and thematically analyzed. Questions were rooted in Values Sensitive Design, and participant-led conversations were encouraged. Results. The hackathon was an efficient and effective feedback method for a group often facing barriers to research engagement. Safety considerations included designated "safe spaces," on-site clinical support, and collaboration on safety needs. No serious events or attrition occurred, suggesting acceptable patient safety. Conclusion. This preliminary research suggests that hackathon methods can be a safe and effective way to co-design clinical tools and services.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125851 - Printed Poster

Moral Foundations and Attitudes Towards Supervised Consumption Services: A Regional Moderation Study

Main Presenting Author: Dryden, Robert P.

Additional Authors: Pijl, Emme M. ; Golding, Michael; Serieux, John; Fries, Christopher J.; Shaw, Souradet Y.; Mexico, Jonny; Guest, Corey

Abstract: *Supervised consumption services (SCS) decrease harms and costs associated with substance use. However, many Canadians oppose efforts to introduce SCS. A recent study by Pijl et al. (2025) examined how Prairie province residents' moral foundations predicted their attitudes towards SCS (MB, n = 716; SK, n = 700; and AB, n = 700). An unexpected finding was that Manitoba, the only province without an SCS, reported the most support for SCS. We further interrogated this finding by testing if the relationship between Individualizing Foundations (IF; care + fairness) and Binding Foundations (BF; authority + loyalty + purity) with attitudes towards SCS depended on province. A series of logistic regression models revealed statistically significant BF × Province interactions, such that Manitobans' BF had the strongest negative relationships with support for SCS (in general, near one's home, and near one's work), relative to Alberta and Saskatchewan. Among Manitobans, for example, every 1 SD increase in BF predicted a 48% decrease in the odds of support for SCSs near one's home. For residents of Alberta and Saskatchewan, this was only a 10% decrease that was not statistically significant. These findings suggest that framing arguments in favor of SCS according to individuals' authority, loyalty, and purity concerns may be effective for reducing opposition to the first SCS in a province.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123913 - Printed Poster

Newcomer Youth School Integration Experiences and Their Implications for Culturally Responsive Practice: An Arts-Based Engagement Ethnography

Main Presenting Author: Elliott, Yasmin
Co-Presenting Author: Kassan, Anusha

Abstract: *Schools are critical sites of integration for newcomer youth (i.e., immigrants, refugees, and international students, aged 15-24), often serving as their first structured point of contact with Canadian society. School integration, defined as the complex, multidimensional process of adjustment*

that newcomer youth undergo both inside and outside of the classroom, offers an important lens for understanding their immigration and resettlement experiences. This poster will present the findings from a qualitative study that was guided by the question: Prioritizing the voices of newcomer youth, how can we better understand their needs and lived experiences to support their school integration? Using an arts-based engagement ethnography (ABEE) with a social justice lens, this study explored the school integration experiences of five newcomer youth in a Metro Vancouver, British Columbia (BC), secondary school. The poster will highlight the main themes that emerged from participants' firsthand experiences and demonstrate how they are used to inform the development of practice-based recommendations for school personnel. The goal is to share insights into ongoing efforts to amplify newcomer youths' voices, stimulate dialogue on culturally responsive practice, and challenge traditional models of service provision in psychology and education.

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125029 - Printed Poster

Parenting Between Two Worlds: Yoruba Immigrant Parents' Approaches to Adolescent Autonomy Support in Canada.

Main Presenting Author: Akinola, Temi L

Additional Author: Rinaldi, Christina

Abstract: *Parenting in immigrant families often involves navigating tensions between cultural continuity and adaptation. Despite the rapid growth of African immigrant populations in Canada, little research has examined how African parents conceptualize and support adolescent autonomy within new sociocultural environments. This study examined how Yoruba immigrant parents in Canada understand and practice autonomy support in raising their adolescents. Using semi-structured interviews with six participants, the research examined how parents balanced Yoruba values of hierarchy, respect, and communal responsibility with Canadian expectations for adolescent independence and open communication. Thematic analysis was guided by Self-Determination Theory, the Theory of Sociocultural Models, and Kagitçibaşi's autonomous-related self. Four key themes were developed: (1) Cultural Anchors and Social Expectations, which explores how parents maintain Yoruba cultural and religious values while contending with shifting social norms; (2) Relational Foundations of Autonomy Support, highlighting the role of emotional closeness, communication, and mutual respect in supporting adolescent voice; (3) Fostering Autonomy with Boundaries, examining how autonomy is permitted within carefully defined limits shaped by safety, faith, and cultural expectations; and 4) Parenting Between Two Worlds, which captures how parents negotiate cultural dissonance, rework traditions, and reconstruct authority in a new context. This study contributes to cross-cultural parenting literature by offering a nuanced understanding of how autonomy support is enacted in African immigrant families. Implications for culturally sensitive practice and future research directions will also be discussed.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 122780 - Printed Poster

Policing the police: An analysis of civilian complaints against police officers

Main Presenting Author: Gray, Emma K

Additional Author: Campbell, Mary Ann

Abstract: *Civilian complaints against police officers represent an essential mechanism for documenting perceived misconduct, ensuring accountability, and improving public confidence. This is especially true when complaints are handled by independent bodies, rather than internal personnel. The purpose of this study is to analyze civilian complaints against police officers, using data from the New Brunswick Police Commission. We evaluated 260 complaints, filed between 2023-2025, using a comprehensive coding guide to capture complaint information, officer information, and the specific code breach related to the complaint. Of all complains, 152 were conduct (relating to the conduct of an officer); 51 were service (relating to the services provided by police); 48 were not within jurisdiction; and 9 were combination. Of the conduct complaints, the majority fell under discreditable conduct (N = 204), followed by neglect of duty (N = 139). The majority of officers with complaints against them fell into the rank of Constable (N = 142). Bivariate and multivariate analyses will examine factors associated with repeat complaints against the same officer and complaint outcome. Overall, these findings support prior research regarding the role of civilian oversight bodies in investigating civilian complaints and extends the literature by providing empirical insight within a Canadian policing context.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124552 - Printed Poster

Psychological well-being among Indigenous people in Canada: Exploring the role of belonging, community involvement, and language

Main Presenting Author: Musleh, Katie

Additional Author: Cantafio, Alexis S P

Abstract: *Extensive literature highlights how connection to language is foundational to psychological wellbeing among Indigenous people in Canada (Harding et al., 2025). Previous research has also demonstrated the importance of belonging for wellbeing among white and non-Indigenous minoritized communities (Allen et al., 2021). Although these domains are well established independently, there is limited large-scale research investigating how they intersect with other factors that influence Indigenous wellbeing through a culturally grounded lens. This study uses data from Indigenous respondents of the 2017 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (n ≈ 18,000) to examine the association between perceived sense of belonging and wellbeing, and the moderating role of community involvement and language. Hierarchical regression analyses will explore the relationship between belonging and wellbeing and examine whether community involvement and language connection strengthen or alter this association. It is hypothesized that higher belonging will be associated with higher wellbeing, and that this association will be stronger among individuals with greater community involvement and stronger language connection. This research seeks to address gaps in quantitative literature on culturally grounded determinants of Indigenous wellbeing and to help identify factors supporting optimal outcomes for Indigenous peoples.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125849 - Printed Poster

Purity Culture as a Cross-Cultural Phenomenon: Exploring the Impact of Purity Culture and Shame on South Asian Women's Sexual Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Bedi-Padda, Taranjot

Additional Author: Rehman, Uzma

Abstract: *Purity culture, a phenomenon that emphasizes premarital abstinence and traditional gender roles, is associated with Evangelical Christianity. However, features of this culture are not unique to this group. We studied this phenomenon in South-Asian women, seeking to demonstrate purity culture's presence in other cultural groups and investigate its impact on sexual well-being. We also explored the role of shame in this relationship as shame is prominently reported in clinical work within purity cultures. We recruited 284 women in relationships from Canada, the UK or USA, (n = 142 White, n = 142 South-Asian). Participants completed measures of purity culture beliefs, shame, sexual well-being and non-erotic thought. Our findings suggest purity culture is highly endorsed by South-Asian women, supporting its potential as cross-cultural. South-Asian participants also endorsed more non-erotic thoughts (non-sexual thoughts during sexual activity that interfere with attending to erotic cues) related to shame, suggesting the presence of purity culture during sexual experiences. However, no significant differences were found in sexual well-being. Additionally, shame was associated with lower sexual well-being in both samples, raising questions about the specific impact of purity culture and methodological questions about using established psychological measures with non-White populations*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126077 - Printed Poster

Pursuing Work, School, and Life Together: Joint Career Projects of International Graduate Students and Their Partners in Times of Uncertainty

Main Presenting Author: Phan, Anh-Duong (Jennifer)

Additional Authors: Warner, Lindsay S.; Domene, José F.

Abstract: *Background: International students represent a significant segment of the Canadian graduate student population and must navigate career development while transitioning to a new country. For those with romantic partners, career goals are also negotiated within the relationship. However, little is known about how international graduate student couples pursue their career goals during this transition. Methods: Grounded in Contextual Action Theory, this qualitative Action-Project Method study explored how couples pursue career development as they transition to life in Canada. Six couples participated in multi-stage, video-assisted interviews. A consensus, team-based analysis identified couples' joint career projects (shared goals over time) and other salient themes. Results: Preliminary findings suggest the interplay between different career development projects and a) a novel cultural context and work culture, b) rapidly changing immigration regulations, and c) significant uncertainty about future career paths. Conclusion: Overall, this study revealed how career development in the context of transition unfolds as a collaborative process, shaped by interpersonal dynamics and contextual demands.Impact: This study extends limited research on international student couples, addresses gaps in relational perspectives, and informs counselling psychology and career counselling practices.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124745 - Printed Poster

Qualitative Examination of an Emotion-Labeling Education Program Based on a Culturally Relevant Approach for Indigenous Children.

Main Presenting Author: Martin, Emma
Co-Presenting Author: Richard, Mia

Additional Authors: Bernard, Isabelle ; Caissie, Julie; Roy-Charland, Annie

Abstract: *Emotional competence is a cornerstone of children's social and psychological growth, shaping how they understand themselves and connect with others. It develops rapidly in the preschool years, as children learn to recognize, express, and manage emotions in everyday interactions. For Indigenous children, these skills are deeply intertwined with cultural teachings, stories, and language, which carry values about balance, respect, and community. This study explored an emotion-label teaching program that integrated the Wolastoqey language with five preschool-aged children and two educators. Through storytelling, miming, reading, and creative art, children discovered emotional words and expressions rooted in their culture. Over several sessions, they showed clearer understanding and more confident expression of emotions such as joy, anger, and sadness. Educators observed growing pride and curiosity toward their language and identity. They emphasized the need for repetition, visual cues, and consistent routines to reinforce learning. The findings highlight how culturally grounded, language-based approaches can nurture both emotional growth and cultural belonging, fostering stronger self-awareness and connection to community.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124840 - Printed Poster

Self-Perceived Transformation Through Engagement in Organized Prosocial Activities

Main Presenting Author: Bouchard, Alyson

Additional Author: Mowatt, Haley E

Abstract: *This on-going project aims to explore how first-time participation in organized prosocial activities (OPAs), including volunteering, activism, and charity, shapes individuals' self-perceptions and motivations. Self-efficacy, autonomy, and identity are often framed as precursors to engagement in organized prosocial activities (Alessandri et al., 2009; Gagné, 2003; Tidwell, 2005), yet less is known about how these constructs evolve during participation. To address this gap, this qualitative study will follow a small group of adults with no prior volunteer, charity, or activism experience as they engage in an OPA of their choosing. Guided by the transformative paradigm (Mertens, 2009) and an Indigenous wholistic framework (Absolon, 2010), data will be gathered through group reflection sessions and open-ended journaling. Inductive thematic analysis is expected to reveal how participants' perceptions of self develop during their involvement, potentially including shifts in autonomy, identity, and a growing sense of efficacy. These findings will offer insight into the process of entering OPAs for the first time and illustrate the value of applying a transformative and wholistic framework to the study of self-development. Analyses will be competed by April, 2026.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125935 - Printed Poster

Self-Understanding, Compassion, and Connectedness to Nature: Relationships to Well-being Among Indigenous Parents

Main Presenting Author: Hanson-Oliveira, Taylar R

Additional Author: Fontaine, Aleah

Abstract: *Background: Indigenous parents face unique challenges that affect mental health, yet little research has examined how strengths such as a clear sense of identity, self-compassion, and connection to nature may support well-being. This study explores how these factors relate to mental health outcomes of Indigenous parents in Canada. Methods: This study is a secondary data analysis using data from a larger national survey, the "Indigenous Mental Wellness Survey". Data collection is complete, and we are analyzing a subsample of approximately 65 participants who identified as pregnant or the parent of a child under 5. Participants completed self-report measures of mental health, self-concept clarity, self-compassion, and nature connectedness. Multiple regression analyses will be used to examine the contribution of each of these variables to mental health.Results: We expect that greater self-concept clarity, higher self-compassion, and a stronger connection to nature will be associated with better mental health. We expect each of these variables to predict mental health uniquely. Conclusions: Findings will identify which factors are related to mental health outcomes and the strength of those relationships. Action/Impact:This study will contribute to a deeper understanding of Indigenous mental health and investigates different factors that may support Indigenous parents' well-being.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124672 - Printed Poster

Square Pegs in Disguise: Exploring the Impact of Masking on Autistic Women's Mental Health

Main Presenting Author: Harrison , Shana N

Abstract: *Background/Rationale:A growing body of autism research has focused on masking, the strategies autistic individuals use to hide or compensate for their traits to better fit neurotypical social expectations. While masking occurs across genders, research consistently demonstrates that autistic women engage in masking more frequently and intensely, often due to heightened social pressures and gendered expectations of emotional and social competence. Despite emerging literature, there remains a notable gap in research that centers on autistic women's own narratives, particularly regarding the psychological toll of masking, the process of unmasking, and the development of self-advocacy. Understanding these lived experiences is critical for improving clinical practice, informing service provision, and supporting autistic women's mental health.Methods:This qualitative study used the Listening Guide, a relational, voice-centred analytic methodology well-suited to examining complex, layered identity experiences. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with eight autistic adult women. Analysis proceeded through the four sequential steps of the Listening Guide, including the creation of I-poems, tracing contrapuntal voices, and identifying tensions and patterns within participants' narratives. The approach emphasized researcher reflexivity and prioritized the participants' own language, meanings, and emotional expressions.Results:Analysis revealed several recurring and distinct voices across participants' accounts, which clustered into three overarching categories. Voices of masking described the pressure to present as neurotypical, maintain social acceptability, and avoid stigma, often at significant psychological cost. Voices of unmasking reflected moments of self-recognition, authenticity, and the gradual dismantling of personas that had become*

unsustainable. Voices of advocacy highlighted participants' growing commitment to self-protection, boundary-setting, and activism aimed at improving understanding of autism, both personally and systemically. Taken together, the findings illustrate masking as both a survival strategy and a source of psychological strain, highlighting the complexity of navigating identity within neurotypical environments.Conclusions:The findings of this study demonstrate that autistic women's experiences of masking are multifaceted, emotionally demanding, and deeply tied to identity development. While masking may enable short-term social functioning, its long-term mental health consequences, such as depression, anxiety, and identity fragmentation, emerge clearly through participants' narratives. Unmasking and advocacy, meanwhile, appear to offer pathways toward improved well-being and authenticity.Action/Impact:This study highlights the need for mental health practitioners to recognize masking not as an adaptive behaviour but as a practice shaped by external pressures and often associated with harm. Clinicians should adopt identity-affirming, neurodiversity-informed approaches that reduce the implicit demand for masking, support unmasking when safe, and validate autistic women's lived experiences. Findings also suggest the importance of incorporating autistic voices into program design, assessment practices, and mental health interventions to ensure services that genuinely meet their needs. The study contributes to increasing awareness, enhancing practitioner training, and promoting advocacy efforts that challenge stigma and foster environments where autistic women can thrive authentically.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 122878 - Printed Poster

Strengthening Families Mental Health Partnership

Main Presenting Author: Hanson-Oliveira, Morgan

Additional Authors: Levasseur-Puhach, Sydney ; Roos, Leslie E.

Abstract: *Background. Colonialism, racism, and limited access to mental health services impact Indigenous family wellbeing. In partnership with Pinaymootang First Nation (PFN) and the Strengthening Families Maternal Child Health program, this 3-phase project seeks to understand the wellness priorities of First Nations families in a rural on-reserve community. Methods. Phase 1 used semi-structured focus groups to explore community wellness priorities. Phase 2 was a follow-up gathering where community members reviewed Phase 1 findings and shared their input on preferences for a land-based wellness event. Data from both phases were examined through qualitative thematic analysis by a team of Indigenous research assistants and the findings will guide planning for Phase 3's land-based gathering. Results. Phase 1 revealed key systemic barriers; priorities for context-driven supports; and opportunities for community-led change. Phase 2 emphasized the feasibility, accessibility, and preferences for a land-based wellness gathering. Conclusion. Findings illuminate challenges and points of resilience among PFN families, reinforcing the importance of culturally grounded, community-defined approaches to wellness. Impact. This project will advance collaborative mental health support development and identify First Nations parents' wellness priorities, helping address gaps in mental wellness initiatives.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 123482 - Printed Poster

The advocacy experience of parents caring for children with congenital heart disease.

Main Presenting Author: Wosminity, Sage

Additional Authors: Garchinski, Taran ; Gerbeza, Matea; Dollimount, Anna; Erlandson, Marta C; Pockett, Charissa; Tomczak, Corey R; Wright, Kristi D

Abstract: *Background: Congenital heart disease (CHD) is characterized by structural and functional heart abnormalities. Approximately 1 in every 80 to 100 children are born with CHD in Canada. Parents of chronically ill children frequently find themselves taking on the role of advocate for their child. Research on parental advocacy is limited, particularly concerning the experiences of advocating for a child with CHD. This study aims to provide insight on the unique experience of parental advocacy for children with CHD. Methods: A qualitative research design was utilized. Fifteen parents (Mage = 40.93, SD = 4.15) of children with CHD (Mage = 9.67, SD = 1.29) responded to a series of open-ended questions exploring their experiences advocating for resources or medical services for their child. Results: A thematic analysis yielded five major themes: (1) Advocacy experiences, (2) Collaboration, (3) Care coordination, (4) Supportive communities, and (5) Educational Advocacy. Conclusion: Overall, parents felt that advocacy was manageable with additional support. Barriers to advocacy were also identified (i.e., limited communication with healthcare providers, difficulties in accessing additional resources, and lack of a clear diagnosis). The insights gained from this study can inform the development of appropriate supports and resources for this vulnerable population.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125726 - Printed Poster

The Impact of Apology Composition and Coercion on Jurors' Perceptions and Decision-Making

Main Presenting Author: Druzgala, Daniela

Additional Authors: Villeneuve, Katrina Claudia; Leach, Amy-May; Ewanation, Logan

Abstract: *Apologies often mitigate harm (Fehr & Gelfand, 2010). Yet, they may be treated as confessions in criminal contexts (Ferguson et al., 2025). How they are interpreted may vary depending on their quality and voluntariness. Little research has examined how these factors interact to influence jurors' decisions. Canadian jury-eligible participants were randomly assigned to read a mock second-degree murder trial transcript containing an interrogation in which the defendant's statement (control vs. confession vs. basic apology vs. prototypical apology vs. high-quality apology) occurred in a low- or high- coercion context.Participants rendered a verdict, rated their perceptions of the defendant and the interrogation, and, when applicable, recommended a sentence.A one-way ANOVA indicated that participants were able to identify coercive interrogations. Interrogations that contained minimization and maximization techniques were perceived as more coercive. Logistic regressions will be conducted to determine the role of apologies in decision-making. We hypothesize that higher-quality apologies will result in more guilty verdicts, but shorter sentences and more positive perceptions of the defendant.This study will clarify the effects of apologizing in the justice system. Findings will help inform juror education and defence practices to support fairer decision-making in Canadian courts.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123180 - Printed Poster

The Influence of Honour Culture Ideology on Juror Decision Making

Main Presenting Author: Paschal, Aubrey K

Additional Authors: Cheng, Jiuqing ; Maeder, Evelyn

Abstract: *A culture of honour is a set of beliefs in which personal reputation is viewed to be very important, self-worth can be given or taken away by others, and retaliation is a viable way to regain honour (e.g., Nisbett & Cohen, 1996). As a result of these cultural norms, acts of violence are more likely to be endorsed if they are seen as a way to reclaim one's honour (Vandello & Cohen, 2008). To examine the role that honour ideology (HI) plays in juror decision-making, 190 mock jurors read a trial summary in which the nature of the crime (threat to the accused's honour vs no threat) and the accused's mental illness status (with vs without) were manipulated. Participants provided a verdict and sentence recommendation, then responded to an HI measure.. Using a median split, participants were divided into groups of high and low HI. Participants provided more guilty verdicts overall for the honour-related crime. High levels of HI were associated with shorter sentence recommendations for honour-related crimes and longer sentence recommendations for accused with mental illness. Unexpectedly, participants with low HI recommended a longer sentence for the honour-related crime, and a shorter sentence when the defendant had a mental illness. This research sheds light on how honour culture impacts perceptions of others, and how this ideology can affect those in the court system.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125448 - Printed Poster

The Role of Mental Health in Wrongful Convictions

Main Presenting Author: Bailey, Jack R. K.

Additional Authors: Watt, Margo C; Lively, Christopher J

Abstract: *Wrongful convictions (WCs) occur when innocent people are found guilty of a crime. WCs can arise from factors e.g., eyewitness errors, false confessions, and professional misconduct (Denov & Campbell, 2005). Emerging research indicates that individuals with mental illnesses and developmental disorders are particularly at risk for WCs (Amos, 2021; Kassin et al., 2010). The present study utilized data from the Canadian Registry of Wrongful Convictions (CRWC), which provides detailed documentation on 90 exoneree cases, 18 of which are flagged for mental health problems. In depth case review began with these 18 cases but will extend to remaining 72. Preliminary data on the 18 cases indicate Mage = 30.72 (SD = 8.74), 66.67% male, and most common WC factor was professional misconduct. For cases lacking formal diagnosis, diagnostic impressions will be derived from mapping mental health symptoms onto DSM-5-TR (APA, 2013) criteria. It is predicted that symptoms of ADHD will be overrepresented in cases of coerced-compliant false confessions; intellectual disability with coerced false confessions; and personality disorders (e.g., antisocial) with investigative tunnel vision. Chi-squared test-of-association will be conducted. Findings will elucidate how dispositional factors intersect with systemic flaws to increase WC risk; advance criminal justice reform; and enhance public knowledge.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126027 - Printed Poster

Understanding experiences of psychotherapy among adults with co-occurring Autism Spectrum Disorder and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Main Presenting Author: Asif, Samrah

Additional Author: Jiang, Yuanyuan

Abstract: *Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are neurodevelopmental conditions that can co-occur. More research is needed to understand how adults with both conditions experience psychotherapy. This qualitative study explores the lived experiences of adults with co-occurring ASD and ADHD who have received therapy. Participants complete a background questionnaire and an individual interview. The qualitative interview focuses on understanding participants' experiences with therapy, such as positive and challenging experiences. The interview also attends to understanding therapeutic goals and outcomes as well as sources of resilience for each individual. Interviews are analysed using an Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) framework. At this time, two participants have completed the study, with interviews of approximately 60 minutes each. Preliminary themes gathered include both helpful and less helpful experiences with therapy. Full results from IPA are expected at the time of the conference. This research has the potential to further broaden understanding of therapeutic practices through better understanding lived experiences, as an important step towards promoting future research regarding interventions and providing clinical guidance for adapting therapy for this unique population.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124952 - Printed Poster

Understanding Mental Healthcare among Nigerian Immigrants in North America: Insights from a Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Olaogun, Darah A

Abstract: *Background/Rationale. Migration profoundly shapes mental health, particularly for African immigrants navigating acculturation, racism, and shifting identities. Nigerian immigrants form one of the fastest-growing African diasporas in North America, yet their mental health remains understudied. Cultural beliefs, migration stressors, and systemic inequities shape how this group perceives and addresses distress.Methods. Guided by Arksey and O'Malley's scoping review framework, 19 U.S.-based peer-reviewed studies (1985-2022) were analyzed to map literature on Nigerian immigrants' mental health, focusing on experiences, barriers, and culturally relevant interventions.Results. Mental illness was often conceptualized through spiritual or cultural lenses, shaping help-seeking toward faith-based or traditional practices. Key stressors included racial discrimination, acculturation, and underemployment. Barriers encompassed stigma, cost, and lack of culturally competent providers. Facilitators included faith-integrated counselling, psychoeducation, and culturally competent practitioners.Conclusions/Impact. Findings highlight the need for culturally and spiritually responsive care tailored to Nigerian immigrants and other African diasporas. Results inform clinicians and policymakers on strategies to advance equity in mental health services, especially for immigrant populations.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 122787 - Printed Poster

Unheard Voices of Immigrant Indian Women in Central Canada: Perinatal Mental Health Experiences and Unmet Support Needs

Main Presenting Author: Arora, Bhavya

Additional Authors: Dhalla, Jasmine ; Mota, Natalie; Fontaine, Aleah; Reynolds, Kristin

Abstract: *Life changes during pregnancy and postpartum (perinatal period) can be challenging and may lead to new onset or worsening of anxiety and depression. When untreated, these symptoms can worsen, leading to negative impacts on maternal and fetal health. Immigrant women face higher risks of perinatal mental health problems due to stressors such as isolation and loneliness following migration, language barriers, and financial constraints. They are also less likely to seek mental health support because of stigma and limited knowledge of existing mental health services. Canada has experienced a significant demographic shift in recent years, including a rapidly growing population of Indian immigrant women. Nonetheless, there is limited research on their mental health experiences, support needs, and support-seeking attitudes during the perinatal period. This research addressed this gap using community-based participatory and qualitative methods. Indian immigrant women from Manitoba (N = 9) were recruited through social media and participated in individual qualitative interviews. Data collection is complete and is being analyzed using a narrative approach. Early trends suggest feelings of aloneness, a need for social and instrumental support, difficulty navigating the healthcare system, and economic constraints. This study offers guidance on how to support perinatal IIW.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126308 - Printed Poster

When support becomes a casualty of service: Examining attachment injuries among Canadian Armed Forces members, veterans, and romantic partners

Main Presenting Author: Clement, Leah M

Additional Authors: Atahi, Flourence ; Lamontagne, Gloria; Rattana, Amanda ; Lafontaine, Marie-France; Lonergan, Michelle

Abstract: *According to attachment theory, romantic partners are a primary source of support during times of need, such as significant life transitions. However, failing to provide romantic partner support during a critical moment of need can lead to an attachment injury (AI), defined as a perceived breach of trust that triggers feelings of betrayal and abandonment in the injured partner. An AI can harm both partners' well-being and relationship functioning. The frequent transitions of military life (e.g., deployment) may create vulnerability to experiencing or initiating an AI, yet little is known about AIs among military couples. This study examined the frequency of AIs in injuring and injured partners across military transitions among Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members, veterans, and romantic partners. Twenty-six participants completed online sociodemographic, military background, and AI questionnaires assessing whether the AI occurred during military transitions. Preliminary findings show that the AI, whether experienced or initiated, occurred most often during deployment (23%), geographical relocation (23%), professional development (19%), training (19%), and military*

operations (12%). Findings will inform a larger study on the outcomes of an AI (e.g., relationship dissolution, mental health difficulties) among CAF members, veterans, and romantic partners.

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 126018 - Printed Poster

Who Cares? Project (2022-2025) a Participatory Arts-Based Study on Psychological Welfare and Care Networks Among Older Adults on the Sunshine Coast, British Columbia

Main Presenting Author: Gill, Afreen Kaur
Co-Presenting Authors: Paulsen, Kathryn; Kaur, Avneet

Additional Author: Reid, Colleen

Abstract: *Background: The rural and remote (RR) communities face increasing pressure to provide holistic and accessible care for older adults (OA), who are experiencing social isolation. Who Cares? a three-year, community-based participatory research (CBPR) project, was co-led by Douglas College, Emily Carr University, and Deer Crossing the Art Farm. We explored the lived experiences of aging and care in a RR community, to shape inclusive models of care for OA beyond formal care systems.Methods: It utilized a CBPR framework with arts-based methods. Data were gathered from 11 community workshops, 12 qualitative interviews, 4 pop-up installations, and a traveling tree that collected over 1,000 data cards. Reflexive, iterative thematic analysis was led.Results: Four themes emerged. Stories of the State of Things described aging care, politics, and impact of COVID-19. Stories of Aging revealed psychological distress from chronic isolation. Stories of Need exposed the determinants of health. Stories of Care illuminated community assets.Conclusions: Identified community stressors, assets, and psychological resilience inherent in informal care networks (ICN) buffering mental health challenges and structural inequities in RR areas.Impact: Findings offer actionable pathways for public health policy and psychological practice through ICN, reducing reliance on overstretched formal care systems.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125565 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

A shared burden: The dyadic consequences of discrimination for romantic relationships

Main Presenting Author: Scherr, Kaya

Additional Authors: Sutin, Angelina R; Robins, Richard W; Danyluck, Chad

Abstract: *Racial discrimination against Latine people is known to harm their health and wellbeing. These harms also reverberate through Latine people's romantic relationships, where discrimination is linked to lower perceived relationship quality for both the target and their partner. However, most existing work relies on observations from a single time point, limiting what we know about how these effects unfold over time. Our work fills this gap by using a completed 14-year longitudinal data set of*

Latine families to study how experiences of discrimination relate to relationship quality across time. We will also test whether partner support buffers these harms: enhancing relationship quality in supportive partnerships and exacerbating harm when such support is absent. Data analyses, currently underway, use the actor-partner interdependence model to investigate how a targeted individual's experience with discrimination impacts their partner's perceived relationship quality while accounting for the non-independence of couple members. By clarifying the long-term consequences of discrimination and the impact of partner support, this research aims to expand our knowledge of how discrimination affects Latine couples and what interpersonal resources may help alleviate those harms.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 132720 - Virtual Poster

Enhancing Biopsychosocial Care Through University-Supported Data Systems: A Study of Nonprofit Service Delivery

Main Presenting Author: Fletcher, Jennifer L

Additional Authors: Haywood, Michelle ; Trask, Cheryl M; van Kessel, Bonnie; Johanson, Shannon; Mustafa, Fatima; Ross, Kharah M

Abstract: *Frontline nonprofits are often primary contacts for vulnerable community populations, and effective psychological care relies on data to identify key challenges, link people to services, and track symptom change and impact, yet many lack adequate data systems. Purpose: To test an accessible University-hosted "common" data management system (DMS) for three Calgary nonprofits. Methods: A bottom-up co-design process included needs assessment, integration of shared requirements, and iterative refinement of a core system customized and launched for each partner. Semi-structured interviews with designers, leaders, and frontline staff (n=7) identified benefits and challenges. Inductive thematic analysis was used to generate themes. Results: Key benefits included strengthened collaboration through shared vision and the creation of a centralized, customizable database supporting client management and reporting. Key challenges included uneven organizational readiness and internal constraints that prevented two partners from fully participating. Conclusion: Despite challenges, strengthened collaboration, data capacity, and operations produced meaningful outcomes. The co-designed shared DMS improved staff wellbeing, effectiveness, and service delivery, supported psychological care, and advanced equity in research and technology for organizations serving vulnerable community populations.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125843 - Virtual Poster

Intergenerational Trauma and Cultural Frameworks in Albanian Communities: Clinical Implications for Trauma-Informed, Culturally Responsive Care

Main Presenting Author: Zoga, George

Additional Authors: Nexha, Ada ; Khassay, Miriam; Gjomema, Dea; Agako, Arela

Abstract: *Albania's collective history has produced layered intergenerational trauma. Cultural frameworks such as collectivism, honor/shame, and patriarchal norms further shape mental health*

and help-seeking, yet these dynamics remain underexplored in clinical research and practice. Given the Albanian diaspora in Canada, better clinical conceptualizations are need. This narrative review employed a thematic synthesis of historical, sociological, and trauma-focused clinical sources, integrating peer-reviewed studies & archival materials to examine mechanisms of trauma transmission and implications for therapy. Findings indicate that collective trauma and cultural norms perpetuate silence, mistrust, and survival-based parenting, contributing to emotional suppression, domestic violence, and intergenerational distress. These dynamics likely influence therapeutic engagement and patterns of disclosure across Albanian communities. Clinically, Albanians may present with PTSD, somatic distress, depression, anxiety, and identity tensions in migration contexts. We outline trauma-informed, culturally attuned recommendations emphasizing case formulation within family and historical narratives, validation of somatic complaints, silence as coping, and navigation of collectivist roles. Priorities for research & service development are highlighted to improve mental health care for Albanian populations.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126246 - Virtual Poster

Mapping First Nations-Led Mental Health and Substance Use Services in Manitoba: A Rapid Environmental Scan

Main Presenting Author: Disbrowe, Malcolm C

Additional Authors: Durksen, Anita ; Sinclair, Stephanie

Abstract: *Background: First Nations Peoples in Manitoba face disproportionate mental health and substance use issues due to colonial harms, systemic racism, and unsafe care systems. Despite commitments to cultural safety, no study has mapped First Nations-led mental health or substance use services in Manitoba. Methods: We conducted a web-based environmental scan (May-August 2025) of First Nations-led or governed services using organizational websites, regional health authorities, and targeted Google searches. Eligible services were Manitoba-based, First Nations-governed or delivered, and focused on mental health or substance use. Data were extracted into a structured matrix and analyzed using framework analysis informed by a SWOT model. Results: We identified 17 services. All included Elders, land-based healing, ceremony, or language. Strengths were holistic models blending Indigenous and Western care and strong community trust. Weaknesses included unstable funding, limited evaluation capacity, and gaps in youth, Elder, and 2SLGBTQ+ services. Opportunities involved workforce development, telehealth, and community-led evaluation. Threats included geographic barriers, volatile funding, and policy misalignment. Conclusions: First Nations communities are leading culturally grounded care, but sustainability requires multi-year funding, community-defined evaluation, and structural reforms.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 124119 - Virtual Poster

Relational Self-Expansion and Posttraumatic Growth Among Dyads with Adverse Childhood Experiences

Main Presenting Author: Pennell, Ashlinn

Abstract: *Nearly 30 years of post-traumatic growth (PTG; growth after adversity) research has focused on individuals, even though growth often emerges in romantic relationships. Dyadic PTG work is scarce, and none has examined it with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs; formative trauma). Because ACEs leave lasting interpersonal effects, romantic partnerships are key contexts for PTG. Although self-expansion (SE) has rarely been examined alongside PTG, the core premise of SE-gaining new perspectives through a partner-naturally raises a central question: can relationships that expand the self also spark PTG? This becomes especially meaningful when trauma is carried unevenly or jointly within couples.We surveyed 202 Canadian couples on ACEs, event centrality, SE , and PTG, grouping them into single-ACE and dual-ACE dyads. APIM tested how each partner's SE and centrality predicted their own-and their partner's-PTG. In single-ACE couples, only ACE-affected partners showed PTG linked to SE and centrality; non-ACE partners did so only when they viewed their partner's adversity as central. In dual-ACE couples, both partners showed these links, and no effects crossed partners. Together, these findings offer the first indication of a SE to PTG pathway in couples, pointing to relational growth as a potential mechanism through which early adversity is reshaped into psychological change.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125674 - Virtual Poster

Strengths in Neurodivergence: Character Strengths, Well-being, and Burnout in Autistic University Students

Main Presenting Author: Austin, Sydney
Co-Presenting Author: Lumley, Margaret

Abstract: *Autistic young adults experience university education as both meaningful and demanding with many reporting opportunities for growth and community. Yet, social, sensory, and routine-related challenges can heighten burnout and reduce school engagement. Lower degree completion rates compared to non-autistic peers highlight the need to identify factors that support well-being in ways that honour autistic students' strengths. Neurodiversity-affirming approaches shift from deficit-focused frameworks toward strengths-based perspectives that emphasize autistic capabilities. Character strengths (CS)-positive, trait-like features linked to well-being-offer an inclusive model prioritizing abilities. This study surveys 80 autistic university students across two Southern Ontario institutions to examine how CS knowledge and intentional use relate to well-being, school engagement, and autistic burnout. It is hypothesized that greater strengths use and knowledge will be associated with higher levels of school engagement and lower levels of autistic burnout. By adopting a neurodiversity-affirming, strengths-based perspective, this research contributes to a growing body of literature aiming to understand the university experience of autistic students, and help these students to not only cope with post-secondary studies, but to thrive in their educational journey.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125200 - Virtual Poster

Section Featured Speaker Address

Rural, Northern, and Remote: Possibilities and Considerations for Psychological Services

Main Presenting Author: Richards, Shayla
Co-Presenting Author: Bradford, Charlene

Abstract: *Providing psychological services in remote rural and northern communities presents unique challenges that differ substantially from those encountered in urban settings. Limited local resources, vast travel distances, harsh and unpredictable weather, and unreliable technological infrastructure require psychologists to demonstrate exceptional flexibility in how care is delivered. Ensuring cost-effective service provision while maintaining high standards of cultural safety and humility is essential, particularly given the deep connections many residents have to their land, community, and cultural traditions. Effective practice depends on understanding each community's specific needs, strengths, and available supports, and on building meaningful relationships that foster trust. In response to these contextual factors, psychologists and others often adopt creative program-delivery methods, ranging from blended in-person and virtual approaches to community-led programming and land-based interventions. This presentation explores these complexities and highlights residents' perspectives on various psychological service models. Their views illuminate both the opportunities and the limitations of current programming, offering valuable guidance for designing services that are culturally responsive, accessible, and sustainable in northern and remote settings.*

Section: *Rural and Northern Psychology*
Session ID: 126387 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Weaving Our Stories of Reciprocity to Strengthen Psychological Research and Care: A Conversation Circle with Dr. Christopher Mushquash

Main Presenting Author: Murry, Adam
Co-Presenting Authors: Buchanan, Su; Keeshig-Soonias, Elder Beverly

Abstract: *Topic of discussion: Reciprocity holds different meanings and is shaped by culture, experience, relationships, and context. To engage in reciprocity means practicing an everyday ethic of considering how our actions and thoughts contribute to the wellness of the people, communities, nations, non-human kin, and lands we engage with today, and those who may feel the impacts of our influence for generations to come. Reciprocity also requires questioning assumptions about who is considered the learner and who is considered the holder of expertise. Novelty: Reciprocity has the potential to transform the ways we conduct research and provide care in psychology. Given the Indigenous Peoples Section's focus on reciprocity, this conversation circle will offer an opportunity to gather to deepen and extend this dialogue by weaving our perspectives together. Purpose: In this circle, we will weave our understandings of reciprocity together to develop a fuller sense of how reciprocity can strengthen psychological research and care in Indigenous communities and beyond. Through story-sharing, we will explore the importance of reciprocity and the risks that arise when it is absent; consider ways to enact everyday reciprocity; and reflect on how reciprocity extends to our non-human kin. Attendees will be invited to share their perspectives. Relevance: This conversation circle will foster ongoing reflection on how the discipline of psychology can nurture an ethic of reciprocity to strengthen research and clinical practice with Indigenous communities in Canada.*

Section: *Indigenous Peoples' Psychology*
Session ID: 122884 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

Rural, Northern, and Remote: Possibilities and Considerations for Psychological Services

Main Presenting Author: Richards, Shayla
Co-Presenting Author: Bradford, Charlene

Abstract: Providing psychological services in remote rural and northern communities presents unique challenges that differ substantially from those encountered in urban settings. Limited local resources, vast travel distances, harsh and unpredictable weather, and unreliable technological infrastructure require psychologists to demonstrate exceptional flexibility in how care is delivered. Ensuring cost-effective service provision while maintaining high standards of cultural safety and humility is essential, particularly given the deep connections many residents have to their land, community, and cultural traditions. Effective practice depends on understanding each community's specific needs, strengths, and available supports, and on building meaningful relationships that foster trust. In response to these contextual factors, psychologists and others often adopt creative program-delivery methods, ranging from blended in-person and virtual approaches to community-led programming and land-based interventions. This presentation explores these complexities and highlights residents' perspectives on various psychological service models. Their views illuminate both the opportunities and the limitations of current programming, offering valuable guidance for designing services that are culturally responsive, accessible, and sustainable in northern and remote settings.

Section: Rural and Northern Psychology
Session ID: 126387 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Weaving Our Stories of Reciprocity to Strengthen Psychological Research and Care: A Conversation Circle with Dr. Christopher Mushquash

Main Presenting Author: Murry, Adam
Co-Presenting Authors: Buchanan, Su; Keeshig-Soonias, Elder Beverly

Abstract: Topic of discussion: Reciprocity holds different meanings and is shaped by culture, experience, relationships, and context. To engage in reciprocity means practicing an everyday ethic of considering how our actions and thoughts contribute to the wellness of the people, communities, nations, non-human kin, and lands we engage with today, and those who may feel the impacts of our influence for generations to come. Reciprocity also requires questioning assumptions about who is considered the learner and who is considered the holder of expertise. Novelty: Reciprocity has the potential to transform the ways we conduct research and provide care in psychology. Given the Indigenous Peoples Section's focus on reciprocity, this conversation circle will offer an opportunity to gather to deepen and extend this dialogue by weaving our perspectives together. Purpose: In this circle, we will weave our understandings of reciprocity together to develop a fuller sense of how reciprocity can

strengthen psychological research and care in Indigenous communities and beyond. Through story-sharing, we will explore the importance of reciprocity and the risks that arise when it is absent; consider ways to enact everyday reciprocity; and reflect on how reciprocity extends to our non-human kin. Attendees will be invited to share their perspectives. Relevance: This conversation circle will foster ongoing reflection on how the discipline of psychology can nurture an ethic of reciprocity to strengthen research and clinical practice with Indigenous communities in Canada.

Section: Indigenous Peoples' Psychology
Session ID: 122884 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Standard Workshop

Affirmative Practices: A Toolkit for Clinicians to Better Support Trans and Autistic People

Main Presenting Author: Yule, Ashleigh
Co-Presenting Authors: Susset, Françoise; Garcin, Nathlie

Additional Authors: Landreville, Marie-Eve ; Moreau, Clément

Abstract: *Gender diverse autistic people have difficulty finding mental health professionals who are adequately equipped to meet their needs. Many mental health providers express a commitment to develop their skills and knowledge to better support autistic people in their gender identity exploration and gender affirmation process. However, clinical trainings in gender-inclusive and neurodivergent-affirming care are often difficult to access. This workshop is designed to offer conceptual and practical tools for clinicians to enhance their competence and confidence in supporting autistic clients in their gender identity journey. Workshop participants will deepen their knowledge of the characteristics, perspectives, and lived experiences of autistic and transgender individuals in order to provide more tailored and comprehensive clinical support.The concepts, skills, and tools covered in this workshop are highly relevant to the practice of psychology in Canada and globally, particularly in the context of sharp increases in mis- and disinformation about both autism and gender diversity. Our hope is to provide participants an overview of evidence-based, practical tools to navigate gender-inclusive, neurodivergent-affirming care in the current landscape.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 125102 - Standard Workshop

Establishing Virtual Therapeutic Relationships: Evidence-Based Strategies for Youth Counselling

Main Presenting Author: Socholotiuk, Krista
Co-Presenting Author: Lysakowski, Katie

Additional Authors: Domene, Jose ; Altaf, Shanzey

Abstract: *This interactive workshop will help practitioners get video-based counselling relationships with youth off to a strong start. Drawing from a study using video-assisted self-reflection, the*

workshop translates research findings into practical strategies for navigating the critical opening 15 minutes. Using the Action-Project Method, we captured both youth and counsellor perspectives on the same moments of their first session together, revealing contrasts between outward presentations and internal experiences. These findings speak to why common practices like using open-ended questions to begin a session can paradoxically heighten power imbalances in virtual formats and why youth who appear engaged may be managing significant internal struggle. Through video examples (with avatars to protect confidentiality) and guided activities, participants will explore three essential relationship-building dimensions: setting the session in motion, establishing therapeutic focus, and assessing compatibility. Attendees will develop evidence-informed approaches for navigating youth vulnerability, managing temporal tensions, and creating relational safety that enables trust in virtual counselling contexts.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126390 - Standard Workshop

Evidence-Based Care for Gender Diverse Clients and their Families in the Age of Misinformation and Disinformation.

Main Presenting Author: Yule, Ashleigh
Co-Presenting Author: Mohr, Kiersten

Abstract: *Psychologists are seeing a growing number of gender diverse clients in their practices. Many clinicians report feeling under-equipped in providing comprehensive care for transgender clients, especially while rights, protections, and access to care for gender-diverse people are under threat around the world, including in parts of Canada. The impact of these developments is multifaceted and can undermine protective factors for gender diverse people, including safe and inclusive healthcare, affirming schools and workplaces, inclusion in sport, family acceptance, and hope for the future.Psychologists have a responsibility to provide safe and welcoming care for gender diverse clients and their families. This session will focus on inclusive, evidence-based approaches to support gender diverse people and their loved ones in a rapidly changing social landscape. First-person narratives and lived expertise will be central in this teaching to deepen participants' learning. Our goal is to provide insights, answer questions, and address uncertainties to help professionals increase their competence and confidence in their care for gender diverse clients, even in the face of misinformation, disinformation, and anti-trans narratives.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 126371 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

(Self-)Understandings of Marginalized Identities: Qualitative Insights into Neurodiverse, Autistic, and Transracial Adoptee Communities

Moderator(s): Mihalco, Sierra

Abstract: *How individuals make sense of their identity shapes their interpersonal and intrapersonal realities. Marginalized communities exist within contexts that prevent them from experiencing authenticity. This self-understanding, or lack thereof, has meaningful influence on self-confidence, mental health, ability to relate to others as well as find affirming communities. This symposium will*

showcase how members of three different marginalized groups make sense of their identities within the historical and socio-political contexts of saneism, ableism, and racism. The first presentation will examine how neurodiverse individuals construct and affirm their identity in the context of online forums. The second will explore the relationship between Autistic masking and the Autistic identities from an auto-ethnographic approach. The third and final presentation will review understandings of transracial and international adoptee's lived experiences as they relate to identity. These presentations suggest that identity plays a significant role in sense of belonging, which in turn can help counter discriminatory narratives while fostering support and solidarity.

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124662 - Symposium

Finding the "I" in Identity: Navigating Incongruence in Transracial and International Adoption

Main Presenting Author: Mihalco, Sierra L.

Additional Authors: Giguère, Benjamin ; Yen, Jeffery

Abstract: *Canada has historically been among the leading receiving countries for international adoptions from China. Chinese transracial and international adoptees often develop in White familial and social contexts that may lack Chinese representation and sources of cultural knowledge. This lack of information may impact how adoptees define themselves and make sense of their various identities. Adoptees may also experience what is referred to as the transracial adoption paradox, whereby they are perceived and treated (by others and/or themselves) as racially White and ethnically Canadian. This presentation will review understandings of the lived experiences of transracial and international adoption as they pertain to identity. The presentation will also discuss how adoptees make sense of and understand their identities and self-identification, as well as the potential incongruence between their racial identity and their ethnic identity.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125281 - Paper within a symposium

Qualitative Insights of Identity while Masking: An Autistic-led Diary Study

Main Presenting Author: Husein, Zahra A.

Additional Author: Yen, Jeffery

Abstract: *Autistic masking is the act of concealing one's Autistic identity. Masking may have an impact on how Autistic people experience their identity. As such, this presentation will illuminate key insights from a section of findings that were part of a larger autoethnographic analysis on Autistic masking and focus on how participants experience sense of self within the day-to-day performance of masking. Over time, masking can disrupt the formation of a stable sense of self. Autistic individuals are thus caught in a double bind whereby masking helps them avoid social rejection at the risk of feeling inauthentic. Subjective experiences of authenticity are rooted in feeling aligned with personal values, self-understanding, and action. This congruency has implications for wellbeing and mental health outcomes, including confidence. Understanding how Autistic individuals make sense of their identity is significant in helping them assert their needs, find community, and challenge discrimination through celebrating Autistic strengths.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 125275 - Paper within a symposium

A Transdisciplinary Exploration of Safe Spaces and Inclusivity Across Populations and Contexts

Moderator(s): Berg, Lindsay

Abstract: *Inclusivity has been conceptualized as the ability for individuals to participate fully and authentically express themselves, imparting feelings of acceptance, safety, belonging, and empowerment (Ferdman, 2020; Shore et al., 2018). Achieving inclusivity requires building safe spaces founded on respect for multiple identities, abilities, and beliefs, and accountable actions to address the tools of marginalization, perpetuated by social norms, systemic barriers, stigma, colonialism, and erasure (Ahmed, 2012; Smith, 2015). This transdisciplinary symposium will explore inclusivity and safe spaces from a neurodiversity, gender identity, and Indigenous lens. Presenters will share research that explores acceptance and non-acceptance in autistic adults, transgender and gender diverse youths' perspectives on the qualities of safe and affirming spaces, and Indigenous employment experiences and the creation of safe and culturally grounded workplaces. The discussion will integrate findings to explore how inclusivity and safety needs compare and contrast across different populations and their implications for intersecting identities. This symposium will provide opportunities to gain a practical understanding of inclusion needs across a broad range of populations, to be used to improve care, learning, and work environments.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 126287 - Symposium

Acceptance Through a Neurodiversity Lens: A Qualitative Discovery of Autistic Adult Experiences of Helping, Hindering, and Hoping for Acceptance

Main Presenting Author: Gray, Shawna M

Additional Authors: Mudry, Tanya ; Maroney, Meredith R.; Harris, Megan; McCrimmon, Adam

Abstract: *Autistic people face significant challenges related to quality of life and inclusion in society; autistic advocates have noted a gap in their experiences related to feelings of acceptance, or nonacceptance, which leads to poorer quality of life and feelings of isolation. The present study invited autistic adults to participate in a semi-structured interview to explore various elements of acceptance and nonacceptance. Using Enhanced Critical Incident Technique to analyze participant interviews, 13 helping, 16 hindering, and nine wish list categories were identified. These categories related to an understanding of autism from society, respect for autistic people by society, relationships between autistic people and those they interact with, access to supports and accommodations, macro-level systemic influences, societal exposure to autism, autistic adults' individual process of coming to understand autism, challenges related to characteristics of autism, and impacts of feeling accepted or not accepted. Reflexive Thematic Analysis was used to provide a definition of acceptance from participants that can guide how acceptance is measured and improved. Research results indicate long- and short-term goals are needed to achieve acceptance across macro- and micro-level factors, which will be discussed.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 126310 - Paper within a symposium

Safety First: Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth Perspectives on the Qualities of Safe and Affirming Spaces

Main Presenting Author: Berg, Lindsay

Additional Authors: Sin, Glorianna ; Exner-Cortens, Deinera; McArthur, Brae Anne

Abstract: *Background. Due to high rates of discrimination and victimization, many transgender and gender diverse (TGD) youth report feeling unsafe regularly (Aversa et al., 2022; Veale, 2017). Understanding the qualities that create safe and affirming spaces is key to ensuring that TGD youth have equitable access to resources, education, and care. Methods. 31 TGD youth ages 12 to 24 years shared their perspective on the qualities of safe and affirming spaces. Data were analyzed with Qualitative Descriptive methodology and conventional content analysis. Results. Three high-level categories of themes were identified. Social interactions comprised of acts of active allyship, affirming use of names/pronouns and inclusive language, lack of insincere acts of affirmation and allyship, safety from negative reactions, and the presence of other marginalized people in the space. Qualities of the physical space included accessibility and inclusivity for diverse physical and neurological needs, gender-neutral facilities, and visual symbols of support. Standards of Care included establishing regulations for how people should be treated, educating staff about TGD issues and care, and providing resources. Implications. This study can be used to inform adaptations to care/community spaces to improve TGD youth care and resource uptake by increasing youth perceptions of safety and acceptance.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 126317 - Paper within a symposium

Space Isn't Empty: Indigenous Experiences in the Workplace and Some Recommendations for Creating Culturally Safe Spaces

Main Presenting Author: Murry, Adam T

Additional Authors: Sharma, Sanchita ; Atay, Elaine ; Grier, Melanie ; Yuan, Alvan; Brozny, Alicia C.

Abstract: *Indigenous employment research reveals that "safe space" in workplaces is not simply a matter of physical or psychological comfort but is deeply tied to cultural identity, relationships, and experiences. Drawing on findings from a recent content analysis of 215 empirical Indigenous employment studies, this presentation considers how constructs such as cultural (mis)fit, under-representation, and relationship-building shape Indigenous understandings of safety at work. Two recurring patterns, i.e., culturing work and negative experiences at work, offer a lens for thinking about safe space as the capacity to participate in employment without compromising cultural identity, authenticity, or ethical obligations, and without exposure to discrimination, overload, or devaluing practices. By foregrounding Indigenous experiences, I discuss how safe space emerges (or fails to emerge) in everyday interactions, organizational policies, and expectations placed on Indigenous employees. The talk concludes with some opportunities for organizations and researchers to foster safer, culturally grounded work environments that support Indigenous wellbeing and career development.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 126327 - Paper within a symposium

Centering Intersectionality in Mental Health and Healthcare: An Integrative Review of LGBTQ+ Well-Being Across Contexts.

Moderator(s): Sinacore, Ada L

Abstract: *The goal of this symposium is to present three papers addressing the unique experiences of vulnerable populations within LGBTQ+ communities. The first paper entitled; "Centering Black LGBTQ+ Mental Health: A Scoping Review of LGBTQ+ Affirmative, Anti-Oppressive, and Integrative Mental Health Practice", addresses providing anti-racist, anti-oppressive and LGBTQ+ affirming care to Black LGBTQ+ clients. Next, the paper entitled, "Negotiating Belonging and Identity: A Critical Literature Review of Coming-Out Among Muslim LGB Immigrants ", explores the coming-out narratives of LGB individuals from predominantly Muslim countries who are now living in North America. The third paper, "Healthcare Access Challenges for Aging Lesbians in North America: A Scoping Review ", explores healthcare disparities experienced by older lesbians. Each of these papers employs intersectionality to understand the challenges, barriers and discrimination faced by each of these populations. Particular attention will be given to societal structures and healthcare systems. as well as, anti-oppressive, gender and sexuality affirming, and trauma-informed care. Implications for future research and clinical practice will be discussed.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123563 - Symposium

Centering Black LGBTQ+ Mental Health: A Scoping Review of LGBTQ+ Affirmative, Anti-Oppressive, and Integrative Mental Health Practice

Main Presenting Author: Joseph, Jada
Co-Presenting Author: Sinacore, Ada L

Additional Author: Burcar, Andrew

Abstract: *Over the years, there has been an increasing call for mental health professionals to shift their focus from individual coping strategies to tackling structural and systemic barriers to well-being, especially for Black LGBTQ+ individuals. Anti-racist and anti-oppressive practice (AAROP) and LGBTQ+ affirming therapy have gained recognition as effective mental health practices for Black and LGBTQ+ clients, respectively. AAROP challenges power imbalances to promote equity and well-being, while LGBTQ+ affirmative therapy tackles societal inequities that affect self-expression and identity (Baines, 2017; Ellis, 2020; Ginicola et al., 2017; Mullings et al., 2021). To date, there is no scoping review on AAROP and LGBTQ+ affirmative therapy that specifically addresses the needs and strengths of Black LGBTQ+ clients, as research in these areas often overlooks this intersection. This talk describes the findings relevant to this topic, with a focus on how therapeutic principles related to AAROP and LGBTQ+ affirmative therapy, as well as integrative approaches, can be applied in mental health practice. The implications also consider how trauma-informed care (TIC) can address gaps in LGBTQ+ affirmative therapy and AAROP, since these approaches tend to concentrate on clinical intervention. In contrast, TIC considers the broader organizational context of care.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123572 - Paper within a symposium

Healthcare Access Challenges for Aging Lesbians in North America: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Sinacore, Ada L
Co-Presenting Author: Safardoost, Diana

Additional Author: Vieira, Tamara

Abstract: *Historically, discriminatory practices in healthcare against women and sexual minorities have been well-documented. Recent research has increasingly examined the intersection of aging and discrimination experienced by older members of the LGBTQ+ communities, particularly as the baby boomer and Generation X cohorts enter later adulthood and engage more frequently with healthcare services. However, much of this work has focused broadly on the LGBTQ+ population, leaving the nuanced experiences of each population overlooked. Older lesbians are particularly underrepresented in LGBTQ+ research. That is, there is a dearth of literature that explores their unique experiences and needs when accessing healthcare systems and services. Positioned at the nexus of age, gender, and sexual orientation, this population is uniquely vulnerable to systemic discrimination and negative experiences within healthcare systems due to their identities. Histories of mistreatment can further contribute to distrust and a reluctance to seek out care. This scoping review examines the healthcare needs and related barriers faced by older lesbians in North America. The review synthesizes existing literature to provide a comprehensive picture of older lesbians lived realities and identifies critical implications for healthcare professionals seeking to deliver inclusive, affirming, and trauma-informed care.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123575 - Paper within a symposium

Negotiating Belonging and Identity: A Critical literature Review of Coming-Out Among Muslim LGB Immigrants

Main Presenting Author: Bahman, Fadwa
Co-Presenting Author: Sinacore, Ada L

Abstract: *The experience of coming out is often one of the most emotionally charged and identity-defining processes for LGBTQIA+ individuals, especially when religious and cultural values intersect. This review explores the coming-out narratives of LGB individuals from predominantly Muslim countries who are now living in North America. For many Muslim immigrants, coming out involves navigating tensions between faith, family expectations, and cultural belonging, while negotiating self-acceptance in new sociocultural contexts. Within the field of counselling psychology, this topic is highly relevant to the development of culturally sensitive, trauma-informed, and sexuality affirming therapeutic approaches for the population of interest. Guided by the PRISMA-ScR framework, this review synthesizes existing studies to examine how Muslim LGB immigrants construct and narrate their experiences of coming out, with particular attention to strategies of coping, belonging, and resilience. The review identifies key gaps in existing research on the intersection of Islam, migration, and sexual identity: a focus on Muslim immigrants' attitudes toward LGBTQIA+ people rather than their lived experiences; an overemphasis on pathology and conflict; an overrepresentation of second generation LGB Muslim immigrants, and a lack of gender diversity, with lesbian Muslim immigrants notably underrepresented. By amplifying the voices of sexual minority Muslims, this research project highlights the importance of integrating themes of resilience and ambivalence into counselling practice and calls for approaches that hold space for the complex intersections of faith, culture, and sexuality.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 123574 - Paper within a symposium

Community and Campus Sexual Violence Prevention and Response

Moderator(s): Dufour, Gena K.

Abstract: *Background: Sexual violence (SV) warrants community and institutional action that includes both prevention and response. This symposium includes studies examining SV prevention for girls in the community and young women in university, as well as how young women are affected by their universities' approach to SV prevention and response. Methods: This symposium includes: 1) A randomized controlled trial evaluating A-EAAA, an adaptation of the highly effective EAAA campus prevention program, for girls aged 14-18; 2) a quasi-experimental online survey study examining demographic characteristics of women who engage in EAAA programing on their university campus compared to women who did not, and 3) An interview study exploring university women's fear of institutional betrayal related to SV. Results: Two of these studies provide insight into the efficacy and reach of SV prevention initiatives. The third study highlights how university women perceive their institutions' capacity to prevent and respond to SV. Conclusions: The studies described explore the need for, and impact of, effective SV interventions to prevent and respond to SV in various settings beginning in adolescence. Impact: This symposium provides a multidimensional understanding of SV prevention and response in various settings, offering guidance for strengthening policy and programming.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 122804 - Symposium

An Intersectional Qualitative Study Exploring Fear of Institutional Betrayal

Main Presenting Author: Dufour, Gena K.

Additional Author: Senn, Charlene Y.

Abstract: *Background: The high prevalence of campus sexual violence (SV) necessitates top-level responses from post-secondary institutions. Fear of Institutional Betrayal (IB) is a theoretical concept that describes the fear that universities will fail to prevent or respond appropriately to instances of campus SV. Fear of IB is rooted in the concern that engagement with a university will result in further harm for survivors. Method: The current study explored perceptions of fear of IB in a qualitative interview study with a sample of 13 diverse university women. Results: Participants' perceptions of fear of IB was shaped by both their own experiences of SV, as well as the stories they heard about IB from others. Students discussed how their social identities (e.g., race, gender, age) related to expectations of university response. Finally, participants discussed what changes to policies or procedures would help reduce fear of IB. Conclusion: This study answers calls for more research that explores social positionality as a shaping element of how survivors experience institutional SV response. Fear of IB is a new concept in literature which provides meaningful insight into the profound concerns of university students. Impact: This study contributes to evidence-informed guidance for universities developing sexual violence response strategies.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123933 - Paper within a symposium

Does Girls - Flip the Script with EAAA® reduce the incidence of sexual assault for teens? Results from a wait-list randomized controlled trial.

Main Presenting Author: Crann, Sara

Additional Authors: Eliasziw, Misha ; Senn, Charlene Y.

Abstract: *Adolescent girls are at high risk for sexual violence victimization but available interventions have shown limited long-term efficacy. A randomized controlled trial with wait-list control to test the efficacy of Girls - Flip the Script with EAAA ® sexual assault resistance program (A-EAAA) was conducted with girls age 14-18 (N = 313; M age = 15.3; SD = 1.2). Surveys were completed at baseline, 1-week post-intervention, 6- and 12-months. Girls were randomly assigned to receive A-EAAA right away (resistance group) or a brief consent session right away and A-EAAA after 6-months (control group). The analysis compared the incidence of completed and attempted rape between the groups using Kaplan-Meier failure curves. A-EAAA significantly reduced the incidence of attempted rape (2.1% [resistance] vs. 10.0% [control], relative risk reduction=79%, p=.02). The reduction in incidence of completed rape was not statistically significant, although rates were lower in the resistance group. A-EAAA positively affected key outcomes known to mediate reductions in sexual assault, including perception of risk, rape myth acceptance, and self-defence self-efficacy (ps<.01) with medium effect sizes. A-EAAA offers a promising approach for reducing attempted rape experienced by adolescent girls. Community-based implementation models are currently being tested for scaling the program across Canada.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123926 - Paper within a symposium

Which Students are Reached? Multi-University Participation Trends in a Campus Sexual Violence Prevention Program for Self-Identified Women

Main Presenting Author: Lateef, Rusan
Co-Presenting Author: Senn, Charlene

Additional Authors: Paquette, Geneviève ; Dion, Jacinthe; Hébert, Martine; Baril, Karine; Bergeron, Manon; Dagenais, Christian; Daigneault, Isabelle

Abstract: *Campus sexual violence is a pervasive problem worldwide. Students from groups disproportionately targeted by this violence have reported feeling excluded from prevention efforts, leaving them more vulnerable to victimization and its consequences. This study examined participation trends in a French translation of the Enhanced Assess, Acknowledge, Act program. Using five years of data from seven Canadian universities that employed diverse outreach strategies, we compared program participants (n=268) with a representative control group (n=710) on sociodemographic characteristics and risk factors using weighted chi-square analyses and adjusted residuals.Results revealed an overrepresentation of program participants from several groups more often exposed to campus sexual violence, including international students, students with disabilities, and those with sexual victimization histories. Meanwhile, some vulnerable groups were not more likely to participate in the program, such as students who binge drink. Our findings suggest that the program successfully reached many student groups more frequently targeted by campus sexual violence, yet participation gaps for some vulnerable groups persist. To strengthen impact, campuses should build on outreach strategies that effectively reached high-risk groups, while developing targeted approaches to engage those who remain underrepresented.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123932 - Paper within a symposium

Enhancing equity in public mental health care: Insights on strategies, engagement barriers, and client experiences from the Ontario Structured Psychotherapy Program in the Brampton-Halton-Mississauga region.

Moderator(s): Thomas, Fiona C.

Abstract: *Across Canada, unmet mental health needs remain high: in 2018, 5.3 million Canadians required services, yet only 21% reported their needs were fully met, with psychotherapy needs most often unmet (Moroz et al., 2020). The Ontario Structured Psychotherapy Program (OSP) was established to address this gap by providing free, short-term cognitive-behavioural therapy for adults with depression and anxiety-related conditions. This symposium highlights evidence and innovations from the OSP Brampton-Halton-Mississauga (OSP-BHM) region, where diverse populations encounter unique barriers to accessing and engaging in care. Dr. Naomi Ennis opens with equity-focused strategies implemented in OSP-BHM, including clinician training and consultation and co-developed culturally safe pathways for South Asian, Francophone, and Indigenous clients. Ahmad Alftieh follows with an intersectional analysis of sociodemographic predictors of engagement among 2,203 OSP-BHM clients, identifying patterns linked to migration status, income, age, and gender identity. Lastly, Dr. Fiona Thomas presents qualitative findings on client experiences, highlighting facilitators such as accessibility, tailored care, and strong therapeutic alliances, alongside systemic barriers. Together, these talks illuminate multilevel processes shaping equitable access to psychotherapy within publicly funded mental health systems.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125798 - Symposium

An intersectional approach to understanding barriers to engagement with the Ontario Structured Psychotherapy program among racialized groups in Brampton, Halton and Mississauga regions.

Main Presenting Author: Alftieh, Ahmad

Additional Authors: Ennis, Naomi ; Bahl, Nancy; Ali , Angel; Rodrigues, Luciana; Thomas, Fiona C.

Abstract: *Research on barriers to mental health care has historically focused on examining sociodemographic characteristics independent of one another without consideration of intersecting marginalized identities. In this study, we examined the role of sociodemographic predictors of treatment engagement in clients (N = 2,203) from the Ontario Structured Psychotherapy Program in Brampton, Halton and Mississauga (OSP-BHM) using an intersectional approach. Multiple linear regression models were conducted for completers and non-completers, adjusting for age, gender identity, ethnicity, migration status, income, and work status. Among completers, clients not born in Canada attended fewer sessions (B = -2.85, p = .004), and those in lower-middle income brackets ($30-89k) attended 3 to 4.5 fewer sessions than those in the lowest income group. Among non-completers, older clients (B = 0.044, p = .041) and gender minority clients (B = 8.29, p = .037) attended slightly more sessions prior to dropout. No significant 2- or 3-way moderation effects were detected among sociodemographic variables. Results suggest that while certain sociodemographic variables are significant predictors of OSP-BHM treatment engagement, their intersectionality does not explain additional variance in engagement. These findings can inform the development of tailored strategies to improve engagement with OSP-BHM and beyond.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125837 - Paper within a symposium

Strategies to support an equitable publicly-funded cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) program

Main Presenting Author: Ennis, Naomi

Additional Authors: Bahl, Nancy ; Rodrigues, Luciana; Thomas, C. Fiona

Abstract: *Implementing a publicly funded CBT program that meaningfully serves diverse clients requires intentional, equity-focused strategies embedded throughout the system. We will outline approaches used in the Ontario Structured Psychotherapy Program in the Brampton-Halton-Mississauga region (OSP-BHM) to support culturally responsive care, including strategies supporting both clinicians and clients. Strategies for clinicians include dedicated consultations to identify and process racial biases encountered from clients. Centring consultations on equity-related topics enables clinicians with historically marginalized backgrounds to receive targeted and meaningful support. OSP-BHM also provides workshops on managing clinician experiences of microaggressions and prioritizes hiring clinicians with diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.For clients, culturally safe pathways to support South Asian, Francophone, and Indigenous clients are being co-developed with community partners. Pathways include translated program materials, joint knowledge-sharing activities (e.g., co-authored blog posts, events) and adapted CBT protocols. We will highlight key challenges, successes, and lessons learned. This work is critical in decreasing barriers to mental health care for typically marginalized populations. Our model can be used as an example for other publicly-funded models in Canada.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125836 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding diverse client experiences in the Ontario Structured Psychotherapy Program in the Brampton, Halton, and Mississauga (OSP-BHM) regions: Facilitators, barriers, and implications for equitable mental healthcare

Main Presenting Author: Thomas, Fiona C.
Co-Presenting Author: Alftieh, Ahmad

Additional Authors: Narikuzhy, Sandhya ; Ng Ha Kwong, Ophélie; Maharaj, A. Sapna ; Diao, David (Guangyu); Ennis, Naomi; Bahl, Nancy; Rodrigues, Luciana

Abstract: *Background: This study examined clients' experiences with the OSP-BHM program, with attention to underserved communities. Methods: Semi-structured interviews were completed with 23 clients (mean age: 29; 58% women; 54% South Asian) to explore their experiences with OSP-BHM and the structural and systemic factors shaping mental health. Reflexive thematic analysis is underway. Results: Preliminary themes highlight facilitators to engagement, including accessibility, flexible scheduling, and a smooth and supportive intake process. Strong therapeutic relationships, marked by understanding, normalization, and tailored care, enhanced engagement, as did structured sessions and psychometric measures for some clients. Engagement challenges included limited awareness about OSP-BHM services and inadequate attention to some diagnostic presentations (e.g., addictions). Structural barriers involved stigma within families and communities and limited integration of OSP-BHM services within the broader healthcare system. Conclusions/Impact: This study illuminates how diverse clients engage with publicly funded psychotherapy and the conditions that support or hinder access. Findings can inform culturally aligned, context-responsive adaptations to OSP-BHM services, and strengthen integration across care pathways to advance equitable, effective mental health support for underserved communities.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125852 - Paper within a symposium

In Their Shoes: Dating Violence and Perspective Taking Skills in North American Post-Secondary Institutions

Moderator(s): Sgro, Delaney

Abstract: *This symposium examines dating violence (DV) in post-secondary settings through an emotional perspective-taking (PT) task and attitudes toward dating violence (ATDV), two mechanisms that remain understudied despite their relevance to campus prevention. The topic is timely as institutions seek approaches that address individual cognition, social norms, and the needs of diverse student groups. The initial study, conducted by Moscovitz et al., provides a cognitive foundation, finding that weaker PT predicts DV perpetration through more accepting ATDV, positioning attitudes as the key pathway from empathy-related skills to behaviour. The second study by Marchetti et al., offers a sociocultural lens, examining PT and ATDV within Greek Life, demonstrating how group-based norms shape beliefs about consent, control, and violence. Finally, bringing a novel neurodiversity-focused perspective, Rodruiguez et al.,'s research examines how students with ADHD and ASD display distinct PT, ATDV, victimization, and perpetration patterns. Together, these perspectives illustrate how PT and ATDV interact with individual, group, and neurodivergent contexts, providing a multifaceted understanding of DV risk. Implications emphasize tailored interventions targeting both PT skills and harmful attitudes in diverse student groups.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124264 - Symposium

Neurodevelopmental Differences and Dating Violence: The Role of Perspective-Taking

Main Presenting Author: Rodrigues, Ashley

Additional Authors: Dias, Marissa ; Moscovitz, Aly; Cwinn, Eli; Marchetti, Sophia; Malkin, Albert

Abstract: *People with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are at elevated risk of experiencing dating violence (DV). Both conditions are linked to poorer perspective-taking skills (PT), which are associated with more accepting attitudes toward DV (ATDV). We examined the importance of PT in healthy social relationships via a Relational Frame Theory framework. A sample of 825 post-secondary students (nADHD=138, nASD=67) completed self-report scales measuring ATDV and DV experiences as well as a novel deictic framing task assessing PT. There were significant differences in ATDV, with ASD scores being higher than ADHD scores (p=.001), and both ASD (p=.001) and ADHD (p=.001) being higher than neurotypical scores. While PT scores were similar between groups, PT partially mediated the relationship between ADHD and victimization (p=.025). People with ADHD were more likely to report DV victimization than neurotypical people (p=.001), as were people with ASD (p=.001). Furthermore, people with ASD were more likely to report DV perpetration than both those with ADHD (p=.001) and neurotypical people (p=.001). These findings have implications for the need for tailored preventative intervention to reduce people with ADHD and ASD being disproportionately affected by DV.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124584 - Paper within a symposium

Not Greek To Me: Analyzing Attitudes Toward Dating Violence and Deictic Perspective Taking Skills in Post-Secondary Greek Life Organizations

Main Presenting Author: Marchetti, Sophia

Additional Authors: Moscovitz, Aly ; Rodrigues, Ashley; Malkin, Albert

Abstract: *Dating violence remains deeply embedded within post-secondary campus culture. Students involved in Greek Life (GL) are particularly vulnerable, as GL environments often normalize and subtly reinforce harmful social and sexual expectations. Existing literature aligns with Relational Frame Theory, suggesting that shifts in language and behavioural framing within specific social groups can shape maladaptive attitudes. However, the role of task-based perspective-taking skills (PT) in relation to dating violence has not yet been examined within GL contexts. This study investigates PT and attitudes toward dating violence (ATDV) among 353 undergraduates (nGL = 40; nNGL = 314). Participants completed measures of ATDV, GL affiliation, and a novel behavioural PT task grounded in Relational Frame Theory. Analyses assessed direct associations and mediation effects involving GL affiliation. Analyses found significantly higher rates of both perpetration and victimization in GL ($p < 0.05$). Although GL affiliation did not mediate the overall relationship between PT and ATDV ($p = .665$), it did mediate associations between PT and specific ATDV items related to consent, control, and violence ($p < .05$). These findings highlight the need for targeted campus interventions that strengthen emotional perspective-taking skills and address the reinforcement of specific harmful attitudes within GL settings.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124574 - Paper within a symposium

Seeing Isn't Believing: The Critical Role of Attitudes in Understanding the Relationship Between Perspective-Taking and Dating Violence

Main Presenting Author: Moscovitz, Aly

Additional Authors: Cwinn, Eli ; Malkin, Albert

Abstract: *Dating violence remains highly prevalent among university students, with growing evidence that social-cognitive processes play a central role in shaping harmful behaviour. Despite widespread prevention efforts, rates continue to rise, highlighting the need to clarify the mechanisms linking individual cognition to perpetration. This study examined how emotional perspective-taking (PT) and attitudes toward dating violence (ATDV) jointly relate to self-reported perpetration in a diverse undergraduate sample (N = 449). Participants completed a deictic-framing PT task and an adapted ATDV Scale. Regression analyses showed that weaker PT skills were associated with greater acceptance of violence ($\beta = -39.354$, $p < .001$), and students who reported perpetration exhibited both weaker PT ($p = .003$) and greater acceptance of violence ($p < .001$). Mediation analyses revealed that attitudes fully mediated the relationship between PT and perpetration, indicating that PT influences behaviour primarily through attitudinal pathways ($\beta = -0.19$, 95% CI [-.253, -.126]). These findings identify attitudes as a key cognitive mechanism underlying dating violence risk and underscore the importance of examining sociocultural and group-based factors that shape both PT and ATDV. Implications for prevention will be discussed, emphasizing the need to target attitude change in tandem with PT skills training.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124573 - Paper within a symposium

Mapping Autism Language Preferences: Insights from Gender, Diagnosis Confirmation, and Regional Diversity

Moderator(s): Lorentz, Brittany R

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Autism terminology shapes identity, communication, and service access. However, debates about appropriate language rarely consider how demographic and contextual factors influence terminology preferences. This study examines how gender, diagnosis confirmation status, and regional location relate to endorsement of autism-related terminology. Methods: 369 Autistic adults have completed a survey evaluating over 40 autism-related terms. Participants reported gender identity, diagnostic status (formal diagnosis vs. self-identification), and region. Statistical analyses will compare terminology endorsement across groups, supported by interpretive synthesis. Results: Data analysis is currently underway. Group comparisons will explore whether and how terminology preferences vary across gender, diagnostic confirmation status, and regional location. Conclusions: Despite ongoing analysis, this study is positioned to clarify how demographic and contextual factors shape autism terminology preferences and to contribute evidence to the diversity of linguistic perspectives within autistic communities. Action/Impact: Findings will inform flexible, inclusive terminology guidelines; updates to clinical language; and communication practices that account for demographic and cultural variation to promote clarity, reduce stigma, and support identity-affirming engagement.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124263 - Symposium

Coast to Coast: Regional Variation in Autism Terminology Preferences

Main Presenting Author: Lorentz, Brittany
Co-Presenting Author: Henderson, Alyssa

Additional Authors: Dickner, Sydney ; Waller, Madison; McCrimmon, Adam

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Terminology used to describe autism varies across geographical contexts, yet minimal research has examined how regional factors shape preferences for autism-related terms. Accounting for regional differences strengthens communication and supports culturally grounded, context-appropriate terminology use. Methods: A survey sample of 369 autistic adults reported their broader geographic region and rated their agreement with more than 40 autism-related terms. Statistical comparisons will examine differences in terminology endorsement across regional groups, supported by interpretive synthesis to contextualize emerging patterns within cultural and linguistic frameworks. Status of Results: Preliminary comparisons are being completed to identify regional location and trends in terminology preferences across varying autism-related terms. Conclusions: This study aims to clarify how geographic factors shape autism terminology preferences, challenging assumptions of universal language norms, and highlighting the need for regionally sensitive terminology frameworks. Action/Impact: Findings will inform recommendations for culturally responsive communication practices, adaptations to clinical and educational language, and international research guidelines that account for regional variation in autism conceptualization.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125416 - Paper within a symposium

Diagnosed vs. Self-Identified: How Diagnostic Confirmation Shapes Terminology Preferences

Main Presenting Author: Lorentz, Brittany
Co-Presenting Author: Dickner, Sydney

Additional Authors: Waller, Madison ; Henderson, Alyssa; McCrimmon, Adam

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Diagnostic experiences can influence preferences for autism-related terminology. Examining distinctions between individuals with a formal diagnosis and those who self-identify as autistic is critical for promoting inclusive practice and ensuring that clinical and research language aligns with the perspectives of both groups. Methods: Using data from a survey sample of 369 autistic adults rated their agreement with more than 40 autism-related terms, participants reported their diagnostic status as to whether they were formally diagnosed or self-identified autistic. Statistical comparisons will examine differences in terminology endorsement across diagnostic label groups. Status of Results: Early comparisons focus on differences between diagnosed and self-identified adults in their acceptance of autism-related terms. Conclusions: This study explores how diagnostic status shapes terminology preferences, challenging assumptions of universal language norms, and highlighting the need for frameworks that reflect varied diagnostic experiences. Action/Impact: Findings will support more responsive communication practices, inform adjustments to clinical language, and guide research standards that recognize variation in how diagnosed and self-identified autistic individuals conceptualize and describe autism.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125433 - Paper within a symposium

Gendered Variation in Autism Terminology Preferences: How Gender Diversity Shape Language Preferences

Main Presenting Author: Lorentz, Brittany
Co-Presenting Author: Waller, Madison

Additional Authors: Dickner, Sydney ; Henderson, Alyssa; McCrimmon, Adam

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: The intersection of gender and autism identities shapes how individuals relate to autism-related terms. These intersecting identities influence preference with terminology. Understanding these variations is essential for fostering inclusive practices and ensuring that research and clinical language reflect the perspectives of autistic people of all genders. Methods: A survey sample of 369 autistic adults reported their gender identity and rated their agreement with more than 40 autism-related terms. Statistical analyses will evaluate variation in terminology endorsement across gender groups, while interpretive synthesis will situate these patterns within broader gendered and linguistic frameworks. Status of Results: Preliminary comparisons are being completed to identify differences across gender groups and preferences of autism-related terminology. Conclusions: This study explores how gender identity and sociocultural expectations shape terminology preferences, revealing systematic differences and challenging assumptions that preferences are uniform across genders. Action/Impact: Findings will support gender-responsive communication practices, inform adjustments to clinical and educational language, and guide research standards that recognize how autistic individuals of diverse genders conceptualize and describe autism.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125428 - Paper within a symposium

More Than Translation: Child Language Brokering as Survival, Connection, and Identity

Moderator(s): Charania, Farah

Abstract: *Child Language Brokering (CLB)-when children translate, interpret, and navigate institutions for immigrant caregivers-remains an overlooked yet consequential aspect of newcomer resettlement. Although often viewed as a burden or linguistic necessity, emerging work reveals its influence on identity development, family roles, emotional labour, and institutional access. This symposium advances a culturally responsive understanding of CLB by examining how children and caregivers negotiate language, responsibility, and belonging during migration to Canada. The first presentation follows the resettlement journey of a family from Ukraine, showing how brokering intersects with trauma, resilience, and intergenerational dynamics. The second explores experiences across Canadian systems from a family from Yemen, illustrating links between mental health, role responsibility, and cultural identity. The third investigates a mother-daughter dyad from Chile to show how CLB operates as both burden and bond, shaping belonging, responsibility, and emotional resilience during integration. Together, these studies position CLB as a complex relational practice that reflects structural inequities while fostering agency and intergenerational support. Implications for counselling psychology, education, settlement services, and policy will be discussed.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124611 - Symposium

Child Language Brokering as Burden, Bond, and Becoming: A Mother-Daughter Dyad's Negotiation of Identity, Responsibility, and Wellness in Migration

Main Presenting Author: Charania , Farah
Co-Presenting Author: Kassan , Anusha

Abstract: *Child Language Brokering (CLB) is often viewed through deficit-focused lenses that overlook its emotional complexity and potential for family growth. This presentation introduces a strengths-based, qualitative dyadic inquiry exploring how a Chilean mother and daughter experience CLB during their integration into Canada. Guided by a social justice lens, the project positions CLB as both burden and bond, examining how language, shifting family roles, and systemic barriers construct meaning and responsibility. Using narrative interviews and arts-based methods, this study explores how the daughter navigates pressure, purpose, and changing roles, while the mother grapples with dependence, aspiration, and the emotional cost of relying on her child as a linguistic gatekeeper. Shared themes include identity negotiation, faith as resilience, and redefining self through responsibility and support. Expected contributions include a nuanced understanding of the relational and emotional dimensions of CLB and insights to guide culturally responsive supports for families who rely on children to mediate language and institutional systems. This presentation will illustrate how CLB shapes belonging, agency, and intergenerational flourishing across cultures.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124683 - Paper within a symposium

Speaking Through Art: A Yemeni Newcomer Family's Experience with Child Language Brokering

Main Presenting Author: He, Laurie
Co-Presenting Author: Kassan , Anusha

Abstract: *This study seeks to address nuanced experiences of newcomer families' Child Language Brokering (CLB) experiences across various contexts and Canadian systems, such as educational, legal services, housing, and healthcare. Employing an arts-based ethnographic methodology, we invited participants of this study to create cultural artifacts using cameras, art supplies, and maps, which then served as prompts during qualitative interviews conducted in both English and French. One family, an Arabic-speaking Yemeni family of five, offered rich cultural and contextual insights into their brokering practices. From their data, several major themes emerged, including cultural and linguistic identity, mental health, resilience, role responsibilities, and personal agency. Through narratives of displacement, perseverance, growth, and evolving family dynamics, both the parents and children shared powerful reflections that will inform multiple disciplines. The findings carry meaningful implications for research, practice, policy, and training, viewed through a holistic lens of art, psychology, linguistics, and healthcare.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124681 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding the Role of Child Language Brokering in a Ukrainian Family's Resettlement Journey

Main Presenting Author: Zak, Michelle
Co-Presenting Author: Kassan , Anusha

Abstract: *Global patterns of forced migration and rapid displacement have reshaped the demographic landscape of Canada, bringing increasing numbers of newcomer families who must navigate complex linguistic, cultural, and institutional environments upon arrival. Within these early stages of resettlement, children frequently assume informal linguistic and cultural mediation responsibilities-commonly known as Child Language Brokering (CLB)-that become essential for family survival and integration. Despite its prevalence in newcomer households, little is known about how this phenomenon is experienced during resettlement in Canada. This study examines CLB within the resettlement experiences of a Ukrainian family of three using a critical social justice lens and an arts-based engagement ethnography methodology. Data were collected through cultural probes (e.g., cameras, art supplies, journals, an iPad) and individual and family semi-structured interviews. Preliminary findings reveal six emerging themes: (1) Language Brokering & Family Support; (2) Resilience & Hope; (3) Language Learning Challenges & Strategies; (4) Cultural Identity & Adaptation; (5) Trauma & Displacement; and (6) Agency & Intergenerational Dynamics. Final results and a comprehensive family-level narrative will be presented. Further, implications for counselling and settlement will be discussed.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124679 - Paper within a symposium

Psychopathy in Youth and its Clinical and Forensic Applications

Moderator(s): Brazil, Kristopher

Abstract: *Psychopathy is a constellation of personality features including callous-unemotionality, manipulativeness, and disinhibition that often co-occur with antisociality. Interest in clinical and forensic applications of psychopathic-like traits in young people has increased as professionals aim to*

understand, manage, and prevent youth's involvement in antisocial and criminal conduct. Because of the potential consequences associated with psychopathy (e.g., chronic antisociality, violence) and its label applied to youth (e.g., pejorative, untreatable), we need to thoroughly examine its assessment and prediction in youth. Three talks critically evaluate youth psychopathy assessments in relation to forensic/clinical outcomes with forensic/clinical samples of youth. The first talk examines change and predictive risk trajectories in psychopathy across two clinical groups of youth: early-onset vs. late-onset conduct problems. The second talk tests whether psychopathy assessed across two distinct cohorts predicts violence in adulthood similarly. The third talk determines whether youth clinically elevated on all features of psychopathy could be identified and whether they differed from other youth on antisocial behaviour. Together, the talks help inform our growing understanding of assessment, (in)variance, malleability, and predictive utility of psychopathy in young people.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125403 - Symposium

Does "when" we are affect "who" we are? Integrating birth cohort research into the study of violence

Main Presenting Author: McCuish, Evan

Additional Authors: Lussier, Patrick ; Shen, Jen-Li; McPherson, Alannah; Tien, Leo

Abstract: *Background: Elder's life-course theory emphasized that changes to social, cultural, and economic conditions can impact differences in individual development. It is possible that these shifting conditions affect the strength of the psychopathy-violence relationship and require adjusting how risk is communicated.Method: We focused on 515 youth from the Incarcerated Serious and Violent Young Offender Study who received a PCL:YV assessment. Violent convictions were measured in adulthood. Participants were born between 1979 and 1998, allowing for a comparison of the psychopathy-violence relationship across birth cohorts who experienced different macro-level conditions. Results: Generalized estimating equation models indicated that PCL:YV scores were associated with violence in adulthood. The strength of this relationship did not vary as a function of birth cohort membership. However, higher PCL:YV scores were associated with a higher probability of violence among contemporary cohorts.Conclusion: The lack of differences across birth cohorts may be evidence that Canada is in a "settled period" (Swidler, 1986) and explain differences from American research. Impact: Integrating life-course research into forensic and correctional psychology research and practice may help to better understand whether social change moderates individual trajectories and affects risk communication.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126095 - Paper within a symposium

Heterogeneity in externalizing outcomes among incarcerated youth assessed on the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version

Main Presenting Author: Brazil, Kristopher

Additional Authors: Sohail, Roshni ; Forth, Adelle

Abstract: *Background: Research on the heterogeneity of youth involved in antisocial conduct show that callous-unemotional (CU) traits help identify more serious and persistent antisocial youth. However, CU traits are part of the broader psychopathy construct that also includes interpersonal*

and behavioural personality features. Studies have yet to use the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL:YV) to examine whether some youths are clinically elevated on all psychopathic features and to compare them to other youth on clinical (conduct disorder [CD] symptoms) and forensic (e.g., convictions) externalizing outcomes.Method: We assessed 106 incarcerated male youth on the PCL:YV, CD symptoms, and forensic relevant variables. DSM-5-based scoring was applied to the three PCL:YV personality facets for group membership.Results: Youth elevated on all three psychopathic traits (affective, interpersonal, and behavioural) differed significantly on most outcomes vs. youth not elevated on any psychopathic traits and they differed significantly on some forensic variables vs. youth elevated on CU only.Impact: The findings extend our knowledge of how the full construct of psychopathy may further refine our understanding of the heterogeneity in externalizing behavior. Youth clinically elevated on all psychopathic features may be high risk and high needs.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126100 - Paper within a symposium

Psychopathic traits in youth with and without early-onset conduct problems: Comparing their long-term continuity and predictive validity

Main Presenting Author: Bégin, Vincent

Additional Authors: Daigle, Félicia ; Lapalme, Mélanie; Le Corff, Yann; Déry, Michèle

Abstract: *Background: Longitudinal research conducted on psychopathic traits in youth shows that (1) these traits are only moderately stable, suggesting sensitivity to environmental influences and potentially to interventions, and (2) they are associated with a heightened risk of developing severe conduct problems, and can therefore serve as early indicators of chronic antisocial pathways. Yet it remains unclear whether these traits show comparable long-term continuity and predictive validity among children with early-onset conduct problems, whose traits may be less malleable and who are already at elevated risk. Method: This study addresses this gap within a sample of 744 participants (half with early-onset conduct problems; 46.6% girls) assessed on psychopathic traits and conduct problems at age 8, 13, and 21 years on average. Results: Multi-group invariance tests conducted on the continuity (i.e., autoregressive) and predictive validity (i.e., cross-regressive) parameters of a path model supported the invariance of their estimates across early-onset and non-early-onset groups. Impact: By indicating that psychopathic traits show similar malleability and provide comparable risk estimates in both populations, these findings suggest that these traits may represent strategic targets for both preventive and rehabilitative efforts in youth at risk for chronic antisocial outcomes.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126087 - Paper within a symposium

Québec in changing times: How self-determination theory can inform topical discussions among linguistically and ethnically minoritized groups

Moderator(s): Avery, James R

Abstract: *Background. Québec is a hub for cultural and linguistic diversity. This context provides a unique opportunity to explore timely societal discussions that are also relevant globally. Specifically, our speakers will apply self-determination theory, a theory of human motivation, to explore the following topics: vaccine hesitancy, political engagement, and language acquisition. Our overarching goal is to inform discourses surrounding these topics by examining personal and contextual predictors*

of value-driven behaviour. Specific attention will be paid to the mental health outcomes of motivated behaviour.Method. Our data were collected via survey-based longitudinal studies conducted between 2021 and 2025 with French- and English-speaking adults living in Québec. Our samples were diverse (50% BIPOC). Results. Analyses included hierarchical linear regressions and multivariate analyses using moderators and mediators. All analyses examined whether demographic variables (e.g., language, ethnicity) moderated our results.Impact. Our research highlights how motivational concepts shape how individuals respond to emerging societal issues and how that impacts their well-being. We will discuss how we have partnered with community organizations to support knowledge translation and exchange. We strive to leverage our research to help people from diverse backgrounds adapt to changing times.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125707 - Symposium

Contextual and motivational antecedents of successful second language learning.

Main Presenting Author: Avery, James R

Abstract: *Background. Québec is a hub for cultural and linguistic diversity. This context provides a unique opportunity to explore timely societal discussions that are also relevant globally. Specifically, our speakers will apply self-determination theory, a theory of human motivation, to explore the following topics: vaccine hesitancy, political engagement, and language acquisition. Our overarching goal is to inform discourses surrounding these topics by examining personal and contextual predictors of value-driven behaviour. Specific attention will be paid to the mental health outcomes of motivated behaviour.Method. Our data were collected via survey-based longitudinal studies conducted between 2021 and 2025 with French- and English-speaking adults living in Québec. Our samples were diverse (50% BIPOC). Results. Analyses included hierarchical linear regressions and multivariate analyses using moderators and mediators. All analyses examined whether demographic variables (e.g., language, ethnicity) moderated our results.Impact. Our research highlights how motivational concepts shape how individuals respond to emerging societal issues and how that impacts their well-being. We will discuss how we have partnered with community organizations to support knowledge translation and exchange. We strive to leverage our research to help people from diverse backgrounds adapt to changing times.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126183 - Paper within a symposium

Expanding Engagement: Collective Autonomy Restriction and Political engagement in Quebec

Main Presenting Author: Davids, John

Abstract: *Background. This study incorporates an intersectional framework that includes language and gender to test how collective autonomy restriction, defined as feeling as though your group is restricted by your society's majoritized group, relates to political engagement, civic engagement, and well-being. Such research is crucial to understanding diverse groups' motivation for political and civic engagement. Method. This study consisted of surveys administered in Quebec across several time points in 2024. We employed various self-report measures assessing demographic variables, collective autonomy restriction, political/civic engagement, and well-being. Results. Collective autonomy restriction was positively associated with civic and political engagement. ANOVA tests revealed that ethnicity and language influence political and civic engagement, with interaction effects emerging across several outcome variables. Overall, our results highlighted that ethnically minoritized groups*

were less politically active but more civically active. Between-group differences and potential explanations will be explored in depth.Impact: These results supplement research on voter turnout and political participation of non-White Canadians. These findings could be used to help increase political and civic engagement among minoritized groups by focusing on fostering adaptive forms of motivation.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126191 - Paper within a symposium

Racial differences in COVID-19 vaccination uptake: Evidence that less autonomous motivation was particularly associated with lower uptake among Black adults.

Main Presenting Author: Koestner, Richard
Co-Presenting Author: Fang, Xiaoyan

Abstract: *Background. Previous research has shown lower vaccination rates among Black communities relative to other minoritized groups. The present study examined autonomous motivation, acting in line with values, and controlled motivation, feeling compelled to act a certain way, to explore motivational predictors of vaccination.Method. We used two large survey studies conducted in the US and Canada during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic. Study 1 was cross-sectional and included a representative sample of 623 Black and White Americans. Study 2 was a longitudinal study of 413 Black, White and Asian Canadians. Both studies used validated self-report measures.Results. Both studies found significantly lower rates of vaccination among Black adults (66% vs 81% fully vaccinated). The results of the longitudinal study suggest that Black adults were more likely than others to report higher controlled motivation and lower autonomous motivation for vaccination. Distrust-based amotivation, reluctance to get vaccinated due to a lack of trust, undermined vaccination uptake for all groups. Impact. Our findings suggest that public health campaigns should emphasize autonomous over controlled reasons for vaccination (e.g., highlighting the importance of vaccination for personal, family, and community health) while also countering beliefs that reinforce distrust of public health campaigns*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126188 - Paper within a symposium

Risk factors for Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) use, contact offending, and recidivism: Evidence from darknet and justice-involved samples

Moderator(s): Samithamby, Abiraam

Abstract: *Understanding the full spectrum of child sexual abuse (CSA)-related offending requires examining online behaviours, contact offending, and long-term outcomes. This symposium integrates research across these domains. The first talk by Samithamby et al. compares self-reported sexually harmful behaviours and risk factors for contact offending between individuals who use fictional-only child sexual exploitation material (CSEM; e.g., animated content; n = 1,196) and those who use both 'real' and fictional CSEM (n = 1,807), based on an online survey of darknet forum users. Using an overlapping dataset of dark web users, Arellano et al. examines factors that distinguish pedophilic males who reported contact offences (n = 73) from those who did not (n = 1,588). Finally, MacDonald et al. assesses sexual recidivism over a 15-year follow-up and evaluates the predictive validity of both the ACUTE-2007 and the STABLE-2007 for men with contact sexual offences against children (n = 1,042), CSEM-exclusive offences (n = 229), and mixed CSEM and contact sexual offences (n = 80).*

Together, these talks provide an integrated view of CSA-related offending, highlighting key risk factors and behavioural patterns, with implications for prevention, risk assessment, and intervention efforts.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125075 - Symposium

Comparing fictional and 'real' Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) users: Who is at higher risk for contact offending?

Main Presenting Author: Samithamby, Abiraam

Additional Authors: MacDonald, Annika J.; Arellano, Faye; Babchishin, M. Kelly

Abstract: *Research on child sexual exploitation material (CSEM) has conventionally focused on depictions of actual children (termed 'real' CSEM); however, the rise of fictional CSEM (e.g., animated content) raises important questions about which CSEM users are at a higher risk for contact sexual offending. Using an anonymous dataset from a darknet child-lover forum (N = 3,015), we compared individuals who viewed only fictional CSEM (n = 1,196) to those who viewed both fictional and 'real' CSEM (termed mixed CSEM; n = 1,807); only 0.4% (n = 12) exclusively viewed 'real' CSEM. Mixed CSEM users were more likely to report offline sexual contact with a child (7.8% vs. 0.5%; d = .34 [.27, .42]) and indicated a higher likelihood of contact offending (38.5% vs. 9.1%; d = .88 [.80, .95]). Mixed CSEM users also showed higher adjusted odds across several risk factors for contact offending, including pedophilic interests (aOR = 1.65 [1.49, 1.82]), offence-supportive attitudes (aOR = 2.89 [2.43, 3.44]), sexual preoccupation (aOR = 1.33 [1.13, 1.57]), and negative social influences (aOR = 2.05 [1.83, 2.28]). These findings suggest that individuals who view both 'real' and fictional CSEM differ from those who view only fictional CSEM on key risk factors and may represent a higher-risk subgroup for contact sexual offending, highlighting the need for targeted prevention and intervention strategies.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125082 - Paper within a symposium

Risk factors for contact child sexual abuse in individuals with pedophilic interests: An analysis of a darknet sample

Main Presenting Author: Arellano, Faye

Additional Authors: Samithamby, Abiraam ; MacDonald, Annika J.; Babchishin, M. Kelly

Abstract: *Pedophilia is known to be a strong risk factor for contact child sexual abuse (CSA). However, some individuals with pedophilia never commit contact offences. To better understand characteristics associated with these differences, this study examined risk factors linked to contact offending within a sample of individuals with pedophilia. A total of 1,661 self-reported pedophilic males, including those who committed contact offences (n = 73) and those who did not (n = 1,588), were recruited through an anonymous online survey on a darknet forum dedicated to child sexual exploitation material. Overall, 4.4% of the sample reported contact offences. These individuals tended to score higher than non-contact offending individuals across several risk factors. On average, those who reported contact CSA scored higher on antisociality compared to non-offending individuals (30% higher; d = .61 [.37 .84]), with similar patterns observed for substance abuse (23% higher; d = .33*

[.10 .57]), and for having access to children outside the family (18% higher; d = .30 [.06 .53]). Targeting antisocial traits and contextual factors such as substance use and access to children outside the family may be key to strengthening prevention efforts for contact CSA among individuals with pedophilic interests.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125085 - Paper within a symposium

Using the ACUTE-2007 and STABLE-2007 to predict recidivism in men with Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) offences: A 15-year follow-up

Main Presenting Author: MacDonald, Annika J.

Additional Authors: Arellano, Faye ; Samithamby, Abiraam; Babchishin, M. Kelly

Abstract: *Child sexual exploitation material (CSEM) offences are increasing, yet few tools have been validated to assess long-term recidivism among men who commit these offences. This study examined the predictive validity of the ACUTE-2007 and the STABLE-2007 over a 15-year follow up using data from men in British Columbia. Three groups were compared: men with contact sexual offences against children (n = 1,042), CSEM-exclusive offences (n = 229), and mixed CSEM and contact sexual offences (n = 80). After an average follow-up of 13.41 (SD = 1.48), 14.81 (SD = 2.37), and 14.80 (SD = 2.64) years respectively, 15.5% of men with contact sexual offences, 8.74% with CSEM-exclusive offences, and 22.2% with mixed offences committed another sexual offence. The ACUTE-2007 showed similar predictive validity for men with mixed CSEM offences (C = 0.62, p = .108, not significant), CSEM-exclusive offences (C = 0.62, p = .034), and contact sexual offences (C = 0.57, p = .049). The STABLE-2007 had similar predictive validity for men with mixed CSEM offences (C = 0.67, p = .048), CSEM-exclusive offences (C = 0.67, p = .007), and contact sexual offences (C = 0.63, p < .001). Calibration analyses for the STABLE-2007 are also reported. These findings support the use of the ACUTE-2007 and STABLE-2007 for CSEM offending individuals, thereby informing assessment and management practices.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125089 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: UNDERSTANDING AND IMPROVING THE WORKPLACE

Understanding what contributes to a successful workplace; what impact the workplace has on our lives and well-being

12-Minute Talk

Bridging Systems and Communities: A Phenomenological Exploration of the Mediating Role of Cultural Brokers in Immigrant Settlement in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Shoghaliniri, Ghazale
Co-Presenting Author: Torres, Sara

Additional Author: Ogoe, Sally

Abstract: *Background: Cultural brokers (CB) facilitate immigrant integration, yet their professional realities remain under-researched. This study aims to raise awareness of CBs role through evidence-based knowledge and advocate for policies to strengthen their impact. Method: This phenomenological study analyzed 17 interviews using inductive thematic analysis and two-cycle coding. Inductive codes derived from narratives were integrated with deductive patterns to cluster emerging themes.Result: Findings reveal CBs perform extensive "extra-role behaviours," bridging gaps in healthcare, legal, and housing systems. Analysis highlights the "emotional labor" and "role overload" CBs endure, often filling service voids due to funding limitations. While leveraging lived experience and cultural safety strategies to build trust, CBs face challenges including institutional invisibility and discrimination. Conclusion: CBs are essential mediators who navigate systemic inequities for immigrants. However, their capacity is threatened by institutional invisibility, burnout, and precarious employment. Implications: The study calls for the need for recognition of the role that CBs play in building trust, inclusion, and promote positive outcomes not only for individuals but for entire communities. It also highlights the need for cross-sector partnerships to ensure culturally responsive care.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125629 - 12-Minute Talk

Comment les demandes au travail sont-elles perçues? Les différents profils de travailleurs

Main Presenting Author: Paquette, Virginie

Additional Authors: Trépanier, Sarah-Geneviève ; Morin, Alexandre J.S.

Abstract: *La recherche montre que certaines demandes au travail (demandes émotionnelles, pression temporelle et charge de travail) sont perçues de manière ambiguë par les travailleurs. Cette étude centrée sur la personne vise à mieux comprendre la perception de ces demandes selon la combinaison de trois dimensions : la fréquence de la demande, son évaluation comme un défi et une contrainte. Elle vise également à examiner un prédicteur (capital psychologique) et des conséquences (performance, engagement, épuisement professionnel et conflit travail-vie personnelle) de ces*

combinaisons. Réalisée auprès de 490 travailleurs contactés à deux reprises (4 mois d'intervalle), cette étude a identifié cinq profils : (1) Défi Élevé, (2) Contrainte Élevée, (3) Globalement Élevé, (4) Faible Demande et (5) Contrainte Modérée pour les demandes émotionnelles et la pression temporelle, et Défi Modéré pour la charge de travail. Un capital psychologique élevé prédit une appartenance aux profils Défi Élevé et Défi Modéré. Le profil Défi Élevé est associé aux conséquences les plus adaptées (ex. engagement), tandis que les profils Globalement Élevé et Contrainte Élevée sont associés à celles les plus mésadaptées (ex. épuisement). Ces résultats révèlent qu'une même demande n'est pas perçue de la même manière par tous et que ces différentes perceptions ont des conséquences distinctes sur la santé des employés.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125162 - 12-Minute Talk

Communicating Before and After a Workplace Fatality: Longitudinal Patterns in Internal Newsletter Content and Safety Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Turner, Nick

Additional Authors: Pan, Chelsea ; Alexander, Sean; Obi, Anthony

Abstract: *Internal communications shape how employees interpret management priorities, yet they are rarely examined longitudinally in workplace safety research. We analyzed 198 weekly newsletters from a Scottish petrochemical refinery (1999-2003) that experienced a single on-site fatality on November 21, 2001. Using large-language-model classification calibrated with human raters, we coded over 49,000 sentences for alignment with high-performance work systems (HPWS), occupational health and safety management systems (OHSMS), and manufacturing systems, as well as tone, salience, and narrative style. These weekly communication features were linked to contemporaneous non-fatal injury counts. Preliminary analyses show clear pre-post changes: all injury types declined after the fatality, while newsletter emphasis on HPWS and OHSMS increased and manufacturing-related content decreased. These results indicate a reactive intensification of management communication following a serious incident. The findings show that routine internal communications can function as dynamic indicators of shifting managerial emphasis and demonstrate the feasibility of machine-assisted analysis for tracing these patterns. This approach offers a scalable way to monitor how safety-related messaging evolves after critical events and may support more proactive safety management.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126129 - 12-Minute Talk

De-Psychologizing the Defense of Academic Freedom

Main Presenting Author: Arfken, Michael

Abstract: *In our contemporary political landscape, academic freedom occupies a particularly precarious position within the increasingly contested post-secondary educational terrain. For some, academic freedom serves as an important mechanisms for resisting institutional censorship and the decent into authoritarianism. For others, it secures the privileges of the liberal elite and facilitates the transmission of woke ideology.In this presentation, I would like to discuss some of the epistemological and psychological assumptions underlying these competing positions. In doing so, I hope to explore ways of transcending these differences in the struggle for workplace democracy.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124723 - 12-Minute Talk

Determinants of Climate Adaptation Behaviours Among Fishermen in Gaspé and the Magdalen Islands: A Qualitative Analyse Using the COM-B Model

Main Presenting Author: Gosselin Boucher, Vincent

Additional Author: Goupil-Sormany, Isabelle

Abstract: *Background. Coastal fishing communities in the Gulf of St. Lawrence face rapid climate-driven ecological shifts affecting both economic stability and well-being.Objective. To explore how fisher workers and their families perceive climate impacts on health and identify determinants of adaptive behaviours using the COM-B model.Methods. Nine focus groups were held between March 2023-2024. Transcripts were thematically analysed and mapped onto the COM-B model.Results. Nine focus groups were analyzed (41 participants: 25 fishers, 3 deckhands, 13 family members; ages 26-74). Participants described climate change as both an environmental and a social challenge, with strong links to identity, community, and intergenerational continuity. Key themes included uncertainty about future fisheries, heightened stress and worry, and the need for adaptive strategies at both individual (e.g., resilience-oriented workplace training, rewarding sustainable practices) and collective levels (e.g., safer docking facilities, rest areas). Conclusion/Impact. Findings point to potential community-level interventions (e.g., men's sheds project, wharf social worker) that could build capability through clearer ecological and mental health resources, expand opportunities via supportive policies and infrastructure, and strengthen motivation by addressing emotional burden and cultural identity.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124310 - 12-Minute Talk

Exploring LTC Staff Experiences with a Self-Directed E-Learning Workshop Targeting Stress During COVID-19

Main Presenting Author: Ledochowski, Jake Q.

Additional Author: Reynolds, Kristin

Abstract: *In Canada, long-term care (LTC) staff have long reported high levels of work-related stress. There is a lack of resources designed to meet the unique emotional needs of LTC staff. Our group developed a self-directed e-learning workshop (Mental PPE), created to offer an approach to alleviate some of the barriers to accessing traditional mental health services among LTC staff. The objectives of this study were to further our understanding of the stress experienced by LTC staff, staff's engagement with Mental PPE, and evaluate the workshop's effectiveness. LTC staff working in Manitoba completed online pre-and post-workshop quantitative surveys and in-depth semi-structured qualitative interviews about their perspectives on the workshop. T-tests examined pre-post differences in level of knowledge of relevant areas and mental health summary scales. Conventional content analysis was employed to analyze interview data. Quantitative findings highlighted significant increases in knowledge of emotional skills, self-care, self-compassion, burnout, and resources from pre-post workshop; significant reduction in burnout; and significant improvement in self-compassion following workshop completion. Qualitatively, we categorized data into four main themes. This study provides*

an encouraging preliminary step toward the development of an self-directed e-learning intervention to be used by staff.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126068 - 12-Minute Talk

Factors contributing to the decision to stay in the Canadian Armed Forces following the first early career phase

Main Presenting Author: Gareau, Alexandre

Additional Author: Laplante, Joëlle

Abstract: *The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) are facing persistent retention issues in the early career phases of new CAF members. One out of five CAF members leave the CAF within the first five years of their service (YOS; Gareau et al., 2025). To address this issue, Project Horizon collects longitudinal survey data from CAF members through their formative years, with the last survey administered at 6 YOS. An open-ended question regarding the underlying factors contributing to the decision to stay was analyzed using a thematic analysis. Overall, CAF members stay for multiple reasons. Economic incentives (i.e., pay, benefits, pension and housing) and economic stability (i.e., job security, financial stability, limited opportunities outside the CAF) were mentioned by more than half of the CAF members. In addition, CAF members stay for career development (43%), job satisfaction (37%) and a sense of duty (26%). A mixed-method approach was also used to examine the invariance of code/theme prevalence. An additive logistic regression revealed that all factors were invariant across military environments, genders, and age. The CAF early career experience thus seems to support the motivation of its members in the pursuit of their careers. The results will be discussed from a motivational standpoint to uncover potential future retention implications.*

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 123505 - 12-Minute Talk

Feedback Without Fear: Does Emotional Intelligence Shape the Link Between Work Setting and Feedback Comfort?

Main Presenting Author: Victor, Janine

Additional Author: Lin, Iris

Abstract: *Prevailing theories link feedback comfort to contextual factors such as work setting. This study tested whether setting (Remote, Hybrid, In-Person) predicts comfort in giving and receiving feedback and whether emotional intelligence (EI) moderates these effects. Using a large sample (n = 5,000) and EQ-i 2.0 scores, moderation analyses showed that setting did not significantly influence comfort with receiving feedback ($p > .05$) but did impact giving feedback: Remote workers reported the most comfort, followed by Hybrid, with In-Person lowest (Remote vs. In-Person estimate = -0.81, $p = .005$). EI not only predicted feedback comfort (TOT slope ≈ 0.03, $p < .001$) but also moderated the impact of work setting, reducing context effects at higher EI levels. For low EI scorers, remote work facilitated giving feedback; for moderate scorers, differences disappeared; for high scorers, context effects vanished entirely. Across all groups, higher EI predicted greater feedback comfort. Findings*

challenge context-driven models and position EI development as a more powerful lever for optimizing feedback processes. Organizations should prioritize EI to strengthen feedback culture.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125185 - 12-Minute Talk

Interpersonal Similarity and Implicit Status Biases in Visually Diverse Work Environments: Reducing Intergroup Competition Through an Imagined Contact Paradigm

Main Presenting Author: Panhwar, Muntaha

Additional Author: Danyluck, Chad

Abstract: *Cross-group collegial friendships foster organizational harmony and cooperation. Status and competition, however, can either be attenuated or exacerbated by perceptions of similarity. Interpersonal similarity fosters trust and reduces competition. Conversely, group-level similarity can reduce competition-when based on non-status-relevant dimensions, or heighten competition-when it blurs important status differences. Using an imagined interaction paradigm, perceptions of interpersonal and intergroup similarity, and dissimilarity, were manipulated at different levels of identity to test their interactive effects on intentions to collaborate through two pathways: friendship interest and perceived status/competition. Data analyses, which are currently underway, use a regression-based path analysis in which orthogonally coded similarity contrasts predict the two pathways, which, in turn, predict collaboration intentions. This approach allows us to estimate parallel indirect associations linking the similarity manipulations to collaboration intentions while comparing each of the five conditions through planned contrasts and exploratory pairwise comparisons. By fostering perceptions of shared identity, reducing perceived status hierarchies, and exploring cross-group friendships, this research aims to improve collaboration and productivity in visually diverse work environments.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123120 - 12-Minute Talk

Organizational knowledge of the Canadian Armed Forces as a Determinant of Well-Being: The Psychometric Development of the OK-CAF Scale

Main Presenting Author: Van Veen, William Francis Scott

Additional Authors: Laham, Nicolas ; Girrior, Leslie; Raine, Charles; Lauzon, Andre André; Maggi, Stefania

Abstract: *As the Canadian military struggles to meet federally mandated employment levels, a new method of identifying potential candidates of the Canadian Armed Forces could be of use. One of the greatest predictors of military engagement is a candidate knowing someone in the military. Additionally, Person-Organization fit is a known predictor of enrollment and individual well-being throughout employment. Combining these factors, perceived exposure to military based knowledge is posited as an indicator of military employment engagement and a potential buffer to the well-being of new recruits. To assess this construct, a 14-item psychometric scale was devised with analyses conducted on 232 Canadian university students. The organizational knowledge of the Canadian*

Armed Forces (OK-CAF) scale reports excellent psychometrics and holds high potential value towards assessing the likelihood of an individual engaging with the CAF and as a determinant of well-being through person-organization fit. Moreover, given the robustness of this measure, adaptation to other militaries and institutions is a clear area for future application.

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124295 - 12-Minute Talk

Teachers of Tomorrow: An overview of a cohort model for assessing impacts of teacher preparation training on wellness on school wellbeing

Main Presenting Author: Therrien, Julia K

Additional Authors: Barbeau, Kheana ; Hodgson, Erin; Binte, Yussra; Gabel, Leigh; Russell-Mayhew, Shelly

Abstract: *Teachers graduate from Bachelor of Education (BEd) programs unprepared to respond to their own and their students' complex wellness needs, reducing their ability to fulfill their dual role as facilitators of learning and student wellbeing. There is also a paucity of research demonstrating the interconnection between teacher and student wellbeing, underscoring the importance of attending to teacher wellbeing to increase student wellness in Kindergarten-Grade12 (K-12) contexts. The Teacher's of Tomorrow (ToT) initiative mobilizes BEd programs as an upstream approach for systemic change in wellbeing culture in the K-12 context. ToT helps facilitate a process of organizational change by embedding a culture of wellbeing and preparation training in wellness in BEd programs to better prepare future teachers to attend to their own and their students' wellness. Research methodology and preliminary results from 6 BEd program pilot sites and two public school districts (2 classrooms; 60 participants) in Canada will be discussed in the context of assessing impacts of teacher preparation training on school wellbeing. Metrics of wellbeing include survey and accelerometer data (physical activity and sleep). Lessons learned in working with educational systems, and success of facilitated processes in BEd programs, are discussed.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 125799 - 12-Minute Talk

The Politics of Diversity Policy Fairness

Main Presenting Author: Carroll, Taylor A

Additional Author: Bobocel, Ramona

Abstract: *The fairness of diversity policies has long been debated in the academic literature and in the popular press. People who are non-targets of these policies (e.g., White men) tend to express more opposition. Scholars have recently begun studying how non-targets assess the fairness of diversity policies, and research has identified predictors of more favourable reactions (e.g., high-level thinking, perceiving diversity benefits) that have yet to be tested in a non-target sample. In an increasingly divided political climate, it is also informative to understand how non-targets' political affiliation affects their fairness perceptions. We conducted a 2-group vignette study on a sample of White men in the United States, recruited from Prolific. Participants read a diversity hiring policy that gave preference to women and people of colour, and they were grouped by political affiliation (Democrat/Republican). White men varied in their fairness perceptions and justified them citing six*

main themes (e.g., merit, equal opportunity). Political affiliation was not a significant predictor of fairness perceptions, and Democrats and Republicans justified their responses similarly. Political affiliation interacted with existing predictors (high-level thinking and perceiving diversity benefits), such that their effects on fairness perceptions differed by political affiliation. Six months later, we replicated the study on the same sample to examine stability over time. Within participants, fairness perceptions and cited justifications did not significantly change over time. The implications of this research and future directions will be discussed at the conference.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123527 - 12-Minute Talk

Women in Extreme Environments: Challenges, resilience, and representation

Main Presenting Author: Brcic, Jelena

Additional Authors: Arthur, Nana Adjoa; Jacob, Nichaela; Shurgold, Lillian ; Singh , Nimisha

Abstract: *Women remain underrepresented in extreme and unusual environments (EUEs), not due to a lack of skill or education, but because of historical, societal, and cultural factors. This study investigates the psychological and social demands on individuals who live and work in EUEs, with a focus on women's experiences. Despite growing representation in EUEs over the past four decades (Rubin, 2004), women in EUEs continue to work in predominantly male environments. The ratio of women to men on Antarctic expedition teams is approximately 1:8 (Sarris Kirby, 2005), and women comprise only 20% of NASA astronauts (John, 2004). This gender disparity is further pronounced in fields such as Marine Search and Rescue (International Maritime Rescue Federation, 2021) and National Defense (McCristall Baggaley, 2019). This project is multi-method and multi-environment. We examine archival data from first-person narratives of 25 women astronauts and 23 women Antarctic explorers and researchers. Additionally, questionnaire data from 9 Arctic weather station staff and 245 land and marine Canadian Search and Rescue members provide insights into the coping strategies and motivations of women in these environments. Findings will contribute to a deeper understanding of psychological resilience, motives, and strategies to foster gender equity in EUEs. By analyzing data across four distinct extreme environments - space, two polar regions, and search and rescue- this study provides valuable insights that can inform future recruitment, selection, training, and retention of women in EUEs.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125201 - 12-Minute Talk

Workplace beliefs reconsidered: A qualitative approach to uncover and understand organizational belief deconstruction

Main Presenting Author: Herrewynen, Megan R. V.

Additional Author: Hillebrandt, Annika

Abstract: *For decades, scholars have been interested in understanding how individuals change their beliefs. It is well understood that employees hold beliefs about their organizations; research has focused on how beliefs are formed, maintained, and updated. However, we do not know what happens when beliefs begin to unravel. To address this question, we introduce organizational belief deconstruction - a process involving the dismantling and re-evaluation of concepts and systems of*

meaning. While belief deconstruction has been explored in philosophical, political, and religious contexts, it is unclear whether, why, or how employees deconstruct their beliefs about their organization. Using a constructivist grounded theory approach, we explore this phenomenon through semi-structured interviews with 24 Canadian employees from a variety of industries. Results indicate that belief deconstruction does occur and is oftentimes triggered by a perceived moral failure. This process is associated with shifts in cognition (e.g., (un)making of meaning, leading to open-mindedness and willingness to embrace alternative modes of thinking), which is emotionally uncomfortable and taxing. Theoretically, we contribute to the belief change and meaning-making literatures by introducing a novel phenomenon. Practically, we outline ways organizations may support employees who are navigating this unsettling process.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122550 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Shining Scholarly Spotlights on Personality-Feedback Interventions

Main Presenting Author: Jelley, R. Blake

Abstract: *Personality-feedback interventions (PFIs) - in which participants complete non-clinical personality assessments and receive developmental feedback - are common in education, training, and coaching. Despite their popularity, PFIs have received limited scholarly scrutiny. Existing studies in development contexts are dominated by the controversial Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. Psychometric critiques are unlikely to unseat popular inventories and provide no assurance that psychometrically superior tools have better developmental effects. Barriers to PFI scholarship include limited data access, logistical challenges involved with intervention research, and a lack of recognition that diverse theoretical perspectives can inform, and benefit from, research on this widespread practice. This conversation session will introduce PFIs as a common but underexamined practice and invite participants to discuss promising frameworks and theories to guide future research and practice. Potentially fruitful lenses include the personality applications matrix model, self-awareness scholarship, feedback intervention theory, social comparison theory, trait activation theory, intentional personality change, cybernetic trait complexes theory, and self-determination theory.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122652 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

Evidence vs. Excuses: Why Workplace Mistreatment Thrives-and How We Stop It

Moderator(s): Day, Arla

Panelists: Holmvall, Camilla; Kabat-Farr, Dana; Lyubykh, Zhanna; Carver, Sarah

Abstract: *Workplace mistreatment comes in different shapes and forms, ranging from low intensity to more overt behaviours. Even low-intensity mistreatment (e.g., incivility) negatively affects worker wellbeing (Cortina et al., 2017) and can escalate into more severe mistreatment such as bullying (Andersson & Pearson, 1999). Although all Canadian provinces have some sort of anti-bullying regulations, leaders and organizations often struggle with effectively addressing mistreatment,*

especially given the confusion over its measurement (cf, Carver, 2023) and lack of information as to what may create and perpetuate mistreatment. Moreover, leaders themselves may be the target of the mistreatment (Stronach & Holmvall, 2025). Our panel of experts, who have varying perspectives in terms of the source and causes of the mistreatment will share their recent research in this area providing connections with other panelists' work. We will shed light on mistreatment's detrimental effects on psychological safety and healthy workplaces and discuss causes for its existence and continued perpetuation in organizations. We will look at the different stakeholders, such as leaders, perpetrators, and observers (Lyubykh et al., 2025). Finally, we will talk about promising evidence-based interventions and practices, as well as ones that may fall short, when dealing with workplace mistreatment.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123049 - Panel Discussion

Paths to Success in the Canadian Job Market for I/O and OB Graduates

Moderator(s): Lam, Janice Y

Panelists: Grenier, Simon; Suurd Ralph, Cindy; Johnson, Laura; Daljeet, Kabir

Abstract: *As they enter the job market, graduate students in industrial-organizational (I/O) psychology, as well as organizational behaviour (OB), may consider what career path to pursue. Yet the various possibilities for working as an academic, practitioner, or hybrid academic/practitioner can be unknown, with some paths less clear or more non-linear than others. Hence, the purpose of this panel symposium is to provide insight from I/O psychology and OB graduates on their roles working in academia, assessment and selection, and the military, along with their journeys into these roles. This panel will be an interactive session for graduate students and faculty to learn about different career directions in the Canadian job market. Specifically, panelists will discuss career paths that use their graduate degree in I/O psychology or OB. We anticipate a lively conversation about career possibilities for students to consider, with ample time for audience Q&A. Audience members will leave this panel symposium with new ideas and understanding of a range of academic and applied paths available to those with I/O or OB graduate degrees.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124946 - Panel Discussion

Shifting from Sink or Swim to Strategic Structure: How Leaders are Fostering Ethical AI Usage

Moderator(s): Taylor, Aisha S

Panelists: Cassidy, Scott A.; Vrotny, Vinnie; Clarke-Binns, Jai

Abstract: *The rapid proliferation of AI creates "adopt or die" pressure for many organizations. IO Psychology offers critical guidance for leaders navigating the shift from a "sink or swim" mentality toward responsible, ethical AI use. Building on insights from AI-focused panels at EAWOP and CPA 2025, this session answers the question previous discussions left open: What specific actions foster ethical AI usage at work? Panelists from PreK-12, higher education, and the technology sector across Canada, the US and the UK will detail how their organizations are addressing this challenge. The discussion will explore setting foundational values, defining behavioral principles, and clarifying*

acceptable usage. Panelists will share successes, hard-learned lessons, and future considerations, while connecting the dots to academia by suggesting areas of research to support leaders in this rapidly changing environment. Throughout the discussion, panelists will identify "inflection points" from their experiences where IO psychologists can add immediate value, such as by creating simple frameworks that give structure to recommendations for responsible AI usage. By bridging academic research and practitioner reality, this session aims to answer: How can IO Psychology support the adoption of ethical AI fluency and usage, and what are organizations currently doing to achieve this?

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125486 - Panel Discussion

The Role of Occupational Health Psychology in Supporting Worker Mental Health during Turbulent Times

Moderator(s): Dawson, Anna May

Panelists: Grocutt, Alyssa ; Gulseren, Duygu; Granger, Steve ; Cloutier, Anika ; Byrne, Alyson

Abstract: *What role can occupational health psychology (OHP) play in helping organizations respond to the growing mental health challenges during tough economic and sociopolitical times? Amid economic pressures and evolving sociopolitical conditions, Canadian workers face increased challenges and stressors that have considerable implications for performance and wellbeing. This panel will explore the contribution of OHP in supporting workers' mental health, with a focus on when and how to provide this support during challenging economic and sociopolitical times. Sociopolitical and economic stressors continue to impact employee mental health outcomes, and mental health challenges not only negatively impact employees themselves but also have consequences for organizations. These consequences are evident in the costs of reduced productivity, and increased turnover and absenteeism. Yet organizational policies, structures, and practices can serve as resources in supporting employee wellbeing. This session aims to explore the extent to which organizational interventions guided by OHP are appropriate in addressing these mental health concerns in the context of difficult economic and sociopolitical times. Discussion topics will include leadership, occupational health interventions, what makes a workplace health, social and organizational support. With this panel of OHP experts, this discuss*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125860 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

"I'm a Little Nervous": The Impact of Anxiety Disclosure on Interview Performance

Main Presenting Author: Lazanik, Shayla

Additional Authors: Del Monaco, Mariangela ; Powell, Deborah ; Mastrella, Simonne

Abstract: *In job interviews, applicants who display high behavioural anxiety (e.g., fidgeting) receive lower interview performance ratings compared to applicants who display low behavioural anxiety,*

even when the response content is the same. However, interview anxiety is unrelated to future job performance, which suggests that people who appear anxious in job interviews are penalized. The purpose of this study is to determine whether disclosing the source of behavioural anxiety at the start of an interview reduces the penalty for applicants with interview anxiety and Social Anxiety Disorder (SAD), relative to not disclosing the source of the anxious behaviour. We are conducting an experiment where Prolific participants watch one of four interviews, where the applicant displays either a) low anxiety, b) high anxiety (no disclosure), c) high anxiety (interview anxiety disclosure), or d) high anxiety (SAD disclosure). Participants then rate the applicant's interview performance. A pilot study supports that high anxiety and low anxiety interview videos are significantly different in the level of observed anxiety, and high anxiety applicants received significantly lower interview performance ratings than low anxiety applicants. Comparisons of interview performance ratings across conditions (with t-tests) can shed light on whether and how to best disclose anxiety in job interviews.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123843 - Printed Poster

A Cross-Cultural Exploration of Leader Integrity: Unveiling Nuanced Dimensions

Main Presenting Author: Azizi, Narjes

Additional Authors: Talaei, Amirreza ; Kwantes, Catherine

Abstract: *Rationale: Despite its recognized importance, leader integrity lacks a unified definition. It has been described as word-action consistency, being true to oneself, consistency in adversity, general ethicality, or a personality trait This conceptual ambiguity underscores the need for a more nuanced understanding, particularly in global settings where cultural norms may influence its perception. Methods: Participants were 170 students from seven countries namely, Canada, China, India, Iran, Bangladesh, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Participants were asked to define "leader integrity" in their own words. Directed content analysis was used to analyze the responses. Results: Alongside the predetermined themes (word-action consistency, being true to oneself, etc.) participants described attributes extending beyond this initial framework. These emergent aspects were synthesized into three distinct themes: the Relational, pertaining to support and care; the Motivational, concerning the ability to inspire others; and the Cognitive, relating to wisdom and sound judgment.Conclusions and Impact: The concept of leader integrity transcends the factors most commonly cited in the extant literature. This is particularly pronounced in cross-cultural analysis, revealing that cultural context fundamentally shapes the perception and prioritization of integrity attributes, challenging universalist approaches to leadership development.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124739 - Printed Poster

A Current Understanding of Moral Injury and the Mental Health Needs of Long-Term Care (LTC) Staff

Main Presenting Author: Ledochowski, Jake Q

Additional Author: Reynolds, Kristin

Abstract: *Since the emergence of COVID-19, long-term care (LTC) staff continue to experience emotional distress at work. Current research shows elevated rates of moral injury and negative mental health experiences among staff. Moral injury refers to the psychological distress caused by actions that violate one's moral or ethical beliefs. A limited amount of literature has explored the landscape of moral injury and support needs of LTC staff following the the pandemic through a current lens. The objective of the present study was to explore moral injury and remaining mental needs of LTC staff throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to the present day, to provide a deeper understanding of indelible challenges. To investigate, our research team employed semi-structured interviews with LTC staff. We utilized a qualitative reflexive thematic analysis (RTA) to develop themes. Participants identified how the pandemic has impacted the LTC sector, current work stressors, strategies utilized to help manage emotional needs, and experiences of moral injury. We categorized data into 4 main themes, including lasting impacts: the precedent set by COVID-19, the moral toll of working in LTC, a need for accessible resources, and my path forward. Future interventions should focus on addressing system-level issues, including demands on staff, in tandem with the provision of effective emotional supports.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 126055 - Printed Poster

ADHD-Environment Fit: The Underexplored Role of Job Characteristics

Main Presenting Author: Plotnick, Sam L

Additional Author: Hancock, Samantha

Abstract: *Research on workplace functioning among individuals with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) has often emphasized negative outcomes. Recent work, however, highlights both challenges and strengths, such as hyperfocus, creativity, and entrepreneurial drive. This combination of findings suggests that ADHD's impact depends on the fit between personal traits and work environments. Yet limited research has identified which job characteristics most influence employees with ADHD, and existing recommendations remain largely based on clinical guidance rather than empirical work. To begin to address this, we apply qualitative methods to probe what specific aspects of work individuals with ADHD see as most impactful. Fifty participants with self-reported formal ADHD diagnoses or symptoms completed open-ended surveys about their work roles, focusing on the five most demanding and resourceful aspects of their jobs. Over 15 commonly reported factors such as task variety, control over time, and social support emerged as central to wellbeing. Several novel themes extended beyond the utilized taxonomy, suggesting unique perceptions of work among those with ADHD. Findings underscore the importance of person-job fit in ADHD and provide direction for future research in workplace design, job crafting, and organizational support.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123056 - Printed Poster

Burnout Among School Psychologists: A Meta-Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Ilchena, Cassidy

Additional Author: Theule, Jennifer

Abstract: *Burnout is a syndrome characterized by feelings of emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and reduced personal accomplishment. The current study sought to clarify inconsistencies in primary research on burnout among school psychologists through meta-analysis grounded in Conservation of Resources theory. Mean levels of burnout in this population were examined along with the effects of various moderators and correlates. Eligible studies (n = 31) included published and unpublished records examining burnout in practicing school psychologists using the Maslach Burnout Inventory. Mean levels of burnout reported by school psychologists were highest in the domain of emotional exhaustion and this mean was higher than levels found in meta-analyses of related fields. Mean levels of depersonalization and personal accomplishment were lower than have been observed in related fields. Lower emotional exhaustion was found in samples with greater proportions of men and in older studies. Increased participant age was also associated with lower emotional exhaustion. Greater years of work experience was associated with lower burnout in all three domains. Larger caseloads were associated with higher emotional exhaustion and depersonalization. Altogether, results from this study can be used to inform evidence-based strategies for addressing the issue of burnout in the field of school psychology.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124137 - Printed Poster

Burnout and Organizational Withdrawal: Investigating the Moderating Role of Managerial Coaching

Main Presenting Author: Granger, Steve

Additional Author: Selvaraj, Jerome Xavier

Abstract: *Burnout is a pervasive issue across a wide range of work environments, often leading to organizational withdrawal and elevated turnover costs. While organizational interventions like wellness programs exist, they frequently lack the immediacy and personalization needed to address daily workplace stressors. This study investigates the role of managerial coaching as a targeted, embedded form of social support capable of disrupting the workplace stressor-strain-withdrawal pathways. Drawing on the job demands-resources (JD-R) model and conservation of resources (COR) theory, this study examines whether managerial coaching can disrupt the pernicious effects of hindrance demands on burnout and bolster psychological resources to mitigate the subsequent relationship between burnout and organizational withdrawal. Using a moderated-mediation model, we tested whether managerial coaching weakens the positive relationships between (1) hindrance demands and burnout, and (2) burnout and organizational withdrawal. Results indicate that coaching did not moderate the stressor-strain-withdrawal pathways but disrupted the stability of hindrance demands and withdrawal over time, while burnout remained stable. By clarifying the impact of managerial coaching using post hoc analyses, this study offers theoretical and practical insights into specific leadership-driven strategies for enhancing employee resilience and organizational retention.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123203 - Printed Poster

Cognitive Demands and Burnout: The Mediating Roles of Resilience and Self-Efficacy

Main Presenting Author: Toutant, Jérémy

Additional Authors: Mathieu, Cynthia ; St-Jacques, Chloe

Abstract: *Background: Cognitive demands may contribute to burnout, and psychological resources such as resilience and self-efficacy may help shape how employees respond to demanding tasks. This study examines whether these resources mediate the association between cognitive demands and burnout. Method: Using cross-sectional survey data from 354 employed adults in Canada, we tested a mediation model examining whether cognitive demands predict burnout through resilience and self-efficacy. Variables were measured using validated scales from the COPSOQ and the Workplace Resilience Instrument and an established measure of self-efficacy. Summary of Analyses: Higher cognitive demands were associated with greater burnout. Mediation analyses indicated that both resilience and self-efficacy significantly mediated the relationship between cognitive demands and burnout, suggesting that reductions in these psychological resources partially explain how demanding cognitive environments contribute to strain. Impacts: Findings link cognitive demands to burnout and underscore the importance of strengthening psychological resources to mitigate the impact of high cognitive demands.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126173 - Printed Poster

Collateral damage: Uncovering the hidden toll of organizational misconduct on employees

Main Presenting Author: Omoregbee, Esosa

Additional Authors: Hillebrandt, Annika ; Herrewynen, Megan

Abstract: *Organizational transgressions (e.g., fraud, corruption, pollution) often cause issues for the organization and the direct victims. However, little is known about how these transgressions affect the organization's employees, who often have little to no say regarding how the transgression occurs. Drawing on the social perceptions literature, we propose that organizational transgressions can cause a decrease in employees' sense of agency and social acceptance. In turn, these changes in employees' self-image negatively affect personal (e.g., self-esteem) and work-related (e.g., turnover intentions) outcomes. Hypotheses were supported across two experiments: A recall study in which employees (N = 137) were randomly assigned to recall a time that their organization engaged in a transgression (versus control), and a vignette study in which employees (N = 268) were randomly assigned to imagine themselves working for an organization that engaged in a transgression (versus control). Theoretically, these findings advance the organizational psychology literature by furthering our understanding of how employees are affected by transgressions for which they are not directly responsible. Practically, they provide a theoretical foundation for the development of interventions aimed at mitigating the negative effects that organizational transgressions can have on individual employees.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124572 - Printed Poster

Conversations with Autistic Adults: Barriers to Job Accessibility

Main Presenting Author: AUGER, CHRISTINA R

Additional Author: Im-Bolter, Nancie

Abstract: *Only 33% of Autistic adults in Canada are employed versus 65% of same-aged adults with other disabilities, showing a drastic under-representation of Autistic adults within the workforce. Zero Canadian studies focus on the experience of Autistic adults and employment. We were interested in understanding potential barriers and obstacles of employment for Autistic adults, what being employed/unemployed means to them, and steps to facilitate an inclusive work environment. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with eight Autistic adults aged 20-37 years old (M = 30.40, SD = 6.57) and three caregivers from Ontario. A survey was also sent to hiring managers in the same region regarding their experience working with Autistic employees. Thematic analysis revealed five themes and 13 subthemes associated with four elements of employment. Overall, Autistic adults reported that barriers to obtaining and maintaining employment were related to a lack of understanding about Autistic traits, leading to exclusion within the workplace. However, being employed gave Autistic adults a sense of value and worth. They described coworkers with an awareness of autistic behaviours as being essential for a positive work experience. Occupational training providing information on autism for both facilitators of skills-training programs and employers could aid in job satisfaction and longevity.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 123174 - Printed Poster

Crossing Boundaries: How Past Psychological Contract Violations Shape Customer Service in New Work Environments

Main Presenting Author: Asante, Eric A

Additional Author: Asante, Daniel

Abstract: *This study examines how psychological contract violations experienced by newcomer frontline employees in previous organizations transfer across organizational boundaries to impact customer-directed service behaviors in new workplaces. Drawing on the social-cognitive model of transference, we theorize that veteran frontline newcomers-employees entering new organizations with prior work experience-carry forward schemas from past violations that influence how they perceive their new employer and interact with customers. We propose that these transferred violations undermine service performance and adaptive behaviors by weakening organizational identification, with perceived organizational support serving as a key boundary condition. Evidence from one field study and two experiments supports our model. The findings demonstrate that the detrimental effects of prior contract violations persist across organizational boundaries, affecting frontline newcomers' identification with their current employers and their customer service performance and adaptive behaviors, thereby extending transference theory into organizational frontlines. By highlighting organizational support as a boundary condition, this research offers actionable insights for service firms to manage the cross-organizational consequences of psychological contract violations, facilitate smoother frontline employee transitions and strengthen customer relationships.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123901 - Printed Poster

Disabled Applicants in the Hiring Process: Impression Management Strategies in Job Interviews

Main Presenting Author: Lukacik, Eden-Raye

Additional Author: Marshall, Jordan

Abstract: *Canadians with disabilities are un-, or under-, employed compared to non-disabled Canadians (Canadian Survey, 2022). Technology-enabled interviews may reduce hiring barriers for disabled interviewees if they can manage impressions better when separated from interviewers in time and space (Fisher et al., 2024). A sample that experiences disability (N~150 from Prolific) completed a mock asynchronous video interview and self-reported on their experience. The relationships between disability visibility and severity, interview self-efficacy (Tay et al., 2006), and impression management (Bourdage et al., 2018) strategy use in the interview are explored. Impression management is examined from multiple perspectives including whether strategies were self-directed versus other-directed, honest versus deceptive, and assertive versus defensive. It is hypothesized that interview self-efficacy will be negatively correlated with defensive strategies (e.g., apologies, justifications, excuses) and positively correlated with assertive (e.g., self-promotion of skills and abilities) and honest strategies (i.e., truthful accounts). Disability severity is expected to be positively correlated with self-directed strategies. Data analysis is ongoing. This research informs us about how impression management is used by different populations and in the context of technology-enabled interviewing.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123717 - Printed Poster

Employees' CSR Participation and Psychological Capital: The Mediating Role of CSR Perception

Main Presenting Author: Abbana Bennani, Chaymae
Co-Presenting Author: Labelle-Deraspe, Rémi

Additional Authors: Cadieux, Jean ; Bennouna, Amina

Abstract: *Background. Research shows that employees' perceptions of corporate social responsibility (CSR) strengthen identification and positive psychological states, while active CSR participation enhances motivation and engagement. Psychological capital (PsyCap) is a key resource linked to well-being and performance. Yet few studies have examined how participation and perception jointly contribute to PsyCap. Methods. We collected survey data from 240 full-time employees in the United States and United Kingdom via Prolific. CSR perception was measured using El Akremi et al.'s (2015) multidimensional scale; CSR participation using Vlachos et al. (2014); and PsyCap using Luthans et al.'s (2006) 24-item scale. Planned analyses rely on PLS-SEM to assess direct and mediating effects. Results. Preliminary descriptive and measurement assessments indicate strong internal consistency and convergent validity across reflective constructs. Structural analyses are underway; we expect positive effects of CSR participation and CSR perception on PsyCap, as well as a significant mediating pathway from participation to PsyCap via perception. Conclusions. By integrating passive (perception) and active (participation) dimensions of CSR, this study advances understanding of the psychological mechanisms through which CSR shapes employee functioning. Action/Impact. Findings will inform the design of CSR practices that intentionally cultivate psychological resources, contributing to healthier and more sustainable workplaces.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124774 - Printed Poster

Face validity in the forensic neuropsychological context

Main Presenting Author: Lall, Megan K

Additional Authors: Sepehry, Amir ; Schultz, Izabela Z

Abstract: *Background: In forensic neuropsychology, the presentation of tests shapes both examinee engagement and the legal reception of results. Face validity-the apparent appropriateness and clarity of a procedure-therefore matters. Aim: We explain how face validity affects the use and interpretation of performance validity tests (PVTs) and symptom validity tests (SVTs). Method: We conducted a narrative synthesis comparing stand-alone measures with embedded indicators across five domains-transparency, burden and cooperation, coachability, cultural-linguistic access, and evidentiary practices. Results: Embedded indicators are less conspicuous, enhancing cooperation, limiting coaching, and reducing resistance. They often prioritize specificity over sensitivity; thus, conclusions should be corroborated by independent methods. Stand-alone PVTs and SVTs remain supported, yet their salience makes them more coachable and easier to reframe as "malingering tests." Brief scales aid triage but require caution when symptoms are severe. Conclusion: Clinicians should use mixed batteries (≥2 PVTs, ≥1 SVT) with neutral "consistency/engagement" framing, prespecified cut-scores, base-rate adjustments, and documented fairness audits. For new assessments, include cognitive interviewing, sensitivity audits, quantitative item ratings, and measurement-invariance testing to strengthen courtroom defensibility*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 122847 - Printed Poster

From Information to Motivation and Back: A Longitudinal Examination of Reciprocal Antecedents of Creativity

Main Presenting Author: Xu, Jing (Olivia)

Additional Author: Li, Jie (Kassie)

Abstract: *Creativity research has long grouped antecedents into two core categories - informational and motivational - central components of Amabile's componential model. Although scholars have identified many constructs along these pathways, they typically examine them separately or assume one-directional effects. Moreover, because prior studies rarely consider how these antecedents change over time, we know little about the dynamic processes through which they jointly shape creativity.We focus on two representative antecedents: knowledge acquisition and assimilation behaviors (informational) and creative self-efficacy (motivational). Integrating Amabile's model with Social Cognitive Theory, we argue that knowledge behaviors influence changes in creative self-efficacy, while creative self-efficacy shapes changes in knowledge behaviors. Together, these mechanisms suggest a mutually reinforcing developmental process that contributes to creativity.Using three-wave data from 721 employees nested in 90 teams, we employ latent change score modeling to test how initial levels of knowledge behaviors and creative self-efficacy predict one another's subsequent change and how these changes translate into later changes in creativity. Our findings reveal a dynamic pathway in which knowledge and efficacy develop in tandem to foster creative growth.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126363 - Printed Poster

Gendered wording in job advertisements: Impacts on women's and men's perceived job suitability and leadership aspirations

Main Presenting Author: Edwards, Rachel K

Additional Authors: Whelpley, Rhegan ; Hancock, Samantha

Abstract: *Gendered language in job advertisements unintentionally conveys stereotypes about desired candidates, shaping job seekers' attitudes and behaviours. Masculine wording, conveying agentic traits, and feminine wording, conveying communal traits, should be considered in leadership job contexts. Informed by role congruity and lack of fit theories, we conducted two studies to explore how gendered wording in job ads shapes women's vs. men's perceived job suitability and leadership aspirations. Study 1 used a quasi-experimental design to see how students randomly assigned to view one of three job ads (feminine, masculine, or gender neutral) evaluated their suitability for a real estate agent job and leadership aspirations. Analyses found gender and gendered wording to have no significant effect on suitability and the indirect effect of job ad wording on leadership aspirations through suitability only emerged for women. Study 2 used a similar design with a job ad for a university orientation leader. Results supported some moderated mediation effects. For example, in the feminine wording condition men and women had significant differences in perceived suitability with men reporting lower suitability compared to the masculine condition. Overall, findings suggest gendered wording in job ads meaningfully shapes suitability perceptions and leadership aspirations differently across genders.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123808 - Printed Poster

How Experienced Mistreatment Shapes Bystander Reactions to Witnessed Mistreatment Incidents

Main Presenting Author: Lyubykh, Zhanna

Additional Author: Alonso, Natalya

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Workplace mistreatment is common and harmful. Although bystander support can buffer its negative effects, unsupportive reactions can worsen targets' distress. While conventional wisdom suggests that bystanders with personal mistreatment experience should be more supportive, drawing on motivated reasoning theory, we propose the opposite.METHODS: Across four studies, including video vignette experiments, we examine how bystanders' experienced mistreatment shapes their interpretations of, and reactions to, witnessed mistreatment.RESULTS: Experienced mistreatment was positively related to legitimizing witnessed mistreatment. Legitimization reduced the negative affect and anxiety elicited when recalling personal mistreatment, and it explained why experienced mistreatment predicted less supportive bystander reactions. We also show that invoking perpetrator predation rhetoric can interrupt this motivated reasoning process.CONCLUSION: Bystanders assumed to be "natural allies" due to shared experiences may actually be less likely to support targets. Highlighting perpetrator predation can help counteract this pattern.IMPACT: Our research contributes to understanding why and how experienced mistreatment can hinder supportive bystander reactions. From the practical perspective, our findings highlight the importance of invoking perpetrator predation rhetoric.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123445 - Printed Poster

How INSHAPE is your organization? Development and Validation of "Intolerance for Sexual Harassment Assessment of Practices and Environment" Instrument.

Main Presenting Author: Mendelenko, Olha

Additional Author: Cheung, Ho Kwan

Abstract: *Workplace sexual harassment remains pervasive in Canada, with organizational climate (i.e., tolerance for sexual harassment) identified as the strongest predictor of its occurrence and related harms. However, existing tolerance measures have notable limitations, they: don't reflect current literature, combine multiple facets into a single factor, fail to capture the quality of practices, and conflate organizational practices with employee perceptions. These issues hinder accurate climate assessment and effective intervention. To address this gap, we conducted a multi-study scale development project to create a contemporary, psychometrically rigorous measure of organizational intolerance for sexual harassment. In Study 1, 92 items were generated based on signaling theory and prior research and evaluated through content analysis (N=561), yielding a refined pool of 42 items across five hypothesized subscales (policy, training, complaints procedure, investigation, corrective action). In Study 2 (N=450), parallel analysis and exploratory factor analysis supported the five-factor structure, and results demonstrated convergent and discriminant validity. Study 3 (pending) will confirm measure structure, evaluate additional convergent and discriminant validity, test predictive validity, and examine the overarching mediation model. Contributions to theory and practice will be discussed.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123321 - Printed Poster

Impact des fluctuations de la désirabilité et l'atteignabilité des buts : le rôle médiateur de la crise du désengagement dans le processus du désengagement des buts professionnels spécifiques.

Main Presenting Author: Roy, Anne-Julie

Additional Authors: Gavrila, Andreea ; Schattke, Kaspar Philipp

Abstract: *La désirabilité et l'atteignabilité d'un but fluctuent et une baisse de ceux-ci peut déclencher une impasse décisionnelle. Étant des déterminants clés, ils sont peu explorés empiriquement (Brandstätter & Bernecker, 2022; Heckhausen, 1987). Cette étude transversale comble la lacune en examinant comment les changements dans la désirabilité et l'atteignabilité d'un but professionnel, médiées par la crise du désengagement, prédisent le progrès et le soulagement dans le désengagement. Nous avons émis les hypothèses que la désirabilité devrait être positivement liée à la crise, tandis que l'atteignabilité devrait être négativement liée au progrès et au soulagement; que la crise devrait prédire une baisse du progrès et du soulagement, puis médier négativement la relation entre la désirabilité, le progrès et le soulagement. N = 399 travailleurs ont été recrutés via Prolific. Les analyses acheminatoires indiquent un ajustement adéquat du modèle: ($\chi 2$ [4] = 6.654, p = .155, CFI = .996, TLI = .990, RMSEA= .042, CI [.000, .097], SRMR= .032), soutenant les hypothèses, sauf pour la relation non significative entre l'atteignabilité et le progrès. La désirabilité peut former un*

antécédent de la crise, et être pris entre poursuivre le désengagement ou se réengager semble entraver ledit processus. Ceci pave la voie à de futures études sur comment opérer un désengagement sain plutôt que mésadapté.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126280 - Printed Poster

Impostor Phenomenon and Feedback-Seeking: The Mediating Role of Goal Orientation

Main Presenting Author: Mayer, William

Additional Author: Daljeet, Kabir N

Abstract: *Feedback-Seeking Behaviour (FSB) plays a crucial role in career growth, allowing individuals to refine their skills and align with organizational expectations. The present study examined how Impostor Phenomenon (IP) and Goal orientation relate to FSB, as both constructs are theoretically linked to self-regulation and can predict important workplace behaviours. Based on prior research, it was hypothesized that stronger impostor feelings, characterized by self-doubt and fear of negative evaluation, would lead to stronger performance and avoid goals orientations and would engage in less productive FSBs, compared to those with a learning goal orientation. Data were collected from adult participants via an online survey, using validated measures of IP, Goal Orientation, and FSB (N = 349). We examined a comprehensive mediation model via path analysis that demonstrated that the three components of Goal Orientation simultaneously mediate the relationship between Impostor Phenomenon and the four components of Feedback-Seeking Behaviour ($\chi^2(28) = 611.52$, $p < .001$, CFI = .998, TLI = .995, RMSEA = .017, SRMR = .027). These findings suggest that through their view on achievements situations, individuals with Impostor Phenomenon will seek feedback in a particular way. The implication and limitations of these findings will be discussed.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124144 - Printed Poster

Internal mobility: A thematic exploration of managers' motivations for hindering their employees' internal transfer attempts.

Main Presenting Author: Kraichy, David

Abstract: *Practitioners report that some managers hinder their employees' internal promotion attempts. Empirical findings suggest that managers are more likely to hinder when they experience psychological ownership over their talent, when hindering is perceived to be the norm in the organization, and when they face high job demands and low support. The current research aimed to explore and expand on our understanding of what motivates managers to hinder. I collected survey data from full-time managers and asked them, in an open-ended format, to describe why and under what conditions they had attempted to hinder. Responses were analyzed using thematic analysis. Managers cited several reasons including employee-centric concerns (e.g., fit and readiness), organizational policies (e.g., lack of succession planning and career development), organizational norms and climate (e.g., distrust, top-down directives), operational disruptions (e.g., workload, team functioning), and staffing challenges (e.g., vacancies and skill shortages). To reduce the likelihood of*

hindering, organizations may benefit from investing in recruitment, selection, and internal training and development practices to minimize vacancy time and ensure qualified replacements are available. These actions may ease managers' concerns regarding operational disruptions to their unit and their employees' readiness for a new role.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125494 - Printed Poster

Internal mobility: Examining employees' perceptions of fairness and withdrawal behaviour when their manager helps, hinders, or does not get involved.

Main Presenting Author: Kraichy, David

Abstract: *Internal mobility processes and outcomes send strong signals to employees regarding their value in an organization. Although many managers support their employees during internal processes, at times, managers opt to hinder or refrain from getting involved. This research examines how employees react to different managerial approaches in terms of fairness perceptions and withdrawal. Cross-sectional survey data was collected from full-time employees via EKOS' Probit panel. Employees reported on their managers approach during their most recent internal mobility event (n = 60 Helping, n = 55 Refraining, n = 65 Hindering,), their fairness perceptions, and withdrawal behaviours post-event. Controlling for event outcome (obtained vs. denied the job), employees experiencing managerial Helping rated the process as fairer and engaged in fewer withdrawal behaviours vs. those experiencing managerial Hindering and Refraining. Employees experiencing managerial Hindering vs. Refraining reported more negative outcomes. In sum, in internal job competitions, employees who are unsuccessful remain in the manager's unit post event. Although managers may Hinder or Refrain for valid reasons (e.g., the employee is not ready), I suggest they rethink using these approaches as employees tend to respond by withdrawing effort, speaking negatively of their manager, and consider quitting.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125489 - Printed Poster

Leaders' Depression Disclosure: Followers' Perceptions and Leadership Expectations

Main Presenting Author: Adams, Laura Kelly
Co-Presenting Author: Cloutier, Anika

Additional Authors: Motro, Daphna ; Adams, Maria

Abstract: *Organizations are increasingly encouraging leaders to set a positive mental health climate, and one way to do so is to disclose their personal challenges. However, how followers perceive leaders upon disclosure remains unknown. The purpose of this study is to consider how leaders' degree of depression disclosure impacts followers' leadership perceptions and expectations. Drawing on stigma and implicit leadership theories (Goffman, 1963; Lord et al., 2020), we predict that leaders who disclose more details about their depression will be seen as less prototypical, and in turn, less likely to engage in effective leadership behaviours. Drawing on role-congruity theory (Eagly & Karau, 2002), we further predict these perceptions will be stronger for men than woman leaders as depression is incongruent with male gender norms. 400 participants from Prolific were randomly*

assigned to a 4 (disclosure degree: control, low, moderate, high) x 2 (leader gender: man, woman) video vignette. Participants then evaluated the leader's prototypicality and expected likelihood of engaging in servant and laissez-faire leadership behaviours. Data are collected and analyses are underway. Results will extend the workplace disclosure and leadership literatures by testing how degree of disclosure affects leadership evaluations and will inform leaders on how to best share mental health challenges at work.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124801 - Printed Poster

Leadership of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiatives in Organizations

Main Presenting Author: Wong, Heather W.

Additional Authors: Koval, Christy Z.; Ferris, D. Lance; Hideg, Ivona

Abstract: *Leading Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) initiatives entails extensive work, which often falls on the shoulders of women and racialized individuals. This extra work can divert from responsibilities necessary for career promotion and unintentionally harm the advancement of the very people EDI initiatives aim to support. Yet a barrier to distributing EDI roles more equitably is that White men are seen as lacking legitimacy in EDI initiatives. Our paper examines the role legitimacy plays in determining who is best suited to lead EDI initiatives. We first show that women and racialized individuals are expected to shoulder more EDI responsibilities than White men (pilot study). We then draw from models of legitimacy to show that White men are seen as less legitimate as EDI leaders because they are viewed as less instrumental, relational, and moral than women (Study 1) and racialized individuals (Study 2). Finally, we show that organizations can increase the perceived legitimacy of qualified White men by highlighting their instrumental, relational, and moral qualities (Study 3a), especially when such endorsements come from members of historically underrepresented groups (Study 3b). Our goal is to mitigate the disproportionate responsibilities placed on women and racialized individuals by creating pathways for more sustainable and equitable approaches to EDI responsibility.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126083 - Printed Poster

Menopause at Work: Implications for Women Leaders

Main Presenting Author: Rawlings, Brooklyn
Co-Presenting Author: Bowker, Anne

Additional Author: Dupré, Kathryne

Abstract: *Women often enter senior roles as they navigate menopause, yet the leadership-health interface remains understudied. Guided by Conservation of Resources theory, this study examines how menopause symptom severity relates to four key work outcomes among women leaders (psychological well-being, turnover intentions, leadership self-efficacy, and job satisfaction) and whether satisfaction with menopausal healthcare buffers these links. We are currently collecting data using an online Prolific survey of about 250 leaders aged 40 to 60 in Canada and the United States who are in menopause and have more than or equal to 6 months of leadership experience. Measures include validated scales of symptom severity, well-being, intentions to quit, leadership self-efficacy, job and*

healthcare satisfaction, along with open-text questions about helpful supports and unmet needs. Covariates are leadership tenure, perceived organizational support, work-family conflict, and optimism. PROCESS will test the main and moderated effects. We expect higher symptom severity to predict lower well-being, self-efficacy, and job satisfaction, and higher turnover intentions, with healthcare satisfaction attenuating these links. Findings will inform evidence-based health and organizational policies to support leaders through menopause, with implications for equity, retention, and sustainable leadership practices.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125554 - Printed Poster

Micro-Assertion: Covert Agency when Overt Challenge is Unsafe

Main Presenting Author: Li, Yanhong
Co-Presenting Author: Al-Delaimi, Hanaa

Abstract: *In oppressive work environments (e.g., those shaped by racism, sexism, homophobia, or punitive hierarchies), employees may be unable to safely confront injustice through overt action. Yet maintaining a sense of agency is fundamental to one's needs. To examine how employees subtly assert agency when direct challenge is unsafe, I introduce micro-assertion, defined as everyday covert acts through which individuals create small moments for agency in unjust environments. I conducted a targeted conceptual review across sociology, feminist and labour studies, political science, and critical theory to identify subtle acts documented in settings where overt confrontation is difficult. Across disciplines, I identify three categories of micro-assertions transferable to the workplace. Embodied micro-assertions leverage small bodily acts (e.g., foot-dragging) to quietly reshape experiences. Discursive micro-assertions utilize language (e.g., linguistic resistance, coded humour) to subtly contest dominant narratives. Tactical micro-assertions manipulate systems or spaces (e.g., quiet encroachment, strategic invisibility) to navigate restrictive structures in subtle ways. Together, these findings show how individuals create small openings for agency under oppressive conditions without overt confrontation and invite scholarly dialogue to refine this emerging construct for IO research.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125805 - Printed Poster

Minority Identity Employees' Experiences of Workplace Microaggressions: Exploring the Buffering Role of Microvalidations

Main Presenting Author: Porebska, Kamila
Co-Presenting Author: He, Catherine

Additional Author: Adair, Wendi

Abstract: *While many Canadian organizations have implemented EDIB initiatives, minority employees often still feel pressured to conform to majority norms in order to be accepted, heard, and promoted. Workplaces are filled with subtle interpersonal cues - microaggressions and microvalidations - that can either undermine or affirm employees' social identities. Drawing on previous research, we predict that minority-identity employees who experience microaggressions engage in identity protection behaviors that reduce psychological resources otherwise available for promotion-seeking and organizational citizenship behaviors. Across two pilot studies, we developed the Identity Threat*

Response Scale, which isolates identity-focused responses, in contrast to prior scales that more broadly evaluate stress, coping mechanisms, or discrimination. Using principal axis factoring with varimax rotation, six distinctive dimensions of identity threat response behaviours were identified: 1) Derogation (α = 0.93); 2) Concealment (α = 0.94); 3) Positive Distinctiveness (α = 0.92); 4) Identity Exit (α = 0.96); 5) Meaning Change (α = 0.92); and 6) Importance Change (α = 0.96). Building on these findings, we are conducting further quantitative analyses, with data acquired from minority-identity populations of the Kitchener-Waterloo Region (ON, CA), to assess how daily microaggressions shape work engagement and whether microvalidations buffer these effects. Findings will contribute to organizational psychology, EDIB strategy development, and the design of inclusive workplace interventions.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124260 - Printed Poster

Mitigating Bias Against Autistic Applicants: Testing a Growth Mindset Intervention in Hiring Decisions

Main Presenting Author: Cappellaro, Sarah E

Additional Author: Hancock, Samantha

Abstract: *Autistic job seekers face persistent barriers in hiring, often rooted in a fixed mindset (i.e., the belief that people's abilities are innate and unchangeable). In contrast, growth mindsets emphasize that skills can be developed with learning and experience. To address this, we created a brief educational infographic designed to promote a growth mindset-oriented view of managing autistic employees. In a pilot study, participants reported that the materials effectively communicated the intended message. We then conducted a between-subjects experiment via Prolific.co, where we recruited participants who were currently employed with hiring experience. Participants were randomly assigned to view either our infographic or a control condition before evaluating the hiring desirability of an autistic job applicant. The intervention significantly improved participant evaluations: those who viewed the infographic rated the applicant as more desirable. Additionally, the intervention reduced fixed personality beliefs, indicating greater openness to the idea that people can grow and adapt, with lower fixed beliefs in the intervention condition compared to the control condition. Together, these findings suggest that a brief growth mindset intervention can meaningfully reduce bias against autistic applicants and may serve as an effective tool to support more inclusive hiring practices.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124561 - Printed Poster

Perceived feedback competence: Understanding managers' experience through the lens of Self-Determination Theory

Main Presenting Author: Oczechowski, Nicolas

Additional Authors: Lortie, Ève-Marie ; Gradito Dubord, Marc-Antoine; Bazinet-Gareau , Charlotte; Bezerra, Isabella

Abstract: *Giving feedback is a central but often demanding part of managerial work. While research has largely examined how employees react to feedback, the experience of managers as feedback providers remains understudied. Providing feedback is often emotionally taxing and resource demanding, yet it may also enhance managers' affective well-being and perceived prosocial impact. To clarify these mixed experiences, this study examines the psychological mechanisms that shape managers' experiences during feedback provision using Self-Determination Theory. We focus on perceived competence specifically related to giving feedback, conceptualized in two facets: static and incremental. We investigate how satisfaction and frustration of these facets during feedback provision relate to four outcomes: managers' affective well-being, perceived prosocial impact, perceived stress, and feedback avoidance. Data were collected through an online survey of 133 managers from a Canadian organization. Separate multiple regression models will test whether satisfaction and frustration of static and incremental feedback-related perceived competence predict these outcomes. By centering the perspective of feedback providers, this study aims to deepen understanding of feedback dynamics in organizations and identify motivational levers to support managers' well-being and effective feedback practices.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125452 - Printed Poster

Profiles of organizational and change commitment: A longitudinal person-centered investigation

Main Presenting Author: Espinoza, Jose A.

Additional Author: Meyer, John P

Abstract: *Previous person-centered (profile) research investigating employee commitment and reactions to organizational change has considered commitments to the organization and to the change initiative separately. In this longitudinal study, we investigate profiles of affective, normative, and continuance commitment to both foci in combination prior to (N = 688) and following (N = 627) a large-scale organizational change. Using latent profile analyses, we identified five distinct profiles on both occasions. Although structurally similar, differences in the size of the profiles, and the relative strength of the commitment components, varied over time. We used multinomial logistic regression to identify demographic (e.g., tenure, managerial level) and substantive (e.g., top management trustworthiness) predictors of profile membership, and then conducted mean comparisons across profiles for turnover intentions and behavioural support for the change. Finally, we used latent transition analysis to explore the nature, and predictors, of change in profile membership over time. Our findings demonstrate that employees' commitments to their organization and to the change initiative combined in ways that are not detectable when commitments to the two foci are considered separately. Profiles also differed in their antecedents and outcomes. Implications for managing change are discussed.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124160 - Printed Poster

Same-Gender Conflict and its Impact on Workplace Outcomes: Exploring the Experiences of Men and Women Middle Managers

Main Presenting Author: Pew, Abigail S
Co-Presenting Author: Hancock, Samantha

Abstract: *Same-gender conflict occurs when an individual perceives differences and opposition between themself and another individual of the same gender about interests, resources, beliefs, values, or practices. Frequent and intense workplace conflict can reduce an employee's organizational commitment, well-being, and job satisfaction. Previous literature has suggested that conflicts among women tend to occur more frequently and result in more negative outcomes than those among men. Using a cross-sectional survey design, data was collected from 194 middle managers in the US and Canada via Prolific. Participants reflected on a conflict experience with a same-ranking coworker and reported their perceptions of that coworker, including measures of trust, liking and friendship opportunity. Findings indicated that both men and women were more likely to report a same-gender conflict than an opposite-gender conflict. However, there were no gender differences in conflict outcomes, challenging the prevailing notion that conflicts among women in the workplace are particularly prevalent and detrimental. These findings highlight a need to address biases that problematize conflict between women, both in the literature and in staffing decisions, to promote gender equity in management.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122876 - Printed Poster

Self-Compassion and Servant Leadership: The Moderating Role of Fear of Compassion

Main Presenting Author: Zur, Elana S.
Co-Presenting Author: Burnham, Cortney

Additional Authors: Liang, Lindie H. ; Lopez, Christian

Abstract: *CONTEXT: Self-compassion can enhance leadership effectiveness, but fear of giving, receiving, or directing compassion toward oneself may limit its benefits. This study examined how leader self-compassion and fear of compassion shape servant leadership behaviours.METHOD: Participants (N = 400) were assigned to a self-compassion or control condition, and state self-compassion, fear of compassion, and servant leadership were measured. Analyses examined main and interactive effects of self-compassion and fear of compassion on servant leadership.RESULTS: State self-compassion significantly predicted various aspects of servant leadership (emotional healing, wisdom, persuasive mapping). Fear of compassion moderated the relationship between leader self-compassion and servant leadership: leaders with high state self-compassion showed lower altruistic calling when they also had high fear of self-compassion, expressing compassion, or receiving compassion; lower wisdom when they had high fear of self-compassion or receiving compassion; and lower stewardship when they had high fear of receiving compassion.IMPLICATIONS: Self-compassion strengthens servant leadership, but fear of compassion can undermine these benefits. Leaders with high self-compassion and low fear of compassion show the strongest servant leadership behaviours.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125722 - Printed Poster

Sharing Parental Leave and Working Mothers' Well-being and Career Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Merkand, Roxy

Additional Authors: Zhan, Yujie ; Hideg, Ivona; Krstic, Anja; Powell, Deborah

Abstract: *Working mothers often face a "maternity penalty" when returning to work. Although many countries offer shared parental leave, little is known about how working mothers and their partners coordinate their parental leaves or how spousal parental leave (i.e., parental leave taken by non-birth parents) shapes birth mothers' well-being and career outcomes. In a two-wave survey of working mothers (N=228) in Canada, the UK, and Australia, we assessed multiple operationalizations of spousal parental leave and examined their associations with working mothers' well-being and workplace outcomes. Results showed that spousal parental leave was associated with positive outcomes for working mothers, including greater life satisfaction, greater career rewards, fewer career penalties, and a perception of more future career opportunities. However, greater overlap between partners' leaves was associated with worse career outcomes. To better understand these results, we are currently collecting qualitative data to understand how working mothers coordinate leave with their partners and the implications of coordination for their well-being. Findings from this research can inform policymakers and employers in refining shared leave structures and supporting role negotiation to reduce the maternity penalty and promote gender equity in the workplace.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124161 - Printed Poster

Structured Probing in Asynchronous Video Interviews: Effects on Stories and Interview Ratings

Main Presenting Author: Del Monaco, Mariangela
Co-Presenting Author: Mallozzi, Alexandra

Additional Authors: Patel, Rahul D; Powell, Deborah M; Roulin, Nicolas; Spence, Jeffrey R

Abstract: *Asynchronous video interviews (AVIs) can make it difficult for applicants to provide complete stories when responding to behavior description interview (BDI) questions. This study examined whether structured probing improves the quality of responses in AVIs. Using archival data from 675 mock interviews, we coded answers for narrative elements based on the STAR framework (i.e., Situation, Task, Action, and Result) and for perceptual elements such as coherence, vividness, emotional impact, and memorability. Results showed that structured probing increased the number of narrative elements communicated and increased the number of perceptual elements present in responses. These findings suggest that structured probing helps applicants provide richer and more detailed stories in AVIs. Use of both elements, in turn, predicted slight improvements in interview performance ratings, suggesting that probing enhances applicants' AVI performance. Implications for improving AVI design and enhancing response quality will be discussed.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124445 - Printed Poster

The Associations Between Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Chronic Pain in Military Personnel: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Grant, Mackenzie

Abstract: *Background: Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and chronic pain are prevalent conditions in military populations, yet their intersection is poorly understood (Cooper et al., 2018; Kerekes, Sanchéz-Pérez, & Landry, 2021). Understanding the association between these conditions using Engel's Biopsychosocial Model will assist researchers and clinicians in developing adequate screening measures, adapting policy, and establishing interdisciplinary and comprehensive treatment approaches that address the complexities within this population. While research has examined dyadic associations between these variables (i.e., ADHD and chronic pain; ADHD and military personnel; chronic pain and military personnel), there are currently no reviews that examine the triadic association (Battison et al., 2023; Ivanov & Yehuda, 2014; Qureshi et al., 2023). Mapping the current literature on the associations between ADHD, chronic pain and military personnel can provide important insights into gaps, future research needs, and intervention recommendations. Research Question: What are the associations between attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and chronic pain in military personnel?Methods: A systematic scoping review of peer-reviewed literature was performed in MEDLINE, PsychInfo, CINAHL, EBSCO, and Google Scholar. A wide range of search terms related to ADHD, chronic pain, and military personnel were utilized. The JBI framework guided Level 1 and 2 screening and data extraction, with trained graduate-level coders, and any disagreements were resolved by the primary student researcher. An initial calibration activity promoted consensus during coding. REB approval was sought. A total of 14 studies were included in this systematic scoping review. Descriptive statistics and a narrative synthesis were performed to summarize the data. Results: The results of this systematic scoping review indicated that there is significant overlap between ADHD and chronic pain, with additional nuance added in military populations. The findings highlighted ADHD as a risk factor for chronic pain. Additionally, within military populations, ADHD was linked to increased occupational impairment, psychiatric comorbidities and risk-taking behaviours (Elbaum et al., 2024). Finally, chronic pain was found to be highly prevalent in military and veteran populations, particularly in those exposed to deployment related trauma (Hinkel et al., 2023). Conclusion and Implications: ADHD and chronic pain frequently co-occur and exacerbate functional impairments when they present comorbidly, with added complexity in military populations. Integrated and interdisciplinary approaches that include proactive screening, policy reform, and holistic treatment ought to be considered when these conditions intersect in military personnel. Keywords: ADHD, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, chronic pain, military personnelPurpose of Discussion: to bring awareness to the associations and high comorbidity of ADHD and chronic pain in Military personnel, to facilitate discussion and encourage future research and policy changes in this area.*

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 121123 - Printed Poster

The Dark Tetrad and Employee Engagement

Main Presenting Author: Thibault, Tabatha

Additional Authors: Kelloway, Kevin ; Carvery, Paige

Abstract: *In a Spanish sample, Ramos-Villagrasa et al. (2025) found that narcissism positively and psychopathy negatively predicted employee engagement above and beyond the Big Five. This study*

sought to replicate the Dark Tetrad of personality (i.e., narcissism, Machiavellianism, psychopathy, and sadism) predicting engagement in two North American, English-speaking samples. Cross-sectionally (N = 438), the Dark Tetrad predicted all three dimensions of engagement (i.e., vigor, dedication, and absorption) and overall engagement above and beyond the Big Five. Narcissism positively predicted engagement while Machiavellianism and sadism negatively predicted engagement. Longitudinally (N = 203), Time 1 Dark Tetrad predicted Time 2 employee engagement above and beyond T1 engagement, Big Five, gender, age, and social desirability. Again, narcissism positively predicted engagement. However, Machiavellianism did not, while sadism positively predicted engagement. Given its consistent positive link, narcissism seems to be the driving force for the relationship between the Dark Tetrad and engagement. Leaders should aim to understand their employees' needs and meet them (e.g., those high in narcissism value control and prestige, so provide a sense of autonomy at work). This could aid in increasing engagement and, as a result, improve organizational outcomes such as turnover.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123231 - Printed Poster

The Development and Validation of a Subordinate Incivility Scale

Main Presenting Author: Holmvall, Camilla

Additional Authors: Stronach, Rhea P; Kelloway, Kevin; Ford, Dianne; Arnold, Kara

Abstract: *Research supports that uncivil acts from an employee toward their leader, known as subordinate incivility (Meier & Gross, 2015), may differ in incidence (Yao et al., 2022) and impact (Lim & Lee, 2011) from other incivility sources. These findings, however, suggest that current scales (e.g., Cortina et al., 2001) adapted to subordinates might not measure this unique source accurately. Thus, based on uncivil subordinate behaviours identified by leaders in our previous work (Holmvall & Stronach, 2024), we created, pilot-tested, and psychometrically assessed a measure of subordinate incivility. The main study with employed leaders consisted of two randomly split samples. The first (n = 406) was used to conduct exploratory factor analyses and revealed a two-factor scale structure with excellent reliability. The second sample (n = 307) was used to conduct confirmatory factor analyses, which confirmed the scale structure and supported its distinctiveness from bordering constructs (e.g., insubordination, social undermining). Our scale also demonstrated convergent validity with Cortina et al.'s (2001) incivility measure and preliminary analyses support its criterion-related validity for predicting relevant outcomes (e.g., emotional exhaustion, negative affect). Thus, these findings suggest our measure is a relevant, reliable and valid tool to assess subordinate incivility.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125048 - Printed Poster

The Effects of Supervisor Workaholism on Employee Outcomes: Mediating Roles of Cognitive Appraisal and Affective Activation

Main Presenting Author: Kim, Su Kyung (Irene)
Co-Presenting Author: Zhan, Yujie

Abstract: *Extensive research on workaholism revealed detrimental physical, psychological, and socioemotional consequences for workaholics. The almost exclusive focus on the consequences for workaholic individuals has led researchers to overlook the potential interpersonal impact of*

workaholism. That is, how does workaholism exhibited by supervisors impact other workers? Integrating social information processing theory and cognitive appraisal theory, we propose that supervisor workaholism can influence employee well-being and performance both negatively and positively via their appraisal of this social cue as a stressor and the ensuing affective activation. We collected two-wave survey data from 500 workers in the US and Canada and conducted regression analyses. Results showed that, while the negative impact pathway via hindrance appraisal and negative affect was not significant, supervisor workaholism had a positive impact on employee well-being and performance via challenge appraisal and positive affect. The key to managing the dynamics of supervisor workaholism is understanding the role of employee cognitive appraisal, particularly how employees interpret their supervisor's work habits as either a hindrance or a challenge. As employees who view their supervisor's workaholism as challenge feel inspired, organizations can offer employees training on cognitive appraisal processes.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122395 - Printed Poster

The Persistence of Workplace Ambivalent Sexism: A Review and Agenda for Future Research

Main Presenting Author: Noseworthy, Nicole

Abstract: *Despite decades of calls for gender equality in organizations, we still have a long way to go. Perhaps a reason for this is the persistence of workplace ambivalent sexism. Ambivalent Sexism (AS) is comprised of two parts: Benevolent Sexism (BS) and Hostile Sexism (HS) (Glick & Fiske, 1996). Both components of AS reinforce and seek to maintain traditional gender roles. AS has been used in industrial/organizational psychology research to try to explain gender inequality in workplaces, and there has been no review dedicated to organizing this literature that is specific to organizational behaviour and I/O psychology. I have conducted a systematic review of the literature and identified 143 papers for inclusion. the review of the literature has shown how BS and HS attitudes, internalizations, behaviours, and outcomes impact women in the workplace. BS and HS attitudes toward women such as traditional gender role suitability and lower evaluations for women in leadership positions, women's own internalizations such as decreased self-esteem and increased anxiety and depression, behaviours toward women such as opposition of gender equality policies and assignment of fewer challenging work tasks, and outcomes such as decreased job performance and fewer women in leadership. Areas for future research include awareness of workplace AS and the impact of workplace AS on women's mental health.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125207 - Printed Poster

The Risk of Proactivity: How Perceiving Leader Expectations Accurately Shapes Leader-Follower Relationships

Main Presenting Author: Lynch, Jennifer

Additional Authors: Benson, Alex J; Eys, Mark

Abstract: *Proactive employees fuel organizational learning and adaptability (Argyris & Schon, 1978; Bindl & Parker, 2011; Morrison & Milliken, 2000). Yet for followers, taking initiative can be socially*

risky (Ghutulescu et al., 2018), especially in leader-follower relationships where expectations are implicit and potentially ambiguous (Yuan et al., 2022). Thus, there is a clear need to understand the process of successful follower proactivity. Using 261 participants across 158 leader-follower pairs (103 leaders, 158 followers), we tested whether followers who better understand their leader's expectations experienced better relationships with the leader. Using polynomial regression and surface response analysis, our findings show accuracy is connected to how leaders view their relationship with the follower. Specifically, leaders perceive a better relationship when both they and their followers indicate high proactivity expectations. Additionally, leaders' perceived relationship quality fares better when followers underestimate, rather than overestimate, leaders' proactivity expectations. We discuss the significance of understanding who comprehends leader expectations more accurately and the implications of any (mis)alignment in these expectations. Understanding follower accuracy provides insight into why some followers may struggle to engage in proactive behaviours that leaders value.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123121 - Printed Poster

The Role of Personality in Peer Evaluation Biases: Insights from Round-Robin Ratings Within Teams

Main Presenting Author: Schmidt, Joseph

Additional Author: Ogunfowora, Babatunde

Abstract: *Peer evaluations within teams are widely used in human resource management for skill assessment, training needs analysis, and performance management. However, peer ratings often reflect leniency or severity biases influenced by individual differences (De Kock et al., 2020) and group membership (Schmidt et al., 2021), raising concerns about cross-team comparability. Using 1,900 round-robin ratings from 380 peers across 133 teams, we examine how HEXACO personality traits shape perceiver tendencies versus shared perceptions of targets' behavior. To disentangle variance sources, we applied linear mixed-effects models (LMEM) to estimate perceiver, target, relationship, and team-level effects, and a second LMEM incorporating self-reported HEXACO traits to separate general rater tendencies from trait-specific variance. Correlations of random effects revealed that perceiver effects generalized across participants' self-rated personality and ratings of others ($r = .16$, $p = .002$). Rater extraversion and altruism were associated with lenient perceptions of others ($r = .11$, $p = .029$; $r = .13$, $p = .012$), while target openness predicted lower ratings from others ($r = -.19$, $p < .001$). Findings advance theory on social perception in teams, have implications for comparing peer ratings across teams, and suggest practical implications for rater training tailored to personality traits.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124984 - Printed Poster

The Role of Support in Shaping Strain: Examining Gender Differences in Financial Firms

Main Presenting Author: Adams, Maria A

Additional Authors: Dimoff, Jennifer K; Ortynsky, Mikaila L

Abstract: *The financial sector is known for long hours and poor work-life balance, and remains largely male-dominated, with women holding only 24% of leadership roles in financial services firms (Deloitte, 2021). As a result, employees in this sector may experience adverse effects, such as strain, which may differ between men and women. This study aimed to explore how support influences employee strain in the sector and to examine the moderating role of gender in this relationship. Drawing on conservation of resources theory (Hobfoll, 1989) and social role theory (Eagly, 1987), we expected that women employees might face greater strain due to misalignment with dominant gender norms in this sector, making them more likely to benefit from support than men employees. To test our model, we recruited employees (N=210) from a U.S. financial firm to complete a questionnaire. Results showed that support significantly reduced strain among women, with higher levels of support associated with lower strain, while support did not significantly predict strain among men. We plan to replicate and extend these findings in a second study (N=350), with data collection to be completed by Feb. 2026. Findings from this research will contribute to the occupational health literature by demonstrating how gender and industry can uniquely influence the extent to which workplace support alleviates employee strain.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124115 - Printed Poster

The Two Sides of Fairness: Opposing Indirect Effects of Fairness Perceptions on Support for Diversity Initiatives

Main Presenting Author: Stephens, Alison

Additional Authors: Barron, Amy H; Bobocel, Ramona

Abstract: *The success of workplace diversity initiatives depends on support from employees, which necessitates research to examine predictors of support. We propose that employees' overall fairness perceptions are associated with their support for diversity initiatives through two opposing pathways. Drawing on fairness heuristic theory, we propose that support is lower among employees with greater overall fairness perceptions because they perceive that such initiatives are not needed. Conversely, drawing on the group-value model of justice, we propose that greater perceptions of overall fairness will also indicate to employees that their organization is an inclusive environment, which in turn will be associated with greater support. To this end, we conducted a three-wave, online survey with focal variables assessed at different times, to help rule out common method bias (N = 313). We measured overall fairness perceptions and demographics (Time 1), perceptions of need for diversity initiatives and perceptions of organizational inclusivity (Time 2), and support for diversity initiatives (Time 3) along with relevant control variables. Results supported our predictions, suggesting that overall fairness perceptions may both promote and reduce support via different pathways. Theoretical contributions and practical implications will be discussed.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123199 - Printed Poster

Thinking About Work While Not at Work: An Investigation of Rumination of Work Events

Main Presenting Author: Rodrigues, Kyra

Additional Authors: Zhan, Yujie (Jessie) ; Hu, Xiaoxiao

Abstract: *Detaching from work during off-hours aids recovery and reduces burnout, yet employees often keep thinking about work events after hours. Thinking about past work events after hours is complex and depends on the nature of the thoughts and how they are processed.We define rumination of work events (ROWE) as the repetitive and extensive mental engagement with negative or positive work-related events after working hours.We aimed to (a) identify how employees engage in ROWE based on content valence (positive/negative) and thinking style (cyclic/counterfactual/analytical), and (b) examine how these forms of ROWE affect employee outcomes (well-being and work-related self-efficacy).In Study 1, participants (N = 200) described recent ROWE experiences and rated items measuring its various forms. Results supported the existence of negative and positive ROWE, and cyclic, counterfactual, and analytical ROWE. In Study 2, participant (N = 400) data was used to examine how ROWE's content valence and thinking style impact employee outcomes. Negative ROWE predicted lower self-efficacy and well-being and positive ROWE predicted higher levels. When ruminating over negative work events, cyclic and counterfactual ROWE led to poorer outcomes, whereas analytical ROWE led to better outcomes.This research shows nuances of ROWE and how after-hours engagement with work events affects employees.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123424 - Printed Poster

Titre : Au-delà de la dichotomie autonome-contrôlée : Le continuum de motivation de la théorie de l'autodétermination pour prédire la performance

Main Presenting Author: Brasseur, Justine
Co-Presenting Author: Paquin, Samuel

Additional Authors: Jauvin, Florence ; Forest, Jacques

Abstract: *La théorie de l'autodétermination conçoit la motivation comme un continuum, mais sa dichotomisation fréquente (autonome/contrôlée) en limite la précision. Si les liens avec la performance subjective (PS) sont établis, ceux avec la performance objective (PO) demeurent sous-étudiés. Cette étude examine la valeur prédictive du continuum sur la PS et la PO. Des données recueillies par questionnaire (motivation ; Gagné et al., 2015 ; PS ; Griffin et al., 2007) auprès de 2 181 travailleurs canadiens ont été jumelées aux dossiers RH incluant deux indicateurs de PO : l'évaluation de rendement par le gestionnaire (ERG) et le statut de promotion. Le modèle d'équations structurelles est adéquat ($\chi 2$ [287] = 877,64, $p < .001$; CFI = .97 ; RMSEA = .03). La régulation identifiée et la motivation intrinsèque prédisent positivement la PS ($\beta = .118$ à .272, $p < .05$). L'intrinsèque prédit positivement l'ERG ($\beta = .088$, $p < .05$). L'identifiée prédit négativement la promotion ($\beta = -.106$, $p < .05$). Conformément à la littérature, l'identifiée prédit mieux la PS que l'intrinsèque. Toutefois, seule l'intrinsèque se traduit par une meilleure performance aux yeux du gestionnaire. Bien qu'« autonome », la régulation identifiée prédit négativement un autre critère de PO : la promotion. Ces résultats justifient la distinction entre intrinsèque et identifiée, une nuance que la motivation autonome masque.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126199 - Printed Poster

Translation and Validation of the Impostor Phenomenon Assessment (IPA) into French

Main Presenting Author: Evans, Caroline

Additional Authors: Grenier, Victoria ; Daljeet, Kabir N.

Abstract: *Many modern and well-developed scales exist to measure the imposter phenomenon. Importantly, none of the presently available measures have been translated for use in French-speaking communities. The goal of the present study is to produce a high-quality French translation and validation of the Imposter Phenomenon Assessment (IPA). To do so we translated the IPA measure and collected data from 411 French-speaking adult workers and 219 English-speaking adult workers. We then examined the measurement invariance between the French and English versions of the measure which demonstrated acceptable fit (Robust CFI = .730 ($p < .95$), Robust TLI = .719 ($p > .95$), Robust RMSEA = .080 ($p < .05$), SRMR = .088 ($p < .08$), $\chi^2(2644) = 7348.86$ ($p < .001$)) and found evidence of metric (Robust CFI = .729 ($p > .95$), Robust TLI = .723 ($p > .95$), Robust RMSEA = .080 ($p < .05$), SRMR = .093 ($p < .08$), $\chi^2(2694) = 7422.42$ ($p < .001$)), but not scalar invariance (Robust CFI = .709 ($p > .95$), Robust TLI = .708 ($p > .95$), Robust RMSEA = .082 ($p < .05$), SRMR = .094 ($p < .08$)). Subsequently, we examined the convergent validity of the measure using several relevant workplace variables: perfectionism, organizational commitment, job satisfaction, and organizational citizenship behaviours. Strong evidence of convergent validity was found and the results and implications of this work will be discussed.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122387 - Printed Poster

Under the Surface of Performance Feedback: A Multilevel Comparison of Rater Effects on Numeric Ratings and Narrative Comment Sentiment Using BERT

Main Presenting Author: Markofsky, Zachary

Additional Authors: Daljeet, Kabir ; Freeney, Justin

Abstract: *Performance management is a critical organizational process that facilitates communication on the extent to which employees are (or are not) meeting performance standards within the organization. One way this is done is by adding written comments alongside numerical ratings. However, unlike the extensive research into numerical ratings, the richness of written comments remains largely unexplored. Computing advancements now allow researchers to use AI to explore the semantic meaning behind large scale text data. In our study we obtained access to a database of multi-rater evaluations with 170 000 unique narrative performance comments from a multitude of organizations which provide feedback to employees across organizational levels. We fine-tuned a BERT transformer model to conduct supervised sentiment analysis, generating continuous sentiment scores per comment. We then employed multilevel structural equation modeling to determine how rater level and familiarity differentially impacted feedback sentiment versus the numerical ratings. Treating sentiment and rating as distinct but related outcomes, our analysis elucidates how interpersonal factors differentially exert influence on the quantitative 'grade' and the qualitative 'narrative'. Findings offer new insights on performance feedback consistency across modalities and the utility of AI in exploring feedback content.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126339 - Printed Poster

Unravelling the Hybrid "Paradox": A Qualitative Exploration of Canadian Hybrid Workers' Job Demands, Job Resources, and Motivation

Main Presenting Author: Cassidy, Scott A.

Additional Authors: Bertrand, Hannah E.; Young, Laura V.

Abstract: *Although prior meta-analyses demonstrate a link between hybrid work and several positive work attitudes, its impact on workers is paradoxical. As a job characteristic, it can engender both job resources (e.g., flexibility) and demands (e.g., ambiguity). Consequently, hybrid workers are likely to draw satisfaction and motivation from their arrangements, while also facing greater strain.This interplay between hybrid worker demands and resources is not well-understood. Compounding the issue, research in this area relies mainly on quantitative measures, with a lack of qualitative data regarding workers' unique experiences of their hybrid arrangements. To explore this, we content analyzed 73 semi-structured interviews with hybrid Canadian workers, and classified the demands and resources that emerged in their roles, using Hebel et al.'s (2025) "ReDema" framework. Using a relational coding process, we also explored how workers' construal of their hybrid arrangements impacted various motivational constructs, using Swiatczak's (2021) neo-configural work linking self-determination, empowerment, and flow theories. Our results suggest hybrid work enhances autonomy and fairness (and lessens physical demands), while also engendering role ambiguity and relatedness frustration. Hybrid workers justified their volitional effort in ways most aligned with self-determination and social exchange.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124733 - Printed Poster

Walking the EDI talk: Investigating the relationship between leaders' behavioural integrity and employee outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Ho, Jennifer A

Additional Author: Connelly, Catherine E

Abstract: *Leaders often state that they value equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), yet they engage in contradictory hiring or promotional practices, signalling leaders' low behavioural integrity. Such word-action misalignment and broken promises may undermine trust in the leader and prompt employees to remain silent. Existing research on leaders' behavioural integrity surrounding EDI is limited, despite the current political climate that sees some leaders eliminating existing EDI initiatives while others are increasing their discourse in support of EDI. To better understand the relationship between leaders' behavioural integrity regarding EDI and important employee outcomes, including trust and employee silence, we conducted a time-lagged study of 477 employees working in various industries. A mediation model was tested in which trust in leader transmitted the effects of leaders' behavioural integrity regarding EDI on employee silence. Higher leader behavioral integrity predicted lower acquiescent silence indirectly through trust ($b = -0.29$, $p < .001$). The direct effect remained significant ($b = -0.28$, $p < .001$), indicating partial mediation. Our findings offer*

organizations guidance on the effects of behavioural integrity regarding diversity, and the risks word-action misalignments pose for cultivating distrust and a climate of silence.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126071 - Printed Poster

What's in a Label? Investigating Emotional and Behavioural Responses to Labeled Leaders

Main Presenting Author: Belfiore, Caitlin C

Additional Author: Hillebrandt, Annika

Abstract: *Workplace behaviour is often ambiguous, and employees frequently rely on labels to make sense of leaders' actions and reduce uncertainty. However, little is known about how applying a diagnostic label (e.g., "Narcissist") versus describing behaviour alone shapes employees' reactions. Drawing on Labeling Theory and Uncertainty Management Theory, we hypothesize that labeling a leader provides clarity that reduces anxiety and exhaustion, but also prompts negative reactions (e.g., avoidance, withdrawal, complaints) and lowers expectations of a leader's capacity to change. Effects are expected to be stronger among individuals with greater personal uncertainty or a strong need for structure. A pilot study refined the manipulations and vignettes, and data collection for a cross-sectional experiment (N =250 full-time employees) is complete. Planned analyses include ANOVAs and regressions to examine the effects of the label presence and moderators on outcomes. Theoretically, this research contributes to the leadership and sensemaking literatures by integrating labeling and uncertainty management perspectives to highlight how diagnostic labels shape employees' emotional and behavioural responses to ambiguous leader behaviour. Practically, it shows how labels that clarify ambiguity can simultaneously diminish perceived leader changeability and trigger negative workplace behaviour.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123934 - Printed Poster

Why Leaders Choose to Lead: Identifying Distinct Motivation to Lead Profiles

Main Presenting Author: Ngo, Lawrence

Additional Authors: Daljeet, Kabir N.; Grenier, Simon; Mayer, William

Abstract: *Leaders often occupy similar roles for very different psychological reasons, yet motivation to lead (MTL) is frequently treated as a uniform construct. This masks meaningful heterogeneity that may influence how leaders behave and experience their work. This study aims to uncover distinct patterns among leader motivations using a person-centered approach and to examine how these profiles relate to important psychological and managerial outcomes. Data were collected from N = 330 managers across multiple organizational sectors. A bi-factor Exploratory Structural Equation Model (B-ESEM) was estimated to model both global MTL and its affective-identity, social-normative, and non-calculative components ($\chi^2(249) = 443.51$, $p < .001$, CFI = .94, TLI = .91, RMSEA = .05 (90% CI [.04, .06]), SRMR = .03). Factor scores were then used as subsequent input for Latent Profile Analysis and profile solutions for 2 through 9 profiles were examined. After examining the relevant model fit statistics (AIC, BIC, SABIC, Lo-Mendell-Rubin tests), and smallest class, the results of these analyses size supported a seven-profile solution. The seven profiles reflected qualitatively*

distinct motivational configurations. Subsequently, we used the BCH test in order to examine the association between profile membership with leader helping behaviour, leadership identity, personal fulfillment, and positive/negative affect. These findings highlight the value of person-centered methods for advancing leadership theory by illuminating the diverse motives that drive individuals to lead. The limitations, practical implications, and future directions will be discussed.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123904 - Printed Poster

Workgroup Diversity Ideologies' Influence on Cultural Minorities' Identity, Inclusion and Knowledge Exchange Expectancies: Implications for Team Information-Processing

Main Presenting Author: Grapes, Allister

Additional Author: Adair, Wendi

Abstract: *Information-processing accounts of diversity suggest that diversity, under the right conditions, can benefit workgroup performance through the inclusion of the unique perspectives, ideas and knowledge inherent to members' diverse identities. We explored how team diversity ideologies (aka diversity perspectives/beliefs) may contribute to these processes. Little research has examined the impact of diversity ideologies relating to information-processing, despite recognition for their influence on a wide variety of diversity-related outcomes. Cultural minorities residing in Canada and the United States were asked to imagine working with a team that endorsed either a colourblind, multicultural or polycultural diversity ideology, before giving their expectations for team identity-engagement, information-seeking, and valuing of their unique perspectives and contributions. We focus our results particularly on the potential benefits of polyculturalism with its unique emphasis on the beneficial and dynamic influence of cultures on one another. We hope to build preliminary support for the impact of diversity ideologies on team information-processing, opening opportunities for further research to explore their wider implications within the field and longitudinal settings, and help practitioners identify beliefs that can improve inclusion and productivity in diverse workgroups.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124140 - Printed Poster

Work-Life Spillover and Performance: The Moderating Effect of Work-Life Conflict

Main Presenting Author: Mashali, Nina G

Additional Author: Drouin-Rousseau, Sophie

Abstract: *Negative work-life spillover (NWLS) and work-life conflict (WLC) are central concepts in organizational psychology (Greenhaus & Beutell, 1985; Grzywacz et al., 2002; Lee et al., 2021). NWLS refers to the transfer of demands or emotions from work into the family sphere, while WLC reflects the perception of incompatibility between roles. Both have been linked to stress, reduced well-being, and diminished job outcomes, yet most studies examine indirect effects through mediators such as burnout or job satisfaction (Sanz-Vergel et al., 2025; Ratnaningsih & Idris, 2024). Their*

combined influence on perceived job performance (PJP) remains underexplored. This study addresses this gap by testing the moderating role of WLC in the relationship between NWLS and PJP. Data from 282 participants who completed an online questionnaire were analyzed using SPSS and the PROCESS macro. NWLS was treated as the predictor, PJP as the outcome, and WLC as the moderator. Analyses assessed associations across low, average, and high levels of WLC. Results revealed a significant moderating effect, specifically when WLC was low or average. These findings highlight the importance of examining spillover and conflict jointly, suggest future longitudinal research with diverse samples, and encourage organizations to reduce spillover and conflict to support favourable PJP.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126061 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

Becoming, Belonging, and Building a Future: Career Development Across the Dual Transitions of Immigration and Emerging Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Hakim, Nour

Additional Author: Chen , Charles

Abstract: *Emerging adult immigrants (EAI) represent a unique group that face the dual challenges of adapting to a new culture while managing the transition into adulthood. Research on emerging adulthood often overlooks minorities like EAIs, who frequently encounter prolonged unemployment due to immigration-related barriers. This study investigates how EAIs in Canada utilize their autonomy, competence, and relatedness-core needs from Career Self Determination Theory-to navigate their vocational trajectories. Semi-structured interviews with EAIs and thematic coding were used to identify patterns in how participants meet their core needs and adjust their vocational behaviors. Findings revealed that EAIs actively pursue autonomy, competence, and relatedness, but their efforts are shaped by overlapping structural and developmental pressures. The intersection of these two transitions intensified the demands placed on EAIs, producing patterns of constrained autonomy, fluctuating competence, and uneven access to relatedness. Immigration did not simply overlay their developmental stage; it became the context through which they understood adulthood and career development. This research provides insight into the intersection of immigration and emerging adulthood and offers implications for programs that support immigrant employment, foster social belonging, and promote equitable career advancement.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125199 - Virtual Poster

How to Improve Driving Conditions Among Fatigued Truck Drivers: A Systematic Review

Main Presenting Author: Groppini, Samantha

Abstract: *Background:Driver fatigue is a major contributor to commercial vehicle crashes and is influenced by irregular schedules, inadequate rest, psychosocial stress, and weak regulatory environments. Understanding effective fatigue-management strategies is essential for improving road*

safety among truck drivers.Methods:A systematic review was conducted following PRISMA guidelines. Database searches (PubMed, Academic Search Complete, Web of Science, Cochrane, and others) up to August 2023 identified studies examining fatigue, driving behaviours, and crash outcomes among adult truck drivers. Twenty-five studies met inclusion criteria and included cross-sectional, case-control, naturalistic driving, and machine-learning approaches.Results:Fatigue was consistently associated with impaired driving performance, particularly during circadian low points (1-5 a.m.). Key contributors included excessive driving hours, poor safety culture, unrealistic schedules, burnout, loneliness, and job dissatisfaction. Rest breaks-especially those aligned with nighttime recovery-significantly reduced crash risk. Technological interventions and predictive fatigue-risk models improved compliance with working-hours regulations and fatigue detection. However, organizational practices strongly influenced intervention effectiveness.Conclusions:Commercial driver fatigue is a multifactorial issue shaped by individual, organizational, and regulatory factors. Effective fatigue reduction requires integrated systems that combine structured rest policies, real-time monitoring technologies, and organizational commitment to driver well-being. Longitudinal and objective measurement approaches are needed to evaluate fatigue-management strategies across contexts.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124845 - Virtual Poster

Perceived Power Equality in Organizational Crisis

Main Presenting Author: Dhatt, Simran K

Additional Authors: Abu-Omar, Halah ; Gill, Harjinder; Stanley, David

Abstract: *Organizational crises often harm employee-organizational relationships. This study examines an organizational crisis response 'best practice'- increasing strategic employee participation (SEP), or employees' perceived ability to influence the organization's strategic direction. We investigate whether SEP may foster employees' organizational felt trust (OFT), or their perception that the organization trusts them. Participants at the University of Guelph read a news article about a real organizational crisis and a response email emphasizing the university's support for employee input (SEP). We hypothesized perceived SEP would reduce employees' perception of a power difference between themselves and upper management (higher power equality), which in turn would increase OFT. Initial findings indicate that when employees perceive more SEP, they feel a higher sense of organizational power equality ($t(132) = 4.38$, $p<.001$, $R2 = .12$, 95% CIs = [.04, .23], β = .36, 95% CIs = [.20, 0.52]). However, this increased power equality did not significantly increase organizational felt trust when controlling for the effect of SEP ($t(131)= 2.27$, $sr2= .03$, 95% CI = [-.02, .09], $\beta = 0.19$, 95% CIs = [0.02, 0.35]). Although the mediation was not supported, the results offer insights into organizational responses to crisis and highlight the need for further examination of SEP and power equality.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125888 - Virtual Poster

What Makes Employees Feel Trusted? Examining Behavioural Antecedents of Felt Trust in the Workplace

Main Presenting Author: Abu-Omar, Halah

Additional Authors: Dhatt, Simran ; Gill, Harjinder; Hausdorf, Peter

Abstract: *Felt trust, employees' perception of how much another person trusts them, has emerged as an important construct in the trust literature due to its positive influence on workplace outcomes such as engagement, performance, and loyalty. Prior work has largely focused on the consequences of felt trust; little is known about its antecedents. To better understand what makes employees feel trusted in the workplace, we utilized an exploratory qualitative design. Participants from a university in Southwestern Ontario (n = 39) were asked "What do people say or do to make you feel trusted in the workplace?" Manifest inductive content analysis revealed that individuals feel trusted when they are depended on, assigned responsibility, granted autonomy, and given positive verbal reinforcement. Overall, these findings highlight the unique nature of felt trust by identifying its behavioural antecedents. Our findings suggest that leaders can enhance felt trust by demonstrating confidence in subordinates' abilities through delegation of meaningful work, granting responsibility and autonomy, and offering genuine praise.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125797 - Virtual Poster

Work Organization Shapes Cognitive Stress Through Resilience: A Mediation Analysis Among Employed Adults in Canada.

Main Presenting Author: Toutant, Jérémy

Additional Author: Mathieu, Cynthia

Abstract: *Background: Work organization and job design are central determinants of employee psychological functioning. Poorly structured work environments, including lack of influence and no access to development opportunities, can reduce adaptive capacities and increase stress responses. Understanding how organizational conditions shape resilience and, in turn, influence coping processes, is essential for improving occupational health. Methods: Using cross-sectional survey data collected via Prolific from 354 employed adults in Canada, we tested a mediation model examining whether work organization and job contents predict cognitive stress through workplace resilience. Variables were assessed with validated scales (COPSOQ and Workplace Resilience Instrument), and indirect, direct, and total effects were estimated using standardized coefficients. Results: Preliminary results suggest that work organization strongly predicted workplace resilience, which was associated with lower cognitive stress. A significant indirect effect emerged, while the direct effect was non-significant, indicating full mediation. Discussion/Impact: These findings suggest that well-designed work environments enhance workplace resilience, which in turn reduces stress-related coping. Strengthening organizational structures may therefore represent a key lever for improving psychological well-being at work.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125776 - Virtual Poster

Work Performance Anxiety: State or Trait?

Main Presenting Author: St-Jacques, Chloé

Additional Author: Mathieu, Cynthia

Abstract: *Background: Performance anxiety at work has received increasing attention as organizations place greater emphasis on productivity, public communication, and evaluative contexts. Despite this relevance, few validated instruments specifically assess workplace performance anxiety as a distinct psychological construct. Existing measures often capture general anxiety or performance anxiety in academic or social domains, limiting their applicability in professional settings.The present study aims to validate a newly developed scale assessing Work Performance Anxiety (WorkPAS) and to examine whether this construct aligns more closely with a state or trait conceptualization. Establishing its position within the broader nomological network of anxiety is essential for theoretical clarity and for guiding future applications in organizational assessment and interventions.Methodology: A sample of working adults from diverse professional sectors were recruited through Prolific (Sample 1: N = 362) and completed the newly developed Work Performance Anxiety Scale (WorkPAS). To evaluate convergent validity, participants also completed the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI). Psychometric analyses included exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses to assess the internal structure of the WorkPAS, as well as reliability indices. To address the theoretical question of whether workplace performance anxiety represents a state-like or trait-like tendency, correlations were examined separately with the STAI-State and STAI-Trait subscales. Additional regression and model comparison analyses were conducted to test the relative predictive value of state vs. trait anxiety.Summary of Analyses: Factor analyses supported a coherent multidimensional structure of the WorkPAS. Internal consistency was high across subscales. Correlational analyses revealed moderate-to-strong associations with both STAI-State and STAI-Trait scores, but model comparisons indicated that trait anxiety accounted for significantly more variance in WorkPAS scores than state anxiety. Nonetheless, state anxiety remained a meaningful secondary predictor, suggesting that Work Performance Anxiety has both dispositional and situational components. Preliminary evidence supports the construct as predominantly trait-like, with situational fluctuations in high-stakes performance contexts.Impacts: The validated WorkPAS offers researchers and practitioners a reliable tool for identifying individuals at risk of performance-related impairment in the workplace. Organizations may use this scale to guide interventions, tailor support programs, and monitor outcomes of workplace mental health initiatives.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125462 - Virtual Poster

Review Session

Dark Personalities and the Making of Toxic Work Environments

Main Presenting Author: Mathieu, Cynthia

Abstract: *The behaviours associated with individuals presenting dark personality traits are at the root of many problems in the workplace and cause significant harm to Canadian organizations, employees, and society. This review synthesizes current research on dark personalities (narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy), and their impact on workplace misbehavior, employee wellbeing, job satisfaction, and turnover. It explores how research (including that of the presenter and others) has shown that these traits contribute to interpersonal mistreatment such as harassment, incivility, exclusion, and discrimination, while also shaping broader toxic work environments that reduce psychological safety and mental health. Additionally, the review examines organizational systems that enable such individuals to gain power, avoid accountability, and sustain harmful cultures, including structural blind spots in leadership selection, performance review, and complaint procedures. Finally, future research directions are suggested to better understand how dark personalities interact with organizational practices and how evidence-based interventions can reduce*

harm. This review aims to highlight the societal costs of toxic workplace cultures in Canada and emphasize the need for systemic prevention to protect employees' mental and physical health.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124507 - Review Session

So, you want to change your managers' behaviours? Inside the design and delivery of a leadership intervention

Main Presenting Author: Carver, Sarah J
Co-Presenting Authors: Cassidy, Scott A; Hausdorf, Peter A

Abstract: *Research links several leadership styles to positive follower outcomes, including leader satisfaction, work engagement, and thriving; however, most of this work is cross-sectional and non-experimental. Few studies explore interventions for developing leadership. Moreover, while some studies suggest leadership interventions improve follower outcomes, limited information is available regarding actual intervention activities (and therefore, how such interventions work). We will explore the process of developing a leadership intervention by reviewing two interventions reflecting the transformational and empowering styles, and their deployment within the federal public service. We will emphasize the training components expected to produce changes in leader behaviours, such as: a) creating awareness of key leadership concepts; b) applying these concepts to specific leader behaviours; c) identifying potential challenges in implementing these behaviours; d) leveraging assessment feedback and goal setting; and, e) facilitating ongoing coaching and support. We will discuss each component in terms of what motivates leaders to change and how they do so effectively - and the resultant implications for leadership intervention design and delivery. Although the interventions in this session are based on the transformational and empowering styles, many of the lessons learned will apply more broadly. By focusing our attention on the critical motivators to encourage behaviour change in managers, we hope to provide insights that can guide a range of change projects in organizations.Topic of session/discussionThe topic focuses on intervention design in the context of leadership along with the key theories of transformational leadership, empowering leadership, theories of behaviour change, goal setting, coaching, and support. The purpose of the session is to create insight into how interventions should be designed to maximize the opportunity for behaviour change.How the topic is novel, contentious, and/or pertinent for discussionThe topic is novel because implementing organizational interventions to produce behaviour change is a critical skill in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. Although researchers implement interventions to assess their causal impact on behaviour change, there are only a small number of intervention studies on leadership and the descriptions of these interventions are limited. Furthermore, these studies only minimally explore the foundational aspects of what produces behaviour change. Therefore, although the discussion will focus on two leadership styles, the insights will be applicable to individual behaviour change more broadly.Purpose of session/discussion (what do you hope to achieve)The purpose of the session is to highlight the key levers to encourage individual behaviour change for organizational interventions. We hope that participants will appreciate the deeper insight into these levers and see the potential with using them in leadership and other organizational interventions in both research and practice.Relevance to psychology, in Canada and/or writ largeAs Psychology, in general, and Industrial/Organizational Psychology, in particular, want to have a positive impact on change in society and organizations, understanding the conditions that can maximize the opportunity for individual change is important.Risks associated with the topic (if applicable)We do not foresee any risks with the topic as it is designed to provide deeper insights into conditions that can contribute to behaviour change.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124870 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

Enhancing optimal performance at work using self-determination theory: Antecedents, processes, consequences, and interventions related to the increase of high-quality of motivation at work

Main Presenting Author: Forest, Jacques

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Organizations and societies increasingly seek evidence-based strategies to foster well-being and sustainable performance. Our work responds by examining how autonomy-supportive practices, need-satisfying environments, and positive technologies shape psychological and physiological functioning across workplaces, sports, healthcare, and public policy. Methods: We employed randomized controlled trials, longitudinal and observational designs, scale development and validation, psychophysiological assessment, and mixed-methods approaches. Results: Across studies, autonomy support, strengths use, and need satisfaction consistently improved well-being, engagement, ethical conduct, creativity, and team functioning, while controlling or incentive-heavy contexts predicted deviance, distress, and reduced performance. Conclusions: Motivation quality-not quantity-drives thriving across domains, jobs and populations. Action/Impact: Our findings informed digital interventions, leadership programs, coaching protocols, measures of societal functioning, mental-health monitoring tools, and policy-relevant insights (e.g., tax compliance), demonstrating scalable, evidence-based pathways to healthier and more effective systems.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124831 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Under Pressure and Out of Sync: The Toll of Atypical Work Schedules on Sleep, and Mental Health

Main Presenting Author: Vallières , Annie

Abstract: *Atypical work schedules refer to work performed outside regular daytime hours, with or without rotation. Specifically, they often include long shifts (more than eight hours per shift), weekend work, and short rest periods between shifts (less than 11 hours). Such work schedules are particularly common in sectors such as healthcare, emergency, and defense services, where continuous operation is essential to ensure the public health and safety. The impacts on workers' physical and mental health are numerous, well established, and largely attributed to the circadian and social misalignments. Despite this evidence, strategies to mitigate these consequences -particularly those affecting mental health- remain in their early stages of investigation. In this context, the presentation will first outline the atypical characteristics of the work schedules and their respective consequences on health and sleep. Following this, it will address sleep disruptions that may contribute to increased anxiety and depression in this context. Over the past decade, an increasing number of studies has developed and explored psychological interventions for sleep disruptions among workers with atypical work schedules, aiming to improve both sleep and mental health. Special attention will therefore be given to this scientific literature. Finally, the session will conclude with an open discussion and a question period on the topic.*

Section: *Psychology in the Military*
Session ID: 124814 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

Advancing the measurement of job satisfaction in Canadian policing: The development and psychometric evaluation of a new self-report measure for municipal patrol officers

Main Presenting Author: Hendry, Brittany P

Additional Author: Hellsten, Laurie-ann M

Abstract: *Job Satisfaction (JS) is often examined as a broad construct with relatively limited research investigating alternative dimensions that may exist within specific and nuanced occupations, such as policing. The primary research aim was to explore and confirm key dimensions of JS among Canadian municipal patrol officers for the purpose of developing a new, psychometrically sound instrument. Using Herzberg's (1959) Motivation-Hygiene (MH) theory, a mixed-method design was implemented to conceptualize and measure patrol officer JS. This included: (1) ethnographic fieldwork for conceptualization, (2) item and scale construction, and (3) a comprehensive psychometric evaluation. A preliminary 88-item (14-subscale) measure of patrol officer JS was developed after identifying initial key work factors. After comprehensive field-testing, eight relevant dimensions of JS were retained, including: peer camaraderie, executive leadership, growth, direct supervision, the work itself, influence on personal life, protective equipment, and operational resources. A resulting 37-item (8-subscale) measure was finalized with acceptable reliability and validity estimates. As low employee satisfaction poses a significant threat to organizational success, identifying work facets that contribute to officer dissatisfaction can allow police organizations to mitigate consequences associated with low JS.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125956 - Snapshot

Algorithmic Monitoring and Customer Mistreatment as Sources of Entropy for App-Workers: A Human Sustainability Approach

Main Presenting Author: Granger, Steve

Additional Authors: Chen, Yu-Ping ; Lirio, Pamela

Abstract: *Background: The rise of app-work has transformed employment relationships and worker experiences, raising critical questions about how these work arrangements may undermine occupational health. Drawing from a human sustainability lens and the algorithmic management literature, we investigate the simultaneous impact of acute and chronic entropy-worker experiences that threaten well-being-on the sustainability of customer-facing app-work. Specifically, we apply the input-process-output model to examine how app-workers' two primary touchpoints-interactions with customers and platform applications-serve as inputs that generate distinct sources of entropy: acute entropy from customer mistreatment episodes and chronic entropy from algorithmic monitoring. We propose that greater exposure to these entropic inputs triggers three psychological processes: affective (work engagement), cognitive (rumination), and behavioral responses (safety compliance). In*

turn, these tripartite processes mediate the relationship through to app-worker well-being outcomes crucial for sustaining ongoing app-work employment. Methods & Results: Using multilevel modeling with eight weeks of survey data from customer-facing app-workers, we find support for our theoretical model at both within-person (weekly fluctuations) and between-person levels of analysis. Results demonstrate that entropy from both touchpoints operate through these psychological mechanisms to create cumulative physical and psychological strain that compromises long-term work sustainability. Conclusion/Impact: These findings contribute to human sustainability and algorithmic management literatures by simultaneously testing key touchpoint experiences, while providing evidence for organizational and policy interventions to support the vulnerable workforce of app-workers.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 121096 - Snapshot

Counting Down to the Party: How Anticipating Workplace Social Events Influences Pre-Event Experiences and Behaviors

Main Presenting Author: Wendt, Dylan

Additional Authors: ten Brummelhuis, Lieke ; Lyubykh, Zhanna; Lautsch, Brenda

Abstract: *The majority of North American companies facilitate workplace social events (WSEs) to improve morale and cohesion, yet empirical evidence of their impact is limited. Critically, most research overlooks the anticipatory period before events occur. Applying Lazarus' stress appraisal theory, this project examines how anticipating WSEs shapes employees' pre-event experiences and behaviors.Study 1 uses a multi-wave survey of ~200 full-time employees across North America, testing two pathways: 1. challenge appraisals of WSEs increase engagement, promoting prosocial behavior; 2. threat appraisals of WSEs increase cynicism and exhaustion, promoting withdrawal. Perceived control and workplace social connection moderate these relationships. Study 2 experimentally manipulates event characteristics (e.g., mandatoriness) to identify features eliciting challenge versus threat appraisals and examines how introversion and self-esteem moderate effects.Findings will demonstrate how WSE anticipation impacts pre-event employee functioning. Threat appraisals are expected to drive withdrawal via cynicism and exhaustion, and challenge appraisals to drive prosocial behavior via engagement.This research positions anticipation as a critical component of WSEs, providing evidence-based recommendations for event design that maximize benefits while minimizing strain across diverse employees.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125271 - Snapshot

Does Gender Interrupt Dominance? Testing Leadership Emergence in All-Men vs. Mixed Gender Teams

Main Presenting Author: Gillett, Madylin M

Additional Authors: Benson, Alex ; Espinoza, Jose

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Dominance-driven leadership, characterized by competition, control, and reduced collaboration, has negative consequences for team effectiveness and organizational*

outcomes. Social role theory explains how gender stereotypes shape behavioural expectations. Men are expected to be assertive and dominant, and women communal and relational. Prior laboratory studies have shown that adding even one woman to a team can reduce dominant behaviours in formally appointed leaders. However, this effect has not been tested in naturalistic teams where leadership emerges informally through peer acceptance. This study examines whether team gender composition influences dominance-based leadership behaviours in emergent leaders. METHOD: Data will be collected from ~900 first-year engineering students in project teams of 5-6 members working on real industry projects. Leadership emergence and dominance will be rated by peers within 2-4 weeks of group formation using validated scales. RESULTS/CONCLUSION: Data collection is ongoing. Multilevel analyses will compare dominance scores of emergent leaders in all-men versus mixed-gender teams, controlling for covariates. IMPACT: Findings highlight the importance of followership in shaping leaders, moving beyond leader-centric approaches and could inform the design of ad hoc teams.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123167 - Snapshot

Evaluating an AI scribe for psychotherapy documentation in a private practice setting

Main Presenting Author: Kelly, Pete

Additional Authors: Dandurand, Cathy ; Turner, Kimberly A; Dalton, Connie; Ballen, Natasha; Rousseau, Francois

Abstract: *Clinical documentation is critical to continuity of care yet a major source of workload and burnout for psychologists. This evaluation examined the implementation and impact of Heidi, an AI scribe that automates psychotherapy documentation, in a large cognitive behavioural therapy practice. 19 staff (16 clinicians, 3 administrators) completed surveys on user friendliness; understanding of the technology and risks; training adequacy; and time spent on documentation and work-life balance before and after adoption. A focus group was conducted with 6 clinicians to gather more detailed qualitative data on experiences with Heidi. Clinicians rated Heidi as user friendly (M=3.83/5). Estimated weekly documentation time decreased from 213 to 71 minutes, and documentation as a share of working hours declined from 21.9% to 9.4%. Satisfaction with work-life balance rose 51.1% (2.74 to 4.14.) Qualitative data highlight fewer after-hours notes, reduced cognitive load, and renewed engagement with clinical work, alongside manageable concerns addressable through policies, training and supervision. Results suggest that AI-assisted documentation can substantially reduce uncompensated administrative burden and support sustainability in psychological practice when implemented with appropriate ethical safeguards.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125437 - Snapshot

Should I Call in Sick? Exploring how Emergency Medical Services Personnel Conceptualize Health

Main Presenting Author: Mok, Zacharias

Abstract: *Presenteeism, defined as working while ill, has been widely studied but remains theoretically limited, with recent work calling for clearer explanations of how employees judge whether they are "healthy enough to work". This study examines how emergency medical services personnel conceptualize health and how these beliefs guide attendance behaviour decisions. Semi-structured interviews were analyzed using grounded theory methods to understand how participants defined "health" and being "healthy enough to work". Preliminary findings show that employees did not view "health" as the absence of illness but as a judgement of functional capacity shaped by a sense of responsibility. Decisions to attend work reflected three interconnected themes: duty, honour, and obligations, capturing expectations toward their team, their role, and those who rely on them. Illness severity was secondary to these capacity and value based considerations. Full data collection is ongoing, with the complete study expected by June. These results contribute to emerging theory on presenteeism by showing how workers balance health constraints with workplace responsibilities. These insights can assist organizations in refining attendance expectations and supports to more effectively match the decision-making realities of front-line work.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126132 - Snapshot

Social Support from Work and Nonwork Sources and Work-Nonwork Balance: The Role of Cross-Domain Positive Affect, Involvement, and Effectiveness

Main Presenting Author: Elbaz, Sasha

Additional Author: Provost Savard, Yanick

Abstract: *Individuals are increasingly prioritizing their work-nonwork balance, and a growing body of research suggests that social support is an important antecedent. The current study contributes to the literature by answering calls for exploration on the varied effects of social support sources (i.e., supervisors, colleagues, family, and friends) and by being one of the first to test a derivation of the motivational pathway of the Dual Process Model of Multidimensional Work-Nonwork Balance (Casper et al., 2024). We posit that source-specific social support from one domain (i.e., origin domain) is associated with work-nonwork balance through affective, involvement, and effectiveness in the other domain (i.e., receiving domain). A sample of 549 full-time unionized workers completed an electronic questionnaire. Using path analyses, we identified statistically significant direct effects between all the sources of support and work-nonwork balance. Additionally, indirect effects of positive affect and effectiveness in the receiving domain on the relations between supervisor, colleague, and friend social support, and work-nonwork balance were identified. The indirect effects of work involvement and effectiveness on the relation between family social support and work-nonwork balance were also significant. Overall, these findings suggest that both work and nonwork sources have unique roles in promoting work-nonwork balance.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123219 - Snapshot

The effects of employee ethical voice on workplace bullying: the moderating role of supportive leadership and coworker support

Main Presenting Author: Sajadi, Pegah

Additional Author: Trépanier, Sarah-Geneviève

Abstract: *In this study, we examine how employees' ethical voice-when expressed by those who experience workplace bullying-affects its recurrence over time. Ethical voice involves speaking up about issues related to fairness, respect, honesty, or care and offering suggestions that promote more ethical conduct. Given the serious consequences of workplace bullying, it is important to identify behaviors that may reduce its occurrence, yet it remains unclear whether ethical voice can decrease the likelihood of bullying over time. We hypothesize that the effects of ethical voice depend on contextual factors such as supportive leadership and coworker support. Distinguishing between promotive ethical voice (what should be done) and prohibitive ethical voice (what should not be done), we examine how these two forms shape subsequent bullying. Our longitudinal analysis of 308 participants shows that prohibitive ethical voice does not significantly predict changes in bullying. In contrast, promotive ethical voice displays a conditional pattern: it decreases the likelihood of bullying when supportive leadership is high but increases bullying when leadership support is low. It also decreases subsequent bullying when coworker support is high. Together, these findings highlight the complex and context-dependent role of ethical voice in shaping the recurrence of workplace bullying.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125624 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

KalmLeadership™: Leading with Calm, Clarity, and Compassion - A Psychological Framework for Building Resilient, Emotionally Intelligent Leaders and Healthier Workplaces

Main Presenting Author: McKenzie, Idalin

Abstract: *Background/Rationale:In today's rapidly changing workplaces, many leaders are technically capable but emotionally exhausted. Traditional performance models often ignore the psychological skills that sustain clarity and connection under stress. KalmLeadership™ was created to fill this gap-helping leaders stay calm, grounded, and compassionate while guiding teams through uncertainty.Methods:Drawing on principles of positive and organizational psychology, the framework integrates three elements: the 4Cs of Leadership (Competence, Courage, Connection, Confidence), the Balance Matrix™ (balancing Clarity and Compassion), and the 4Rs of Reinvention (Reflect, Reframe, Reposition, Reinvent). These ideas were refined through reflective workshops and leadership coaching dialogues.Results:Participants described improved self-awareness, steadier emotional responses, and deeper empathy when applying the Balance Matrix™. Early feedback highlights its usefulness in fostering psychological safety and more authentic communication at work.Conclusions & Impact:Calm leadership is a teachable psychological practice. The KalmLeadership™ model offers practical tools that enhance resilience, trust, and well-being - contributing to healthier, more human workplaces.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122683 - Standard Workshop

Navigating Early-Career Academia: Supporting Balance and Preventing Burnout

Main Presenting Author: Monson, Eva
Co-Presenting Author: Villotti, Patrizia

Additional Author: French, Martin

Abstract: *This workshop explores what it means to pursue a healthy work-life balance within the inherently unbalanced realities of academic life. Early-career scholars often face heavy workloads, shifting expectations, and limited support, making the ideal of "balance" difficult to achieve. Rather than offering a perfect solution, this session asks a more realistic question: How can we live well within systems that are not designed for balance?Participants will gain a clearer understanding and awareness of the pressures that can contribute to burnout. Part reflective conversation and part collaborative problem-solving, the workshop creates space to name challenges, share tools, and imagine healthier ways of navigating academic life.Learning objectives:1.Understand early-career challenges and how they contribute to burnout.2.Cultivate knowledge of risk and protective factors shaping wellbeing in academia.3.Explore intervention strategies to combat early-career burnout.*

Section: *Psychology Careers and Professionals*
Session ID: 123169 - Standard Workshop

Vicarious Trauma and Moral Injuries: Risk Factors, Consequences and Strategies for Therapists

Main Presenting Author: Tomaro, Jann
Co-Presenting Author: Thomas, Zoë

Additional Authors: Sanchez, Gelymar ; Cyr, Gaëlle; Hagner, Jackson

Abstract: *Vicarious trauma and moral injury are prevalent challenges faced by mental health professionals, leading to serious consequences such as burnout and ethical violations. Nevertheless, these themes remain seldom addressed in the psychology curriculum. Bringing together multidisciplinary experts in complex trauma, this workshop will examine how being repeatedly exposed to traumatic narratives and reenactments can affect therapists. Risk factors for vicarious trauma, as well as its psychological, physiological and behavioral manifestations will be outlined, clarifying its connection with moral injuries. Using clinical vignettes throughout, this workshop will also explore the impacts of moral injuries, which are common in institutional settings and can generate feelings of helplessness and existential doubts. Participants will be guided through self-reflections to assess their own levels of vicarious trauma. Personal, institutional and political strategies to prevent vicarious trauma, mitigate the impacts of moral injuries and promote growth will be presented, with opportunities for group discussions and collective brainstorming.*

Section: *Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres*
Session ID: 125765 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

CSIOP English Student Symposium: Aligning Intentions and Perceptions: The Paradoxes of Support in Contemporary Workplaces

Moderator(s): Ouellette, Samuel

Abstract: *Organizations increasingly implement initiatives to support their employees. However, the provision of support does not guarantee that it will be well perceived. Work relationships rely on social signals (e.g., effort, fairness, credibility) that shape how employees interpret support. When these signals become ambiguous or poorly timed, interventions designed to help may produce the opposite effect. This symposium examines these paradoxes of support, when organizational intentions fail to align with employees' lived experiences. The first presentation explores how safety-related support from different organizational sources can influence employees' psychological recovery following workplace incidents. The second focuses on how the relationships between process conflict and fairness perceptions evolve across the stages of team collaboration, highlighting the importance of temporality in collective dynamics. The third examines how the integration of AI into helping behaviors alters the relational signals associated with support and transforms social exchanges at work. Together, these three perspectives underscore that the quality of support depends not only on its presence but on how it is interpreted, made credible, and integrated into social exchanges. The symposium creates space to rethink how organizations can provide support that is truly aligned with employees' needs.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123415 - Symposium

A Stage-Based Model of Process Conflict and Fairness Perceptions in Team Dynamics

Main Presenting Author: Xu, Olivia

Additional Authors: Li, Kassie ; Lam, Catherine K.

Abstract: *Process conflict and fairness are conceptually related because both concern how resources are allocated and tasks are divided in teamwork. Reflecting this conceptual closeness, prior studies have found negative correlations between process conflict and fairness. However, the causal directions between them have received little research attention. To address this gap, I draw on Social Exchange Theory (SET) to articulate a temporal perspective on the causality between process conflict and fairness. Time is central in SET: when individuals first begin working together, they rely on early cues, such as how resources are allocated and tasks assigned (i.e. process conflict), to construct fairness perceptions. Once formed, these fairness perceptions guide subsequent behaviors in teamwork, including whether members engage in conflict. Building on SET, I hypothesize that at the early stage of teamwork, process conflict causes fairness perceptions; conversely, at the later stage, fairness perceptions cause process conflict. To test these stage-specific effects, I conducted a longitudinal study with three-wave data covering the full teamwork process. This allowed me to test a cross-lagged panel model (CLPM). Findings supported the hypothesized temporal pattern. Early-stage process conflict reduced fairness perceptions (but not vice versa), whereas later-stage fairness perceptions reduced process conflict (but not vice versa). This study theorized and empirical showed that the causal direction between process conflict and fairness shifts over time. Practically, it provides theory-driven guidance on when and how organizations can intervene to manage conflict and foster fairness.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125236 - Paper within a symposium

When Algorithms Assists: How AI Disrupts Resource Exchange in Workplace Helping Behaviors

Main Presenting Author: Ng, Pearlyn

Additional Authors: Collins , Alexis Michaela; Brown, Douglas

Abstract: *Workplace helping behaviors play a central role in building relationships by signaling effort and care through visible personal investment. However, as employees increasingly use artificial intelligence (AI) tools in their jobs, it remains unclear how such AI-augmentation alters how help is perceived. We predicted that AI-augmentation of helping behavior moderated by help type reduces perceptions of the helper's effort and care, which in turn reduces the help recipients' reciprocity intentions. We conducted five experimental studies (N = 1,954) manipulating help type (task-based vs. relation-based) and augmentation source (no augmentation vs. AI-augmented). Participants rated perceived helper effort, care, and reciprocity intentions using workplace vignettes and simulations. Study 1a-b established basic effects; Study 2a-b tested potential moderators (help time, caring justifications); Study 3 contrasted AI with third-party help; Study 4 integrated our findings through meta-analytic structural equation modeling (MASEM) to test the hypothesized moderated-mediation pathway. We found that AI augmentation significantly reduced both perceived effort and care across all contexts. Critically, this depended on help type: AI's negative impact was significantly stronger for relation-based help (effort: $\beta = -.42$; care: $\beta = -.34$) compared to task-based help (effort: $\beta = -.26$; care: $\beta = -.15$). This reduction on perceived effort and care mediated the relationship between AI augmentation and reciprocity intentions, with significantly stronger indirect effects via care for relation-based help ($Z = -4.64$, $p < .001$). Together, our findings suggest that while AI can support instrumental assistance, it undermines the socioemotional signals that sustain workplace relationships.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125240 - Paper within a symposium

When Support for Safety Misses the Mark: The Positivity-Dampening Effect of Upper Management Support Following Workplace Injuries

Main Presenting Author: Dawson, Anna

Additional Authors: Turner , Nick ; Granger, Steve

Abstract: *Workplace injuries harm not only physical functioning but also employees' psychological connection to work, elevating distress and eroding the emotional energy needed for engagement and reintegration. While some research has focused on clinical or individual-level recovery, this study examines how formal organizational support for safety influences psychological recovery following injury. Drawing on Latané's (1981) Social Impact Theory, the Job Demands-Resources model (Bakker et al., 2023), and Bavik et al.'s (2020) typology of support functions, we evaluated whether perceived safety support from upper management, supervisors, and coworkers moderates the effects of injury exposure on negative (psychological distress) and positive job-related affective well-being. The study used pre-existing data from two samples of UK railway maintenance workers. Using self-reported questionnaires, the study measured employee perceptions of safety support from three sources and job-related affective well-being. Across the two samples ($N_1 = 264$; $N_2 = 117$), support from coworkers and supervisors did not moderate these relationships. In contrast, a consistent and*

theoretically surprising pattern emerged for upper management: when injuries were more frequent, employees who perceived higher managerial support reported lower positive affect. This suggests a positivity-dampening effect, that well-intended top-down safety support may fail to restore or diminish motivational energy required for psychological recovery. The findings highlight the importance of distinguishing between distress reduction and affect restoration and of considering the credibility of the support source. Practically, safety support must be believable, proximate, and visibly enacted through hazard remediation and recovery accommodations to foster genuine psychological reintegration after injury.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125229 - Paper within a symposium

Hidden Drivers of Discrimination: Dark Triad Traits in the Workplace

Moderator(s): Mathieu, Cynthia

Abstract: *Toxic workplaces negatively impact employee well-being, productivity, and organizational culture. This symposium examines psychological, behavioral, and organizational factors contributing to workplace toxicity, along with protective mechanisms that foster resilience. The first presentation by the discussant explores the role of dark personality traits (psychopathy, Machiavellianism, narcissism) as predictors of workplace misbehavior, highlighting the individual-level drivers of discriminatory attitudes and unethical behavior. The second presentation investigates bullying among academic staff, examining prevalence, antecedents, and consequences in higher education contexts. The third presentation focuses on perceived organizational justice and vertical trust, demonstrating how fairness and trust in leadership shape employee experiences and mitigate harm. The fourth presentation examines the mediating role of leadership support and organizational communication in promoting employee resilience in uncertain times, identifying key psychological processes that buffer against workplace stress and burnout. Together, these studies integrate personality, behavior, and organizational pathways, offering a comprehensive understanding of toxic workplaces and actionable insights for fostering healthier, more supportive, and resilient work environments.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125977 - Symposium

Fairness Matters: How Organizational Justice Explains the Impact of Workplace Bullying on Burnout

Main Presenting Author: Bergeron, Ariane

Additional Authors: St-Jacques-Lemay, Chloé ; Toutant, Jérémy; Mathieu, Cynthia

Abstract: *Background/RationaleBullying is a significant occupational stressor associated with reduced employee burnout. However, the systemic factors through which bullying impacts individuals are not fully understood. Organizational justice and vertical trust may help clarify how employees interpret and respond to bullying.MethodsA sample of 350 Canadian working adults was recruited through Prolific. Participants completed validated measures of workplace bullying, organizational justice, vertical trust, and burnout. A parallel mediation model (Hayes PROCESS Model 4) tested whether organizational justice and vertical trust independently mediated the relationship between bullying and burnout.ResultsBullying was associated with higher burnout and reduced perceptions of justice and trust. However, only organizational justice showed a significant indirect effect, indicating that lower perceptions of fairness partly mediated the relationship between bullying and burnout.*

Vertical trust was not a significant mediator.Conclusions/ImpactFindings emphasize the vital role of organizational justice in explaining how bullying damages employee well-being. Interventions that enhance fairness, transparency, and equitable treatment may lessen the negative effects of bullying and promote psychologically healthy workplaces in Canada.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126175 - Paper within a symposium

Navigating Workplace Uncertainty: How Organizations Can Sustain Resilience Amid Job Insecurity

Main Presenting Author: Toutant, Jérémy

Additional Authors: St-Jacques-Lemay, Chloé ; Mathieu, Cynthia

Abstract: *Background/RationaleJob insecurity is rising in workplaces undergoing restructuring, and concerns about AI-related job loss are growing. This uncertainty can weaken resilience, but organizational factors may help lessen these effects.MethodsA sample of 350 Canadian employees recruited through Prolific completed validated measures of job insecurity, leadership support, organizational communication (being kept informed), and resilience. A parallel mediation model tested whether leadership support and communication mediated the relationship between job insecurity and resilience.ResultsJob insecurity was linked to lower resilience. Both leadership support and organizational communication showed significant indirect effects, suggesting that employees who felt supported and well-informed maintained higher resilience despite job insecurity.Conclusions and Action/ImpactFindings highlight the protective roles of supportive leadership and transparent communication in environments shaped by restructuring and AI-related fears. Organizations can bolster employee resilience by prioritizing consistent, clear communication and leadership behaviours that convey support and stability.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126179 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding Interpersonal Mistreatment Among University Faculty: Qualitative Insights into Social Dynamics and Network, Well-Being, and Career Impacts

Main Presenting Author: Labelle-Deraspe, Rémi

Additional Author: Charbonneau, Élizabeth

Abstract: *Background. Interpersonal mistreatment, including incivility, exclusion, undermining, and harassment, represents an increasing occupational health concern in higher education. Academic environments characterized by high expectations, resource competition, and complex interdependence can foster toxic climates in which such behaviours become normalized. Methods. This study, conducted in partnership with a faculty association at a large Canadian university, investigates how faculty members navigate mistreatment in cultures where toxicities spread. Following a multi-phase qualitative design, the project builds on an extensive literature review, exploratory focus groups, and approximately 30 semi-structured interviews to be completed by the end of April 2026. Interviews explore work context, social dynamics, identity, and consequences for well-being and career trajectories. Results. Preliminary insights indicate recurring incivility, exclusion, ambiguous behaviours, and disproportionate impacts on early-career academics, women, racialized scholars, and minority-group members. Participants also reported organizational ambiguity, disrupted*

collaboration networks, emotional strain, reduced psychological safety, and career withdrawal. Discussion. The final analysis will enhance understanding of the interpersonal and structural processes sustaining toxic cultures in academia.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 126166 - Paper within a symposium

Organizational Culture and Effectiveness: Insights from Romanian Workplaces

Moderator(s): Kwantes, Catherine T.

Abstract: *This symposium examines how organizational culture shapes perceptions of effectiveness and well-being. It replicates and extends previous work in culture-person fit and leadership impact using recent data from 137 Romanian organizations. The first paper replicates and extends Kwantes & Boglarsky (2004) work with American employees by testing the extent to which diverse contemporary occupational groups in Romania share ideal organizational cultural profiles for effectiveness. Given the large changes in Romania, current leaders may be represented as the first generation of local (not expat) organizational leaders. The second paper explores how leaders' intended achievement versus conventional impact shape employees' perceptions of organizational effectiveness in Romania, and whether a constructive organizational culture moderates these effects, consistent with what is found in WEIRD literature. The third paper draws on current gender norms in Romania and assesses gender differences in how discrepancies between current and ideal organizational cultures relate to job satisfaction and stress. Together, these projects offer an updated and multifaceted view of organizational culture, highlighting when cultural ideals converge, how leadership and culture interact, and for whom cultural fit matters most.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125161 - Symposium

Gender-Specific Patterns in the Impact of Organisational Culture Gaps on Job Satisfaction and Stress

Main Presenting Author: Ghadiri, Saba T.

Additional Authors: Kwantes, Catherine T.; Stan, Iuliana

Abstract: *Research has indicated that organizational culture is linked to job attitudes and outcomes. This study examined whether gaps between employees' current and ideal organizational culture would show distinct patterns in predicting job satisfaction and stress for men and women. Data collected from 120 employees from Romania who completed Organizational Culture Inventory®, Organisational Culture Inventory - Ideal and Organizational Effectiveness Inventory® were used. Gaps in Constructive, Passive/Defensive, and Aggressive/Defensive cultures were assessed. For female employees, the combination of three culture gaps significantly predicted both stress and satisfaction, but none of the individual gaps was a significant predictor in the model. Among male employees, the combination of culture gaps did not significantly predict stress, although the Constructive gap predicted job satisfaction and explained a substantial proportion of variance in the model. These results suggest that employees from different gender groups might respond to culture gaps differently. Organizational culture can affect women through their perception of the overall culture and lead to different levels of satisfaction and stress, whereas, for men, discrepancies in the Constructive culture type appear to be more important. These results emphasize the need for gender-specific practices to support employee wellbeing.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125178 - Paper within a symposium

Intended Leadership Impact, Organizational Culture, and Employee Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Azizi, Narjes T.

Additional Authors: Ankamah, Perpetual ; Kwantes, Catherine T.; Stan, Iuliana

Abstract: *This study examined how intended leadership impact influences employee motivation, satisfaction, and empowerment through leadership impact on organizational culture. Data were analysed from a Romanian dataset comprising 1,276 employees across 137 organisations. Leaders completed the Leadership/Impact® to assess the intended impact of leader behaviours on employee outcomes. The Organizational Culture Inventory® was completed by organizational employees, and measured their perceptions of Constructive, Passive/Defensive, and Aggressive/Defensive organisational behavioural norms and expectations, along with employee satisfaction, motivation and empowerment. Parallel multiple mediation models (PROCESS Model 4) were used to examine direct and indirect effects of Constructive and Aggressive/Defensive leadership on outcomes. No direct effects of intended leadership impact emerged. Constructive leadership intentions impacted outcomes indirectly by strengthening Constructive norms, while Aggressive/Defensive leadership intentions reduced all outcomes primarily by weakening norms and expectations. Passive/Defensive norms did not significantly mediate the relationship between leader intentions and any outcome. Findings highlight the importance of Constructive norms as the key mechanism linking intended leadership impact to positive employee outcomes.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125175 - Paper within a symposium

Occupational Variation in Preferred Organizational Culture Norms

Main Presenting Author: Soleimani, Mahshid T.

Additional Authors: Kwantes, Catherine T.; Stan, Iuliana

Abstract: *Organizational culture preferences vary systematically across occupational groups. This study replicates and extends a 2004 study using data from 340 Romanian employees who completed the Organizational Culture Inventory®-Ideal (OCI®-I). Four occupational categories (Engineering, Management, Information Systems Management, and Human Resources/Training) were compared across the OCI-I's three clusters: Constructive, Passive/Defensive, and Aggressive/Defensive. Across all occupations, Constructive norms were most strongly preferred ($p < .001$), but significant occupational differences emerged within each cluster. For the Constructive cluster, post hoc tests showed that MIS and HR/Training reported the lowest preference, whereas Engineering and Management reported significantly higher preference. In the Passive/Defensive cluster, MIS and HR/Training showed the highest endorsement of Defensive norms, with Management showing the lowest and Engineering in between. In the Aggressive/Defensive cluster, MIS and HR/Training showed the lowest endorsement, Engineering occupied the middle range, and Management reported the highest relative endorsement. Results mirror the 2004 pattern: all occupations favour Constructive cultures but differ in preferences for Defensive norms. These findings highlight the enduring influence of occupational subcultures on ideal organizational culture preferences.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125167 - Paper within a symposium

Perceptions in Leadership: Cognitive and Emotional Dynamics in Leader-Follower Interactions

Moderator(s): Zur, Elana S.

Abstract: *DESCRIPTION: This symposium examines leadership as a perceptual and relational process shaped by cognitive expectations, emotional signals, and context. Presentations highlight how people form mental models of leaders, how leader vulnerability affects perceptions of agency and emotionality, how leaders perceive and treat fixed-term employees, and how followers interpret and respond to leaders' post-anger responses.NOVELTY, CONTENTION, OR PERTINENCE: Leadership research often emphasises behaviours and outcomes while overlooking perceptual and emotional processes. This symposium highlights the cognitive and affective foundations of leadership, showing how leader signals, follower expectations, and workplace contexts shape leader-follower dynamics and outcomes.UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS OF EACH PRESENTER:•Ng and Brown examine leadership prototypes as dynamic cognitive networks.•Zur and Liang show how leader vulnerability shapes perceptions of agency and emotionality.•Somerville, Pupco, and Barling reveal how contract type affects leaders' perceptions and support for employees.•Paquin and Scott demonstrate how leaders' post-anger responses influence follower empathy and prosocial behavior.Together, these presentations provide a comprehensive understanding of how perceptions, cognition, and emotion shape leadership interactions and outcomes.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124824 – Symposium

Consequences of Leading with Humanity: How Vulnerability Shapes Leader Perceptions

Main Presenting Author: Zur, Elana S.

Additional Author: Liang, Lindie H.

Abstract: *CONTEXT: Leader vulnerability, such as acknowledging mistakes, admitting uncertainty, or seeking help, can strengthen relationships yet also raise doubts about a leader's emotional stability and competence. This study examines how vulnerable behaviors shape perceptions of leaders' emotionality and agency.METHOD: Using experimental vignettes, participants were randomly assigned to a control condition or one of three leader vulnerability conditions: business disclosure (LVBD), business reliance (LVBR), or personal disclosure (LVPD). Participants rated the leader on emotionality, multiple facets of agency, and inferred the leader's gender.RESULTS: Overall, vulnerable leaders were seen as more emotional ($t = 4.99$, $p < .001$) and less ambitious ($t = -2.67$, $p = .008$), self-assured ($t = -2.64$, $p = .009$), and competent ($t = -2.26$, $p = .025$), with lower overall agency ($t = -2.54$, $p = .012$). When examining leader vulnerability scale dimensions separately, LVBD leaders were perceived as less emotional than LVBR and LVPD leaders and more self-assured than LVBR leaders. Gender inferences differed by condition, with LVBD leaders more often assumed to be male.IMPLICATIONS: Leader vulnerability can reduce perceived agency and increase perceived emotionality. Findings highlight that vulnerability is not a uniform signal and could carry nuanced evaluative and gendered consequences for leaders.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124829 - Paper within a symposium

Leadership Prototypes as Dynamic Cognitive Networks: Hub Traits, Cognitive Gatekeepers, and Contextual Reorganization

Main Presenting Author: Ng, Pearlyn H. S.

Additional Author: Brown, Douglas J.

Abstract: *CONTEXT: Connectionist models propose that leadership prototypes are dynamic networks reorganizing through spreading activation (Lord et al., 2001), yet empirical methods treat traits as independent predictors, preventing direct testing of these mechanisms. We apply network analysis to model leadership prototypes as interconnected cognitive systems.METHOD: Across two studies (N=1226; N=307), participants rated leadership traits for organizational contexts (President vs. CEO; Study 1) and across time (President; Study 2). We estimated networks to identify hub traits, activation patterns, and contextual reorganization.RESULTS: Five traits (Creativity, Charisma, Dedication, Strength, Tyranny) emerged as cognitive hubs. Networks showed pervasive interdependence with mutual activation and inhibition patterns. Networks reorganized across contexts while maintaining stable hubs, yet remained stable within contexts over time.IMPLICATIONS: Beyond validating connectionist models, findings reveal traits functioning as cognitive gatekeepers (i.e., necessary conditions operating through causal mechanisms) requiring reconceptualization of trait hierarchies. Leadership prototypes also exhibit stable hub cores with flexible peripheries, revealing cognitive architecture principles that prior methods could not detect. This approach enables new theoretical questions about prototype construction.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124827 - Paper within a symposium

The end is in sight: The impact of contract end-type on leader behaviour toward contract employees

Main Presenting Author: Somerville, Kaylee

Additional Authors: Barling, Julian ; Pupco, Shani

Abstract: *CONTEXT: Organizations are increasingly recruiting direct-hire temporary employees. Like permanent employees, direct-hire temporary employees are managed by, and report directly to a leader. How do leaders perceive these employees? Drawing on risk regulation theory, we argue that fixed end dates shape leaders' perceptions of and behaviour toward these employees.METHOD: In a pre-registered Prolific experiment with leaders, we randomly assigned leaders to read about an employee with either a 1) fixed-end contract (an expiring contract with no chance to extend), 2) permanent contract, or 3) fixed-extension contract (an expiring contract with a chance to extend). Leaders rated perceptions of the employees' affective commitment, followed by a speech writing task, coded for transformational leadership (TFL). We measured leaders' provision of references and resources.RESULTS: Leaders showed more TFL toward permanent employees than those with fixed-end or fixed-extension contracts. Perceived affective commitment mediated several outcomes, such as TFL, willingness to write a reference, and resource provision. No indirect effects emerged when comparing fixed-extension to permanent employees.IMPLICATIONS: Our results reveal a paradox: employees who may most need strong leadership are less likely to receive it. Addressing these contract-based biases is vital for more equitable workplaces.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124832 - Paper within a symposium

Why So Angry? Follower Empathy and Prosocial Behaviour Following Leader Post-Anger Responses

Main Presenting Author: Paquin, Tiffany A.

Additional Author: Scott, Kristyn A.

Abstract: *CONTEXT: Leaders often display anger, as supported by both anecdotal accounts and theoretical evidence (e.g., Van Kleef et al., 2010). Although research demonstrates the varied effects of leader anger on followers' emotions and behaviour, little is known about how followers interpret a leader's response following an expression of anger (e.g., Shao & Guo, 2021). METHOD: Building on emotions as social information (Van Kleef, 2016) and cognition-interpretation models (Van Knippenberg & Van Kleef, 2016), we address this gap by exploring two post-anger responses (justifications and apologies) and their effects on follower cognitive empathy and prosocial behaviour. RESULTS: Utilizing an experimental design, pilot data supports the stronger effect of work-related (vs. personal) justifications on cognitive empathy. Two subsequent experimental studies extend these results to compare justifications versus apologies and downstream effects on prosocial behaviour via cognitive empathy. IMPLICATIONS: Theoretically, we extend emotions as social information and cognitive interpretation models by positioning cognitive empathy as a key process through which followers understand leader anger. Practically, we suggest that clarifying the reason for anger can shift followers toward helping behaviour, giving leaders a tool for relationship repair.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 124833 - Paper within a symposium

SCPIO symposium étudiant francophone : Comprendre l'adaptation aux défis contemporains à travers les perspectives environnementales, motivationnelles et comportementales

Moderator(s): Ouellette, Samuel

Abstract: *Ce symposium propose d'explorer comment les individus s'adaptent aux défis psychologiques, sociaux et environnementaux actuels et comment ces processus influencent leur santé mentale et la satisfaction de leurs besoins fondamentaux. Dans un contexte turbulent marqué par les changements climatiques, l'augmentation des pressions sociales et l'évolution rapide du travail, il devient essentiel de comprendre comment les personnes ajustent leurs croyances, leurs motivations et leurs comportements. Les trois études présentées abordent respectivement : l'impact de l'éco-anxiété sur la santé mentale des jeunes et de certains groupes plus vulnérables, le rôle des traits de personnalité et des croyances en ses capacités dans la motivation à diriger, et la dynamique temporelle entre besoins psychologiques et façonnage de l'emploi. Ensemble, ces travaux montrent que l'adaptation repose sur des ajustements cognitifs, émotionnels et comportementaux permettant de faire face à des environnements complexes. Qu'il s'agisse de composer avec une menace environnementale, de gérer ses doutes et sa confiance en soi pour relever des responsabilités de gestion, ou de modifier ses conditions d'emploi pour répondre à ses besoins psychologiques, ces processus révèlent des mécanismes essentiels au bien-être et à l'engagement des. Ce symposium offre ainsi une compréhension intégrée des pressions contemporaines et des conditions favorisant une santé psychologique durable, de même qu'une motivation accrue à relever des rôles de leadership dans un monde en constante transformation.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 123400 - Symposium

Démêler la direction des liens entre besoins psychologiques et façonnage de l'emploi dans la théorie de l'autodétermination : une étude à trois temps

Main Presenting Author: Paquin, Samuel J.

Additional Authors: Gradito Dubord, Marc-Antoine ; Forest, Jacques

Abstract: *Plusieurs modèles ancrés dans la théorie de l'autodétermination suggèrent que les employés peuvent façonner leur emploi (job crafting) pour répondre à leurs besoins psychologiques. Or, la prédominance d'études transversales empêche d'établir la direction. De plus, la littérature considérer les besoins tantôt comme antécédents, tantôt comme conséquences. Cette étude vise donc à clarifier la directionnalité et la temporalité de ces relations. Des travailleurs d'une entreprise québécoise de construction ont répondu à un questionnaire à trois reprises, à trois mois d'intervalle (NT1 = 194 ; NT2 = 153 ; NT3 = 137). La satisfaction des besoins et le façonnage de l'emploi ont été mesurés à chaque vague. Différents modèles longitudinaux de type panel ont été comparés. Un modèle à effets croisés avec effets concomitants invariants du façonnage vers les besoins présente la meilleure adéquation ($\chi^2 = 9,63$, $p = 0,087$; CFI = 0,974 ; RMSEA = 0,069). Les besoins prédisent le façonnage dans le temps (BesoinsT1 → FaçonnageT2 : $\beta = 0,15$, $p < 0,05$; BesoinsT2 → FaçonnageT3 : $\beta = 0,24$, $p < 0,05$), tandis que les effets croisés du façonnage sur les besoins ne sont pas significatifs. En revanche, les effets concomitants montrent que le façonnage prédit la satisfaction des besoins au sein d'une même période (FaçonnageT2 → BesoinsT2 : $\beta = 0,27$, $p < 0,001$; FaçonnageT3 → BesoinsT3 : $\beta = 0,39$, $p < 0,001$). Ces résultats suggèrent que les besoins motivent le façonnage à long terme, alors que le façonnage soutient surtout la satisfaction des besoins à plus court terme. De plus, ces résultats contredisent certaines propositions théoriques qui considèrent la satisfaction des besoins uniquement comme une conséquence au façonnage.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125217 - Paper within a symposium

Explorer le lien entre l'éco-anxiété et la santé mentale chez les jeunes à Sherbrooke, au Québec

Main Presenting Author: Longo, Sienna

Additional Author: Shareck, Martine

Abstract: *Le climat du Canada se réchauffe à un rythme deux fois plus rapide que la moyenne mondiale. Les changements climatiques affectent non seulement la santé physique, mais aussi la santé mentale. L'éco-anxiété (EA) est un état socio-psychologique d'inquiétude lié aux effets observés et anticipés des changements climatiques (réchauffement global, montée des eaux, etc.) et des désastres environnementaux (extinctions, pollution, etc.). L'EA se distingue de l'anxiété généralisée et constitue une réponse rationnelle à la dégradation de l'état du climat; toutefois, elle peut affecter la santé mentale et le quotidien des individus. Les jeunes sont particulièrement touchés par l'EA, et au sein de cette population, certains sous-groupes pourraient être plus vulnérables aux effets négatifs en raison de facteurs sociodémographiques. Cette étude vise à déterminer : 1) l'association entre l'EA et la santé mentale, le bien-être et le stress; et 2) si ces associations varient en fonction de facteurs sociodémographiques. Les données proviennent de la deuxième vague d'une étude de cohorte longitudinale en cours portant sur l'association entre l'environnement social et physique des quartiers de Sherbrooke (Québec) et la santé ainsi que le bien-être. Les données ont été recueillies auprès de*

950 personnes âgées de 16 à 33 ans au moyen d'un questionnaire en ligne. Les informations sur la santé ont été collectées à l'aide de questions adaptées de la Hogg Eco-Anxiety Scale et de l'Enquête sur la santé dans les collectivités canadiennes. Les données sociodémographiques ont été recueillies à partir de questions adaptées du recensement canadien. Les analyses comprendront une régression logistique et une modification de l'effet. Ce projet contribuera à documenter les inégalités sociales en matière de santé mentale et les effets des changements climatiques dans le contexte canadien, afin d'aider à identifier les populations vulnérables et à cibler les interventions de santé publique.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125211 - Paper within a symposium

Pourquoi dirige-t-on? Le rôle de la personnalité et des croyances en soi

Main Presenting Author: Mayer, William

Additional Authors: Daljeet, Kabir N.; Grenier, Simon

Abstract: *La motivation à diriger (MD) joue un rôle crucial dans le développement de carrière, permettant aux individus d'affiner leurs compétences en leadership. Cette étude examine comment la personnalité, le sentiment d'auto-efficacité en leadership (SAL) et le phénomène de l'imposteur (PI) sont liés à la MD, ces construits étant associés aux croyances sur le soi et aux motivations au travail. Selon les travaux antérieurs, certains facteurs de personnalité seraient associés à un SAL plus faible et à des sentiments d'imposture plus élevés, marqués par le doute de soi et la crainte d'une évaluation négative, réduisant ainsi la probabilité de s'engager dans des comportements de leadership. Les données ont été recueillies auprès de 330 adultes via un sondage en ligne utilisant des mesures validées du modèle HEXACO, du PI, du SAL et de la MD. Une analyse acheminatoire d'un modèle de médiation multiple et parallèle révèle que le PI et le SAL médient les relations entre les facteurs HEXACO et les trois dimensions de la MD ($\chi^2(35) = 726,32$, $p < ,001$; CFI = 0,95; TLI = 0,91; RMSEA = 0,08; SRMR = 0,05). Ces résultats soulignent le rôle central du PI et du SAL dans la formation de la motivation à assumer des rôles de leadership.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125215 - Paper within a symposium

Workers with Disabilities: Research Across the Employment Life Cycle

Moderator(s): Ho, Jennifer A

Abstract: *Despite legislation to promote equitable employment opportunities, people with disabilities (PWD) face higher unemployment, underemployment, and precarious work. With appropriate supports, PWD can perform a variety of jobs and contribute meaningfully. In this symposium, four talks provide integrative approaches to advance our understanding of disability across the employment life cycle in Canadian and international contexts. Laying the foundation, Samosh and Naito examine disability champions' meaning of disability in Japan and re-conceptualize disability beyond the medical and sociomedical models used in Canada. In the second talk, Ho and colleagues examine how employment counselling provided to those with physical disabilities relate to their job performance and self-efficacy. Third, Lam and Samosh focus on PWD disclosure of disability-related achievements during job searches and the implications for career advancement. Finally, we shift attention from attaining work to on-the-job supports. Hancock and colleagues examine the*

experiences of employees with long COVID and identify practices that support their return-to-work. The talks use various methodological approaches (e.g., analyses of time-lagged, longitudinal, and interview data) and focus on different disabling conditions. These insights can inform research and practical interventions to promote the participation of PWD.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 122587 - Symposium

Application Able-ing: Persons with Disabilities' Job Search Behaviours

Main Presenting Author: Lam, Janice Y

Additional Author: Samosh, Dan

Abstract: *Persons with disabilities (PWDs) face higher unemployment rates than those without disabilities in Canada, with very few in leadership positions. The limited research on the effect of PWDs' job search behaviours has focused on the disclosure of having a disability and not of disability-related achievements (e.g., receiving a disability-related scholarship). Research about other marginalized group members shows that some hide possibly stigmatizing achievements to avoid discrimination. To explore whether PWDs may similarly not disclose disability-related achievements, we conducted a pilot survey study with 221 MBA applicants, students, and graduates who live with a disability about their disclosure practices of disability-related achievements on job applications. Using thematic analysis, preliminary results show that PWDs are aware of stereotypes and how these may align with their perceived fit to the workplaces they apply to. Disclosure (or lack of) serves to influence others' perceptions of them. Also, PWDs are less likely to disclose disability-related achievements when applying for roles with leadership responsibilities (e.g., more travel, high stress). We overall provide insight and evidence for possible self-limiting behaviours PWDs may engage in with career advancement while facing social stigma, which can inform future interventions.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125571 - Paper within a symposium

Employment counselling services and employment outcomes for people with physical disabilities

Main Presenting Author: Ho, Jennifer A

Additional Authors: Tucker, Sean ; Connelly, Catherine E

Abstract: *Employment counselling (e.g., resume building, job search advice) can assist people with disabilities (PWD) to attain employment. However, the quality of these supports can vary and may differentially relate to employment outcomes. To better understand the outcomes associated with these services, including self-rated job performance and self-efficacy, we conducted a longitudinal study of 187 people with physical disabilities receiving services from community organizations across Canada. Participants completed a baseline survey (Time 1) and five follow-up surveys. Using latent class growth analysis, we found three subgroups. Group 1 perceived high levels of counselling support at baseline, with stability in levels over time. Group 2 perceived moderate levels of counselling support at baseline, with a steep decline over time. Group 3 perceived moderate levels of counselling support, with a slow and small decrease over time. Furthermore, these three groups differed significantly in self-efficacy ($\chi^2(2) = 18.54$, $p < .01$) and job performance ($\chi^2(2) = 9.86$, $p < .01$; Time 6). Specifically, Group 1 reported significantly higher job performance than Group 2 and 3. Group 2 reported*

significantly lower self-efficacy compared to Group 1 and 3. Together, these results suggest that continuous access to high quality services over time are associated with more favourable employment outcomes.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125508 - Paper within a symposium

How workplace disability inclusion champions in Japan conceptualize disability: Implications for research and practice in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Samosh, Dan

Additional Author: Naito, Chikae

Abstract: *In this presentation we explore how workplace disability inclusion champions in Japan conceptualize disability. We interviewed 16 champions in total, seven with disabilities and nine without disabilities, including senior leaders, managers, and employees in for-profit and non-profit organizations from various cities in Japan. All interviewees were actively working towards making their organizations more disability inclusive, hence being referred to as champions. Applying thematic analysis and methods from constructivist grounded theory, we share how interviewees drew upon varying models of disability to construct their understanding of disability, while integrating ideas from Japanese philosophical perspectives as well. Interviewees' concepts of disability diverge from those represented in research, which typically emphasize the medical, social, and sociomedical models of disability. Rather, interviewees' models require deeper introspection into the epistemology of social relations. Interviewees' understandings of disability provide insight into how we can understand important experiences at work for persons with disabilities as well, such as experiences of interpersonal justice. Overall, interviewees' reflections introduce epistemological approaches to workplace disability inclusion with implications for research, practice, and intervention.*

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125505 - Paper within a symposium

Long COVID and One's Ability to Work

Main Presenting Author: Hancock, Samantha

Additional Authors: Robertson, Jennifer L; Kelloway, E. Kevin

Abstract: *Long COVID (LC), or post-acute sequela of SARS-Cov-2, involves prolonged or new symptoms lasting 3+ months after infection. According to Statistics Canada, by the end of 2022, 1.4 million Canadians had reported LC symptoms, many of which can be debilitating and hinder work. In our study, participants reported that LC affected their professional lives more negatively than any other life domain. To better understand its impact on employment, we conducted a time-lagged survey of 123 people with LC, examining predictors of return-to-work status and work capacity. A large portion of the sample remained off work (57%) and only 40% of those off work had attempted to return, highlighting the disabling nature of LC. Perceived organizational support ($\beta = 0.608$, $Exp(\beta) = 1.837$, $p = .001$) and psychological safety ($\beta = 0.619$, $Exp(\beta) = 1.857$, $p = .001$) significantly predicted return-to-work odds, with each one-unit increase associated with an 83.7% and 85.7% increase, respectively. Although LC research is expanding, most work has focused on clinical issues rather than employment outcomes. Little is known about how LC affects people's occupational lives,*

making this one of the first studies to examine its impact on work ability. Our findings also offer organizations guidance on how to better support employees with LC in returning to work.

Section: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*
Session ID: 125579 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: UNDERSTANDING SOCIETY AND THE WORLD AROUND US

Helping people understand the world and improve our interactions within society and the people in our lives.

12-Minute Talk

"There's no crying in baseball": Exploring femmephobia and the regulation of women's gender in sports.

Main Presenting Author: Gunn, Melanie

Additional Authors: Blair, Karen L; Hoskin, Rhea Ashley

Abstract: *Regardless of gender or sexual identity, women's often experience pressure to match gender norms (e.g., wearing makeup) both in and out of sports are well documented. However, sports culture is stereotypically masculine, with athletes, both men and women, needing to prove their athleticism through masculinity. Previous sports research has primarily focused female athlete's body image, with little attention to their experiences of gender pressure rooted in femmephobia (i.e., pressure to be less feminine). The current study asked participants (n = 501), within the context of sports: 1. Where they experienced femmephobic gender policing; 2. From whom they experienced femmephobic gender policing; and 3. Perceived rationale for their experiences. All three questions were asked in a checkbox and open-ended answer format. Women experienced femmephobic gender policing while participating in sporting activities primarily at games/competitions and practices, with common sources being coaches and teammates. Perceived rationales included to appear strong/capable and be seen as competent/capable. Qualitative analysis is ongoing; however, preliminary themes include pain/injury, success, and strength. The proposed research aims to examine the connections between femmephobia and women's participation in sports, in hopes of finding new ways to encourage and improve women's participation.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 126052 - 12-Minute Talk

A Comparative Analysis of Adult Third Culture Kids, Immigrants, and Canadian-Born Individuals

Main Presenting Author: Guo, Yangyilin

Additional Authors: Tai, Chia-Chien S.; Zhang, Ziye; Basheer, Rayyan; Heine, Steven J.

Abstract: *Adult Third Culture Kids (ATCKs) - adults who spent much of their formative years outside their parents' culture and who often grew up across multiple countries - are known for being adaptable, multilingual, and globally minded. Their numbers continue to rise in an increasingly globalized world. Although empirical research on ATCKs has grown in recent decades, most studies remained small-scale and lacked comparative analyses with other groups, such as immigrants or native-born individuals. This exploratory study is the first to empirically examine psychological differences between ATCKs, immigrants, and native-born Canadians using a large sample of 1,455*

young adults (ATCKs = 551). Across multiple indicators of cultural experiences, well-being, and personality, results from linear and logistic regressions indicated that ATCKs showed higher cultural intelligence and richer cross-cultural experiences but lower self-concept clarity, grit, and well-being, along with greater cultural homelessness and fewer close relationships compared to immigrants and Canadian-born individuals. These findings highlight a paradox of global mobility: while ATCKs develop strengths in cross-cultural competence, their fluid identities may come at the cost of stability and belonging.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125121 - 12-Minute Talk

A Psychological Pathway Model of Education and Happiness: Evidence from Young Adults in Hong Kong

Main Presenting Author: Chan, Jasmine S. Y. CS

Abstract: *This study investigates the psychological pathways linking education level and happiness among young adults in Hong Kong, a context shaped by high pressure, strong family expectations, and limited social mobility. Despite common cultural beliefs that higher education increases life satisfaction, empirical evidence in Asian urban settings is mixed. This mixed-methods study aimed to clarify these relationships by integrating quantitative and qualitative findings.A cross-sectional survey (N = 415, ages 25-34) measured education level, subjective well-being (Oxford Happiness Questionnaire and Chinese Happiness Inventory), and socioeconomic mediators. Structural equation modelling tested whether income and housing type mediated the association between education and happiness. Semi-structured interviews explored how young adults interpret the emotional, financial, and relational consequences of pursuing education.Results showed no direct effect of education on happiness. Instead, income and housing type fully mediated the relationship, indicating that education enhances well-being indirectly through improved socioeconomic conditions. Qualitative findings identified five psychological themes influencing educational decisions: perceived career mobility, financial pressure, emotional strain, social comparison, and relational expectations.The combined results suggest that in high-cost, high-pressure environments, education impacts happiness primarily through socioeconomic pathways and culturally shaped motivations. These findings highlight how psychological needs (autonomy, competence, relatedness) interact with structural factors. Implications for psychological research include culturally sensitive models of well-being and improved understanding of decision-making under economic constraint.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123412 - 12-Minute Talk

A Social-Justice-Oriented, Co-Produced Systems Approach to Resilience Pathways for Families in Turkey: A Q-Methodology Study

Main Presenting Author: Eryigit-Madzwamuse, Suna

Additional Authors: Akcabozan Kayabol, Busra ; Aydogan, Didem; Eren, Seda; Kavalci, Gizem

Abstract: *Background: Understanding how families themselves define and prioritize resilience is essential for developing support that reflects their realities, cultural strengths, and structural challenges. By identifying distinct patterns in how families in Turkey deal with economic hardship,*

this research investigated diverse resilience pathways utilizing the Holistic Family Resilience model. Methods: As part of a larger co-produced socio-ecological and social-justice oriented family resilience project, we employed Q-methodology, drawing on family experiences of 32 individuals facing family-level economic challenges. Results: Analysis revealed two distinct pathways for family resilience explaining 63% of the variance. Factor 1 reflects collaborative problem-solving and social support. Factor 2 is characterized by finding strength in spirituality/faith and holding a positive perspective. Both groups shared perspectives on utilizing family unity and solidarity (e.g., we are always there for one another) as one of the key protective mechanisms. However, they diverged primarily on finding meaning in economic hardship and prioritizing relational and cultural resources as salient mechanisms. Both groups also shared viewpoints on the lack of opportunities for utilizing social services and institutional support in dealing with economic hardship. Conclusions: The findings reveal, first, multiple, culturally grounded pathways through which families understand and enact resilience; second, the need for creating accessible services to benefit from wider system support mechanisms. Impact: These findings highlight where systems fall short and point toward the need for social-justice oriented interventions that recognize families' strengths while reducing structural barriers to support.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123588 - 12-Minute Talk

Against the Tides of Racism Podcast - Calls to Action

Main Presenting Author: Ko, Gina

Abstract: *Background: The producer and host of the Against the Tides of Racism podcast will share themes of anti-racist calls to action. Currently, the podcast has been funded by the Canadian Race Relations Foundation for four consecutive years. This podcast aims to generate awareness, foster community, and create transformation by coming together to lean into the inspiring work of anti-racism.Methods: The podcast features racialized guests from all walks of life who have endured, spoken up, and taken action against the tides of racism. Each episode ends with calls to action for individuals, groups, and systems to counter racism.Results: There are 122 episodes to date, and I will share themes related to narrative accounts of my guests' lived experiences from their younger years, professional life, and moments of facing racism. Conclusion: Participants will walk away with calls to action by mental health professionals, most of whom are members of the CPA.Action/Impact: Each participant can take away what they find meaningful and resonating to stand up against racism and be an ally when possible.*

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 124796 - 12-Minute Talk

An International Comparison and Expansion of Social Identity and Inspiration

Main Presenting Author: Vyncke, Tamara

Additional Authors: Chadborn, Daniel ; Loper, Samantha

Abstract: *First-year university students face significant academic & social transitions that impact their well-being. Prior research shows that developing meaningful social identities can enhance motivation, engagement, & mental health. Building on Chadborn & Reysen's (2016) model on identity & inspiration, this project further examines how social identity influences inspiration. 2 empirical*

studies were conducted. Study 1 & 2 replicate the original study using a longitudinal pilot student sample (n = 124) and a broader U.S. comparison (n = 402). Study 3 further validates and expands the model using an international sample including Canadian students (n = 314). Participants completed surveys assessing identity, inspiration, well-being, & sense of community. Analyses include correlations, mean comparisons, & longitudinal (repeated measures) patterns of identity internalisation. Preliminary results replicate original U.S. effects and show similar identity-inspiration links internationally. Early longitudinal findings suggest that students in learning communities report stronger identity development & higher inspiration over time. These findings highlight the significance of community-based programmes in promoting student motivation & overall well-being. Results inform university initiatives that enhance belonging & foster academic & psychological well-being.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125052 - 12-Minute Talk

Climate Grief Cafés: Building Community Resilience Through Collective Reflection

Main Presenting Author: Lawrence, Breanna C

Additional Authors: Gulamhusein, Shemine ; Guzman Skotnitsky, Sabrina ; Smith , Jeffrey ; Hudson Breen , Rebecca

Abstract: *Arts-based and research-creation approaches are increasingly used to explore the psychological impacts of climate crisis, particularly among emerging adults who experience heightened climate-related distress. Climate Grief Cafés-community-based, sensory-friendly gatherings-offer an alternative to problem-solving models by creating space for grief, uncertainty, and relational support. Grounded in a multisystemic resilience framework, the project explored how creative and embodied practices foster emotional processing, connection, and meaning-making. Climate Grief Cafés were facilitated using music, visual art, low-sensory activities, reflective dialogue, and mind-body practices. Data included field observations, participant feedback, creative artifacts, and multimedia storytelling. Findings showed that (1) accessible, sensory-friendly environments enhanced psychological safety and belonging; (2) creative and embodied practices supported emotional expression and regulation; (3) relational dialogue fostered trust and shared learning; and (4) trauma-informed facilitation was essential for navigating grief and uncertainty. A public multimedia viewing event further deepened community engagement and participant experiences. The project generated recommendations for community-based resilience initiatives and demonstrated the value of research-creation for knowledge mobilization.*

Section: *Environmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126316 - 12-Minute Talk

Death Socialization: How Intercultural Parents Work Together to Help their Children Understand Death

Main Presenting Author: Lysakowski, Katie

Abstract: *Children's understandings about death are formed early in their lives and are typically shaped by their parent's own cultural upbringings. In intercultural families, parents may wish to share their respective, though potentially differing beliefs and values about death and / or grief with their children. The aim of this study was to understand how intercultural parents negotiate their cultures as*

they socialize their children with respect to death and support them in their grief. This multicase study used the action-project method for data collection and analysis of the three cases (N = 6). Contextual action theory provided the conceptual framework. Preliminary findings reveal all parents engaged in a series of collaborative actions that supported both their individual and joint death socialization goals. These exploratory conversations helped parents come to recognize both the benefits of their inherited beliefs and values related to death and grief and which aspects they wanted to reimagine for their own children. Notably, the topic of death uniquely pulled most parents back into relationship with the religious or spiritual frameworks they had previously moved away from. The primary overarching goal for all parents was to prioritize their children's well-being in their death socialization process. Parents enacted this goal by thoughtfully identifying which concepts they would share, and how they would do this, based on their child's unique needs and personality, prioritizing their child's comfort over complete alignment with their own current worldview - a decision some parents found uncomfortable but necessary. Findings contribute to understandings of the experiences of intercultural parents and parent's intentions for socializing their children with respect to death.

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125631 - 12-Minute Talk

Defining and Measuring Ideological Open-mindedness via a Continuum Hypothesis: Two Scoping Reviews

Main Presenting Author: Cormier, Gina

Additional Authors: Turkoglu, Ayse ; Guo, Yangyilin; Drapeau, Martin

Abstract: *Openness to ideas contributes to individual learning and societal cohesion in ways we do not yet fully understand. Ideological open-mindedness (IOM) is the ability and disposition to engage critically and meaningfully with conflicting perspectives, particularly in ideologically charged or values-laden situations. Research on this construct overlaps with the study of openness to ideas and open-minded cognition, and has important implications for improving cognitive flexibility and reducing ideological polarization. That said, there are limitations to conceptual understandings of IOM and effective methods for its improvement are still underexplored. Our team conducted two scoping reviews on this subject. We sought articles on psychological constructs related to ideological open-mindedness (n = 128), and interventions for its improvement (n = 22), respectively. Results revealed themes and important commonalities to consider when defining and aiming to improve IOM; in particular, research suggests a need to re-conceptualize this construct as a context-dependent, cognitive trait that may exist on a continuum (i.e., Yerkes-Dodson curve, inverted u-shape distribution) and also includes affective components. This presentation provides a brief summary of these findings, and recommendations for future study.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 125947 - 12-Minute Talk

Early Adversity Predicts Stability-Seeking vs. Flexible Cooperation in Economic Games

Main Presenting Author: Forget, Audrey-Anne

Additional Authors: Nitschke, Jonas ; Bartz, Jennifer

Abstract: *Childhood environments calibrate psychological responses to uncertainty, shaping how adults navigate risk in social interactions. Social risk-taking requires weighing potential losses against the perceived safety of others' intentions, and according to theories of adaptive calibration, early adversity may bias individuals toward strategies that minimize unpredictability. This study tested whether childhood maltreatment predicts patterns of cooperation in a Public Goods Game (PGG) and Trust Game (TG). In the PGG, participants low in maltreatment adjusted their contributions dynamically, cooperating more when others contributed and withdrawing when others defected-consistent with flexible, cue-responsive strategies. In contrast, those high in maltreatment showed relatively stable contributions across rounds, indicating reduced sensitivity to opponent behavior. In the TG, individuals with high maltreatment became progressively more cooperative across trials, consistent with stability-seeking strategies that minimize interpersonal risk. In contrast, those low in maltreatment increasingly retained funds, reflecting greater strategic flexibility and comfort prioritizing personal gain once cooperation was established. Across both paradigms, high adversity aligned with cautious, consistency-oriented behavior, whereas low adversity was linked to incentive-responsive shifts in cooperation.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125671 - 12-Minute Talk

Establishing the Presence of Biases Based on Cues to Wealth Status: Robustness Across Stimuli and Target Depiction

Main Presenting Author: Allen, Erik J.K.

Additional Author: Steele, Jennifer R.

Abstract: *Previous research examining wealth inequality has focused primarily on negative effects of financial disparities, specifically poverty, on people's mental and physical well-being and achievement (e.g., Ansell, 2021; Evans & Kim, 2013). However, additional barriers can arise from the associations and biases people hold toward those who have differing levels of wealth (e.g., poor, middle class, wealthy). Across four pre-registered studies (N=1004), participants completed wealth Implicit Association Tests (Greenwald et al., 1998), that manipulated how social class was depicted (e.g., wealthy/poor vs. upper class/middle class/working class) and the stimuli used to represent these social classes (words, wages, pictures, possessions). We consistently found that participants showed a pro-wealth bias on these implicit measures, across all stimuli types and header depictions (Ds > 0.31, ps < .001). By contrast, participants' typically reported biases favouring less wealthy targets (ts > 2.19, ps < .02). These findings are most consistent with the Bias of Crowds theoretical model (Payne et al., 2017) which suggests people can internalize societal messaging about dominant groups, making some associations more chronically accessible in the mind, even if people do not believe or endorse these attitudes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126306 - 12-Minute Talk

Exploring How Cognitive Limits Constrain Intergroup Perception

Main Presenting Author: Palacio Posada, Valentina

Additional Author: Axt, Jordan

Abstract: *Intergroup prejudice prevails even in societies that are homogeneous in salient social categories, such as race or religion. Prejudice in these societies may still persist due to a psychological drive to create distinctions between people (i.e., categorization). Prior work suggests that people are motivated to socially categorize others to extent that is allowed by their memory capacity, and this categorization occurs regardless of the specific social categories available to us. Across four studies (N > 1,000) in Canada, India and China, we explored whether the presence of salient categories impacts the total number of categories individuals make when viewing others. We conducted a series of experiments in which participants sorted sets of AI-generated faces, varying across conditions the presence or absence of diversity on the prominent social dimensions of race and gender. Results revealed how the creation of social groups can operate separately from the diversity in one's environment, as participants produced a similar number of categories regardless of whether they were in a context of low or high diversity, a finding that replicated across cultural contexts. This line of research can better inform intergroup processes that rely on social categorization as a first step, such as intergroup prejudice.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123398 - 12-Minute Talk

From Isolation to Invitation: Understanding Newcomer-Local Student Engagement in Canadian Schools

Main Presenting Author: Atique, Javeria

Additional Author: Zhao, Xu

Abstract: *Schools are one of the first and most critical sites for newcomer socialization in Canada, shaping initial behaviors and community reception. Traditional research, focusing on individual competencies, neglects the bi-directional nature of engagement. This study addresses that gap by exploring the mutual influences and shared responsibilities of newcomers, local students, and teachers. Using constructivist grounded theory, we conducted in-depth interviews with 13 newcomers and 13 local high school students to identify social, psychological and institutional factors influencing interaction and to develop a framework for strengthening engagement. Analysis revealed three key barriers: structural and cultural factors contributing to newcomer invisibility; entrenched comfort zones and cliques; and the disproportionate responsibility placed on newcomers to initiate contact. Findings suggest schools can strengthen relationships by creating structured interaction opportunities, facilitated by teachers through purposeful activities and inclusive arrangements, to normalize cross-group engagement. Moreover, publicly recognizing newcomers' competencies legitimizes their participation and encourages reciprocal exchange. This research shifts the responsibility from placing the burden solely on newcomers for their well-being to adopting a more contextual and systemic approach.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 124760 - 12-Minute Talk

Humility Predicts Eudaimonic Well-Being, Given and Received Compassion, and Autonomous Motivation in a Daily Experience Sampling Study

Main Presenting Author: Malouka, Sabrina

Additional Author: Mongrain, Myriam

Abstract: *Background. Humility is associated with greater psychological well-being and prosocial action (Worthington et al., 2017), yet research is largely cross-sectional, leaving mechanisms unexplored. This study examines whether baseline humility predicts daily well-being and acts of compassion provided and received. Motivations for compassionate actions (e.g., how freely chosen they felt) and well-being were assessed twice daily. Methods. A large North American sample was recruited through Prolific (N = 665). Participants completed the Experiences of Humility Scale (Davis et al., 2017), then were notified through an app twice per day for 1 week to report on well-being and their experiences of compassion. Results. Multilevel modelling demonstrated that humble individuals reported greater daily well-being over the week. They provided and received more compassion and were more likely to report freely chosen compassionate acts. While compassion did predict well-being, it did not fully mediate the humility and well-being link. Conclusions. These findings add to the growing literature on humility and its intrapersonal and interpersonal benefits. Unlike current cultural narratives emphasizing self-promotion, results suggest that a focus on others is more beneficial than a focus on the self. Impact. Interventions promoting humility could enhance well-being and prosocial action.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126335 - 12-Minute Talk

Morality Undone: The Psychological Process of Unmoralization

Main Presenting Author: Kovacheff, Chloe

Additional Author: Feinberg, Matthew

Abstract: *Moral convictions guide ethical behavior but can also intensify polarization and intergroup conflict. Understanding how these convictions weaken - a process we call unmoralization - is critical for improving social cohesion and informing public policy. We theorized that unmoralization reflects a shift from rigid, deontological judgments toward more flexible, cost-benefit reasoning grounded in moral utilitarianism. Across three longitudinal studies and one experiment, participants viewed persuasive arguments about legalizing prostitution (Studies 1-2) or psychedelics (Study 3, pre-registered), allowing us to track within-person changes in moral conviction, utilitarian reasoning, and downstream outcomes. In all longitudinal studies, moral convictions declined over time, and these reductions were consistently mediated by increases in utilitarian reasoning. Unmoralization also predicted greater policy support and, in Study 3, reduced hostility toward psychedelic users. Further, experimentally inducing moral utilitarian reasoning (Study 4, pre-registered) causally lowered moral convictions when paired with relevant arguments. These findings introduce a framework for how moral convictions soften and identify a psychologically grounded mechanism that practitioners and policymakers can leverage to reduce ideological division foster empathy across moral lines.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124689 - 12-Minute Talk

Motivation and Cognitive Complexity Within Resource Conflicts

Main Presenting Author: Wong, Cole

Additional Authors: Suedfeld, Peter ; Morrison, Brad; Begimbetova, Aisha

Abstract: *A growing body of literature has addressed psychological aspects of intergroup controversies. The current study applies established methods of quantitative thematic content analysis to a recent land use dispute, the construction of the Coastal Gaslink pipeline in British Columbia. Publicly available texts from political figures and politically active organizations were used to assess the motivational profiles and cognitive (Integrative) complexity of statements from members of ten groups involved in the debate. They represented three categories of policy positions toward the plan to build the pipeline: Opposed, Mixed/Disinterested, or Supportive. Patterns of low Achievement Motive and high Power Motive were found across all three categories. The Opposed category groups displayed significantly higher Power Motive than the Mixed/Disinterested groups. The Opposed category groups also displayed significantly lower Integrative Complexity than the Mixed/Disinterested groups. The results are compared with findings from studies of similar resource conflicts.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125635 - 12-Minute Talk

Narrow prototypes of Asian subgroups: Implications for the #StopAsianHate Movement

Main Presenting Author: Greenly, Kiana

Additional Authors: Deska, Jason ; Pejic, Sam

Abstract: *People in the US tend to believe that East Asians are more prototypically Asian compared to South Asians, which has consequences whether hate crime victims are believed. Given recent spikes in anti-Asian violence in the US during the pandemic, we tested if narrow racial prototypes of Asian subgroups translate into beliefs about who is representative by related social justice movements (e.g., #StopAsianHate). Three online studies (N=450) used within-subjects experimental designs to test if participants see East Asians as more representative of the #StopAsianHate movement compared to South Asians, using images and written vignettes. Compared to South Asians, participants perceived East Asian targets as more represented by the #StopAsianHate movement (Study 1-3). When depicted as hate crime victims, participants saw East Asian targets as more credible compared to South Asian targets and deemed more appropriate to report the crime on the SAAPI website (Study 2-3). Perceived Asian prototypicality mediated the relationships between target race and victim reporting metrics (i.e., credibility, appropriateness, and harm; Study 3). Findings provide evidence for the problematic transference of narrow Asian prototypes in the US into beliefs about who is represented by the #StopAsianHate movement, and further underscore how racial prototypicality beliefs affect the victims of hate crimes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122904 - 12-Minute Talk

Negotiating Bicultural Identity: Pathways to Openness and Inclusion

Main Presenting Author: Yim, Odilia

Abstract: *Cross-cultural experiences foster openness and inclusive attitudes, often represented by the construct of universal-diverse orientation (Miville et al., 1999). Bilingual biculturals, through sustained engagement with multiple languages and cultures, may similarly exhibit greater openness to diversity. While prior research has linked cultural identity strength to multicultural attitudes (Yim &*

Clément, 2021), less attention has been paid to psychosocial traits (e.g., cultural empathy, openness to experience). Drawing on acculturation and integration frameworks, the present study examines how identity negotiation strategies may influence openness outcomes among bilingual biculturals.A sample of 263 participants completed surveys assessing language, cultural identity, and openness-related traits. Results revealed significant positive correlations between both identity strength and openness outcomes. Investigating intra-group variation, strong biculturals scored significantly higher across all openness measures, suggesting that how individuals negotiate their multiple identities plays a critical role in fostering openness. The findings highlight the importance of addressing within-group variability. Implications for understanding social identity processes will be discussed, with attention to how bicultural identity negotiation contributes to openness and intercultural competence.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126347 - 12-Minute Talk

Neoliberal beliefs and the justifiability of suicide: A multi-level, cross-national study

Main Presenting Author: Switzer, Andrew C

Additional Author: Turner, Brianna J

Abstract: *Neoliberalism is often defined by its political ambitions: optimizing wellbeing and productivity through free and competitive trade. However, emerging evidence from psychological sciences shows how neoliberalism manifests in attitudes and beliefs of individuals (e.g., tolerance for inequality, preference for competition, belief in personal responsibility). Not only are these beliefs widespread, they have been linked to moral exclusion and lower empathy in some samples. This study aims to expand on these findings by testing the relationship between neoliberal beliefs and beliefs about the justifiability of suicide across cultures. This study will analyze data from Wave 7 of the World Values Survey, which includes responses from over 88,000 adults living in 66 countries. Neoliberal beliefs were measured by participants' responses to four questions about income inequality, competition, government ownership, and personal responsibility. Participants also rated their beliefs about the justifiability of suicide (0 = Never, 10 = Always). Using multilevel structural equation modelling, we will examine associations between neoliberal beliefs and beliefs about the justifiability of suicide within and between countries. Findings from this study will add to the growing literature on neoliberalism and wellbeing, and they may uncover new avenues for stigma reduction and suicide prevention.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126153 - 12-Minute Talk

Personalized Persuasion? Testing the efficacy of Personality-Targeted Political Advertisements

Main Presenting Author: Blais, Julie

Additional Authors: Pruysers, Scott ; Mungall, Luke

Abstract: *Background: There is a growing concern that political parties can engage in highly sophisticated microtargeting based on voter personality. This study examines the effectiveness of personality tailored political advertising across two studies. Methods: Both studies used real-world personality tailored advertisements (i.e., using the Big Five) produced for a US midterm election. In Study 1, we conducted a survey among personality experts (N = 86) to evaluate the face validity of the advertisements. In Study 2, we conducted a pre-registered between-subjects experimental design with a nationally representative sample of over 2,000 US citizens to assess whether advertisements that match participants' personality traits are more effective (i.e., vote intention, likability, etc.). Results: Study 1 indicated that a majority (63%) of experts in personality psychology were unable to correctly identify the Big Five trait that was targeted in the video. In Study 2, there were no significant aggregate effects of the matching variable, once controlling for participant personality. However, a classification tree analysis did identify a small sub-group of participants where matched ads had higher efficacy. Conclusion/impact: While concerns about psychological voter manipulation are widespread, the results of these studies suggest that such fears are likely overstated.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122584 - 12-Minute Talk

Reconceptualizing Regional Prejudice: Extremism and Inequality

Main Presenting Author: Li, K. Colin

Additional Authors: Hehman, Eric ; Neel, Rebecca

Abstract: *Living in an area that's low in prejudice is one factor that people with minoritized backgrounds often prioritize. How can we tell prejudice in a region? Historically, the default method to represent regional prejudice has been mean scores, which assumes that an average adequately captures the climate of an area. However, this approach can obscure meaningful variation, particularly in regions where responses are polarized. Here, we present alternatives to aggregate prejudice at the regional level: Extremism (weighing greater individual prejudice scores more heavily) and inequality (the dispersion of explicit prejudice). To examine their utility, we've combined multiple large datasets and will compare the variance explained by these alternatives to the averages of regional anti-Black racism scores on anti-Black hate crimes and Black people's health outcomes (Study 1). In Study 2, we will use a similar method to predict outcomes for sexual minorities. The preliminary descriptive results showed that the alternatives differ moderately from the averages. For example, Nevada ranks only moderately high on average levels of explicit racism, but is among the highest in other rankings, suggesting racial attitudes in Nevada might be more extreme and more polarized. These methods complement current understanding of regional prejudice and open new directions for theorizing their utility.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125532 - 12-Minute Talk

Représentations stéréotypées des victimes de violations de la vie privée en contexte numérique : une étude qualitative pour la construction de vignettes expérimentales

Main Presenting Author: Ouimet, Cassandre

Additional Authors: Cantinotti, Michael ; Trémolière, Bastien

Abstract: *Dans la littérature portant sur les violations de la vie privée, les personnes qui en sont victimes sont fréquemment appréhendées à travers un ensemble de stéréotypes susceptibles d'alimenter des mécanismes de blâme à leur égard. À ce jour, aucune étude n'a examiné l'effet de ces perceptions sur l'identification à la victime et sur la perception du risque personnel de subir une violation de la vie privée. Afin de tester ces effets, cette étude vise à élaborer des vignettes représentant des victimes de violations de la vie privée en ligne, élaborées à partir de stéréotypes associés à des niveaux élevés et faibles de compétence en matière de protection. Dans le but d'assurer la validité du matériel, 17 étudiants universitaires francophones ont été recrutés pour réaliser quatre groupes de discussion. Une analyse thématique (Braun & Clarke, 2006) a permis d'identifier et d'associer les stéréotypes fréquemment évoqués par les participants à certains types de violations (ex. : un mécanicien retraité sans enfant vs un jeune technicien en informatique subissant une fraude bancaire). Cette démarche visait à garantir que les représentations véhiculées dans les vignettes représentent adéquatement les perceptions de la population cible. Les résultats de l'étude permettront d'orienter des actions de sensibilisation et de prévention en matière de protection des données personnelles.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124392 - 12-Minute Talk

The Bamboo Ceiling in Canada: Examining Ethnic Minority Underrepresentation in Leadership

Main Presenting Author: Yim, Odilia

Additional Author: von Friedl, Karolina

Abstract: *Despite strong academic and professional achievement, East Asians remain underrepresented in leadership roles across North American organizations-a phenomenon known as the "bamboo ceiling" (Lu et al., 2020). While well-documented in the United States, this pattern has not been systematically examined in Canada, a context shaped by official multiculturalism and ideologies that differ greatly from American norms. This study investigates whether the presence of a bamboo ceiling in Canadian corporate leadership.Using a dataset of directors from TSX-listed companies (2015- 2022), we applied race categorization algorithms alongside human raters to classify ethnic backgrounds. Findings revealed a clear underrepresentation of East Asians in executive and board-level positions, despite their strong presence in professional sectors. These results align with prior research showing that East Asians are perceived as less creative or assertive, traits associated with leadership potential. Linguistic bias, including accent discrimination and communication style, may further reinforce erroneous perceptions and limit opportunities. By situating the bamboo ceiling within Canada's multicultural context, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of how identity and power interact in organizations. Implications for improving intergroup communication and relations will be discussed.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126408 - 12-Minute Talk

Trusting Your Gut: How Believing Emotions are Helpful Informs Decision-Making

Main Presenting Author: Mazumder, Ashmita

Additional Authors: Lassetter, Bethany ; Gatchpazian, Arasteh; Feinberg, Matthew; Ford, Brett Q.

Abstract: *Whether people believe emotions are helpful versus harmful for decision-making may shape how they make decisions; those who view emotions as helpful may be particularly likely to act on them. We test this hypothesis using diverse methods across multiple decision-making domains. We first developed a measure of emotion beliefs (Study 1, N = 1343) and found that people who believe emotions are relatively helpful were more likely to report habitually listening to their emotions when making decisions (Study 2, N = 1218). Then, across two longitudinal studies centred on political events (Study 3a, N = 2035), we found that when people believe emotions are relatively helpful, their moral outrage was more tightly linked to political action intentions. Future analyses will test whether these patterns generalize across contexts: whether believing emotions are helpful strengthens (a) the day-to-day link between emotions about political events and political action motivation across three weeks (Study 3b, N = 1491), and (b) the month-to-month link between fear of an infectious disease and protective health behaviours in a 15-wave longitudinal study during the COVID pandemic (Study 4, N = 609). Together, this work clarifies whether and when beliefs about the helpfulness of emotion in decision-making translate into real-world, impactful decisions across political and health domains.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125750 - 12-Minute Talk

Understanding controlling behaviors perpetrated in adolescent dating relationships: Links with insecure attachment and relational skills

Main Presenting Author: Brun, Angélique
Co-Presenting Author: Lafleur, Elisabeth

Additional Authors: De Sousa, Deziray ; Fernet, Mylène; Hébert, Martine; Paradis, Alison

Abstract: *Controlling behaviors are a form of teen dating violence (TDV) that can have significant psychological and relational consequences. Although insecure romantic attachment is one of the main risk factors associated with TVD perpetration, few studies have examined its links with controlling behaviors in adolescence. Furthermore, the mechanisms that may explain this association have yet to be examined. Since romantic attachment serves as a foundation for the development of relational skills (individuality, assertiveness, support), these skills may play a role in the perpetration of controlling behaviors among adolescents with attachment insecurities. This study examined the relationship between attachment anxiety and avoidance and the perpetration of controlling behaviors via these three forms of relational skills among 361 adolescents in dating relationships who completed an online questionnaire. Path analyses revealed an indirect association between attachment anxiety and the perpetration of controlling behaviors via lower individuality. The results also indicated an indirect association between attachment avoidance and controlling behaviors via lower support. The model explains 16.5% of the variance of perpetrated controlling behaviors and highlights the relevance of romantic attachment and relationship skills for the prevention of this form of TVD in adolescence.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125438 - 12-Minute Talk

Who has standing to tackle injustice? The roles of group status, responsibility, and relevance

Main Presenting Author: Trickey, Jessica

Additional Authors: Bergsieker, Hilary B; Garg, Soumya

Abstract: *Despite calls for members of advantaged groups to participate as allies in action against discrimination, they may feel it is "not their place" to do so. We theorize that psychological standing, defined as the perceived legitimacy one has to act on an issue, contains distinct subconstructs: moral responsibility to act and personal relevance to the issue. In three studies, we test competing hypotheses about who has greater standing to combat discrimination: the shared responsibility hypothesis, which emphasizes the power and influence of advantaged groups who assume responsibility, and the lived experience hypothesis, which highlights the familiarity and expertise of disadvantaged groups based on personal relevance. We find that people perceive members of advantaged groups as sharing comparable responsibility with disadvantaged groups when their group status is inferred from photos but lower responsibility when group status is made explicit via labels. Members of advantaged (vs. disadvantaged) groups report feeling less responsibility to act and relevance to the issue, despite anticipating less backlash for acting. Felt responsibility (but not relevance) predicted lower expectations of backlash. Increasing responsibility felt by members of advantaged groups may remove a key barrier to allyship action.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125319 - 12-Minute Talk

Who wins with Mindfulness? Certain profiles of dispositional mindfulness facilitate better social relationships.

Main Presenting Author: Johnson, Nathaniel J.

Additional Authors: Mosi, Julia M.; Kil, Hali

Abstract: *In recent years, mindfulness has gained traction as a personal practice that can support well-being. A popular definition of trait mindfulness separates it into five facets. Emerging research shows that people show individual variability across the five facets of mindfulness, with implications for social relationships. In this project, we conducted a scoping review of studies on this individual variability in trait mindfulness facets and how such variability is linked to social and relational outcomes. We systematically searched PsycINFO, Web of Science, and Scopus databases for literature published up to March 27, 2025, and identified 34 records for inclusion. In both the review and a corresponding meta-latent profile analysis (meta-LPA) using combined data from eight of the included studies (N = 6108), we found that people tended to belong to one of five 'profiles' of mindfulness. All-around high mindfulness was linked to better social and relational outcomes, but certain facets of mindfulness (e.g., observing) only appeared to be beneficial when combined with the facet of non-judging. The results highlight the importance of recognizing that individuals display unique patterns across mindfulness facets and that certain patterns may be particularly helpful for facilitating positive social relationships.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122764 - 12-Minute Talk

Who's A Good Dyad? Examining the Perceptions and Dynamics of Undesirable Behaviour in Dog-Guardian Pairs

Main Presenting Author: Burrows, Hannah M.R.

Abstract: *Guardians' perceptions of their dogs' behaviour may shape how dyads regulate conflict, yet research rarely integrates beliefs with real-time interaction. Study 1 developed the Perception of Undesirable Pet Behaviours Survey (PUPS), a guardian-report measure assessing concern, comfort, and confidence across everyday contexts. Factor analyses supported four reliable dimensions-public behaviour, obedience/training, fear/anxiety or separation distress, and behaviour in the home-with expected convergence with DIAS impulsivity scales. Study 2 examined whether these beliefs relate to dyadic behaviour during a Surprise Self-Control Task. Dog-guardian pairs were coded using structured ethograms capturing gaze, intervention style, disengagement, and affective responses. Guardians scoring higher on the PUPS fear/anxiety factor were more likely to relinquish prohibited food, suggesting conflict anticipation and avoidance, whereas those using gestural intervention reported fewer behavioural concerns. These findings indicate that "undesirable behaviour" does not solely reflect canine traits but emerges from co-regulation within the dyad. Integrating guardian beliefs with dynamic behavioural measures supports a relationship-centred approach to understanding inhibitory control, improving training practices, and informing interventions that target both members of the dog-guardian pair.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126354 - 12-Minute Talk

Who's Real and Who's Fake? Understanding Bisexual+ People's Perspectives on Authenticity

Main Presenting Author: Baron, Lucas

Additional Author: Deska, Jason

Abstract: *A Western conception of authenticity is rigid; authentic people are believed to be genuine, undue from external influences, with their behavior reflecting their true self. Authenticity is valued positively, and people whose behavior fluctuates across situations are seen as disingenuous. To gain a more holistic understanding of authenticity, this study explored how bisexual+ people define and embody authenticity in a world that often constrains or misinterprets their authentic expression. We recruited bisexual+ individuals (N = 26) from the Greater Toronto Area to participate in semi-structured interviews on their experiences, conceptualizations, and feelings of authenticity. Beyond being genuine and honest with oneself and others, authenticity involved an openness toward exploring oneself. They emphasized the influence of fluidity and social context on authentic expression, as well as the importance of recognizing safety concerns. Individuals conceptualize authenticity in diverse and nuanced ways. The relationship between authenticity and a bisexual+ identity informs participants' personal relationships, well-being, and sense of self.Overall, this project contributes to a richer understanding of authenticity by centering bisexual+ people's lived experiences, and illuminating how authenticity deeply relates to their relationships and well-being.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 126311 - 12-Minute Talk

Conversation Session

Unfinished Business: Understanding and Addressing Adult Sibling Tension and Estrangement

Main Presenting Author: Faisal, Sarah

Additional Authors: Amir Pour, Rose-Marie ; Raghunath, Rakshita; Sunderani, Shafik

Abstract: *Sibling relationships are often the longest-lasting bonds in life, yet many adults describe them as strained, competitive, or distant. While rivalry is viewed as a normal part of childhood, its emotional legacy frequently continues into adulthood, resurfacing through comparison, perceived favoritism, unequal caregiving, and unspoken resentment. Divergent life paths-such as differences in career, financial status, or cultural expectations-can intensify tension, while unresolved communication patterns and family triangulation keep conflict alive. This roundtable invites participants to explore why sibling rivalry persists and how clinicians, researchers, and individuals can better understand its emotional and cultural roots. Drawing on developmental, psychoanalytic, and systemic perspectives, discussion will focus on fairness perceptions, boundary negotiation, and the challenge of repairing long-standing relational injuries. Key questions include: (1) What drives ongoing resentment and distance between adult siblings? (2) How do cultural norms and caregiving expectations shape conflict or reconciliation? (3) How can therapists assess and address rivalry dynamics without pathologizing them? (4) When is estrangement adaptive versus avoidant? Through open dialogue, attendees will consider how unresolved sibling dynamics influence adult identity, attachment, and family cohesion.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124932 - Conversation Session

Panel Discussion

Interdisciplinarity in Psychology: Contributions, Barriers and Possibilities

Moderator(s): Thrift, Erin

Panelists: Yen, Jeffery; Fabricius, Alexis; Arfken, Mike

Abstract: *Trans- and inter-disciplinary scholarship can serve to generate innovative questions and offer new insights into "psychological" areas of study. All of the panelists, and no doubt many in the CPA, recognize the benefits of drawing from knowledge and collaborating with those who work in other fields. Although there is broad commitment to scholarship that operates at and across disciplinary borders, this type of work is becoming more challenging, the result of convergence of a number of vectors. In this panel, we identify and discuss several of those challenges, including the history of disciplinary boundary work, current labor relations, recent and complicated technological advances, and educational trends in post-secondary institutions. Panelists will share their observations of forces that impede trans- and inter-disciplinary scholarship for the purpose of opening up the conversation with audience members about challenges, limitations, contributions, and embedded power relations. We also invite audience members to discuss these barriers and to reflect on what would have to change for us to achieve a more interdisciplinary approach to psychology.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124698 - Panel Discussion

Speaking with the media: why it matters and how it works

Moderator(s): Bollman, Eric

Panelists: Kostiner, Marlee; Hubbard, Janine; Morris, Erika; Zogalis, Liz; Staniforth, Jesse

Abstract: *Our topic of discussion is speaking with the media. Our goal is to make psychologists and academics more comfortable (and maybe even eager to begin) speaking with media outlets about their work and other subjects. We have media experts joining us who will explain how various media platforms (print, radio, TV, online, podcasts, etc) work, what they're looking for, and how they can amplify the message you want to share.- How to approach a reporter, or pitch a story- Should this be an interview, a blog post, an op-ed, or a news story?- How do I prepare for an interview?- What are my options before an interview, or after, in terms of making sure my message is clear?*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 122560 - Panel Discussion

Understanding Coercive and Controlling Family Violence: Presenting a Unified Definition, and Considering the Impact of Cultural Factors and Neuropsychological Consequences

Moderator(s): Singh, Terry

Panelists: Hendry, Melissa; Singh, Terry; Longman, Stewart

Abstract: *Canada's new Divorce Act (2021) includes coercive and controlling behaviour as one of the factors for consideration in family violence. While coercive control is increasingly recognized as a type of intimate partner violence (IPV), its subtle, cumulative, and often invisible nature makes it difficult to define and address in both professional and legal contexts.In this panel discussion, we introduce a novel framework (Singh & Hendry, in preparation) that represents a breakthrough in its presentation of a coherent definition of coercive and controlling violence (CCV), which operationalizes the specific factors which comprise coercive control and permit practitioners to distinguish between various sub-types of this form of family violence. Our novel approach examines the behavioural and cognitive factors exhibited by both the agent of the violence and its target, which allows for the consideration of the interaction between the two individuals' actions and reactions.In addition to presenting this new model, this discussion will focus on the model's implications as it pertains to the assessment of family violence, the development of targeted interventions for both agents and targets, neuropsychological consequences, and how psychological practitioners can utilize the model to provide targeted intervention.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 122659 - Panel Discussion

Presentation

"Re-Visioning Psychological Science For Humanity: The Role of Canadian Psychology"

Main Presenting Author: Thompson, Ava

Abstract: *Canadian psychology has had a central role in the development of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) and psychological science. This presentation highlights Canada's century-long contribution in shaping psychological science - not as peripheral participant but as a generator of knowledge, interrogating the discipline, establishing global standards, and shaping strategic agendas. The contributions are evident in many areas, including theory, methodology and evidence-based practice and leadership in global mental health. However, Canadian psychology has also been instrumental in establishing, strengthening and expanding the global psychological community, particularly via its role in IUPsyS, the Global Voice of Psychology. These contributions, including the distinctive throughline of equity, diversity, and inclusion have contributed to the growing consensus on the need to re-vision global psychological service to better serve humanity. Canadian innovations in digital mental health, AI-psychology dialogues, climate psychology, and interdisciplinary integration across health, education, and policy have further advanced the re-visioning agenda. The presentation concludes by outlining a forward agenda: moving from contribution to co-creation, collaboration and partnership within IUPsyS and its global psychological community; sustaining impact through equitable,*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 129616 - Presentation (25 minutes)

Printed Poster

"...But That Doesn't Make Me a Bad Person": Understanding Moral Disengagement and Prejudice

Main Presenting Author: Schilke, Mary Kate

Additional Author: Efimoff, Iloradanon

Abstract: *Most people want to be good people, but we regularly find ourselves in situations where our actions and values conflict. When this happens, we often feel uncomfortable, which can prompt us to turn to moral disengagement strategies ("it's not really a big deal..." or "I'm sure I'm not the only one...") to feel better about ourselves. These excuses seem innocuous, but they have the power to alleviate guilt even while we engage in harmful behaviours, such expressing prejudice. Previous research has demonstrated that moral disengagement is positively correlated with prejudice. However, research is lacking on the relationship between moral disengagement and prejudice towards Indigenous people in Canada-a group that experiences high levels of prejudice. To fill this gap, we have conducted a survey-based study with undergraduate students (N = 325). Participants completed measures on moral disengagement and prejudice towards Indigenous people (e.g., stereotype endorsement, empathy). Pearson r analysis revealed significant positive correlations between moral disengagement and multiple measures of prejudice towards Indigenous people (rs = .25-.34). This study expands the current knowledge on moral disengagement and prejudice, and forms the*

foundation for a second study developing an intervention to reduce prejudice towards Indigenous people by targeting a moral pathway.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123055 - Printed Poster

"Did You Get It?": Interpreting Online Sarcasm Among Socially Anxious Individuals

Main Presenting Author: Ebeid, Mohamed

Additional Author: Boutet, Isabelle

Abstract: *Previous research suggests that sarcasm can either enhance or dampen the emotional impact of messages. However, little is known about how socially anxious (SA) individuals interpret sarcasm, especially online where paralinguistic cues are missing. Emojis have been shown to aid sarcasm interpretation, but it is unclear whether this applies to SA individuals, who often interpret ambiguous cues negatively. This study examined how SA and the wink emoji influence sarcasm interpretation online. Using a mixed design, 219 undergraduate rated literal or sarcastic messages that were praising or criticizing, with or without a wink emoji. SA was measured with the Social Phobia Inventory. Participants rated comprehension, perceived sarcasm, and sender's intent, which were analyzed with separate 2X2X2 mixed ANOVAs. Preliminary analyses revealed a significant effect of emoji presence, $F(1, 218) = 233.51$, $p < .001$, partial $\eta^2 = 0.58$, with sarcastically criticizing messages containing a wink rated as less mean. No significant effect of SA was found, $F(1, 218) = 0.67$, $p = .42$, partial $\eta^2 = 0.004$. These results suggest that the presence of a wink emoji reduces perceived meanness in sarcastic messages, regardless of individuals' SA levels. This research shows that emojis can reduce perceived negativity in online sarcasm overall, offering insights for reducing misunderstandings in online exchanges.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 122823 - Printed Poster

"Fear of Fatness" is More Strongly Associated with Binge Eating Symptoms Than Food Addiction Symptoms

Main Presenting Author: Molnar, Meg G

Additional Authors: Snaychuk, Lindsey A; Cassin, Stephanie E

Abstract: *Food addiction (FA) is characterized by an addictive-like response to hyperpalatable foods, and it overlaps substantially with binge eating disorder (BED). Individuals with BED experience both external and internalized weight-based stigma which may encourage dietary restraint and over evaluation of weight and shape. However, less is known about the association between FA and weight-based stigma. Therefore, this study examined the relationship between BED and FA symptoms and external and internalized weight-based stigma. Undergraduate students (N = 177) completed questionnaires assessing their BED and FA symptoms and weight-based stigma. Participants' BED symptoms ($r(177) = .42$, $p = <.001$) and FA symptoms ($r(177) = .39$, $p = <.001$) were both positively correlated with fears of fatness (a form of internalized stigma), but not with fat phobia (a form of external stigma). A multiple linear regression indicated that BED symptoms ($\beta = .29$, $p = .011$) but*

not FA symptoms (β = .16, p = .146) contributed unique variance to fears of fatness. Findings lend support for a potentially important distinction between BED and FA suggesting that fear of fatness may not be as prominent in FA in comparison with BED.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124432 - Printed Poster

"We" versus "You and Me": Couples Who View Themselves as a Team Have a Smoother Transition to Parenthood

Main Presenting Author: English, Gracie B

Additional Author: Woodin, Erica

Abstract: *Background: The transition to parenthood is a period of vulnerability in which many couples experience decreases in relationship functioning. We-ness, or the degree to which couples view themselves as part of a team, may play an important role in couples' ability to adapt to the demands of parenthood. The objective of this study was to investigate if we-ness predicts couple and individual outcomes over the transition to parenthood. Method: 97 mixed gender couples completed an oral history interview and questionnaires during the third trimester of pregnancy, and questionnaires were repeated at 1, 2, and 4 years postpartum. Results: Multilevel modeling analyses demonstrated that couples' we-ness during pregnancy was associated with higher prenatal relationship satisfaction, better expectations about co-parenting cohesion, lower depression levels, and lower levels of intimate partner violence. In addition, lower levels of prenatal we-ness longitudinally predicted increases in intimate partner violence during the first four years of parenthood. Further analyses will investigate mediators and moderators. Conclusion: This study demonstrates that couples who view themselves as a team have higher levels of prenatal wellbeing and a lower risk of intimate partner violence during early parenthood, suggesting that the narratives couples create can sustain them during periods of stress.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 126051 - Printed Poster

"You did that on purpose": Free will beliefs and parental discipline

Main Presenting Author: Dunk, Rebecca J.

Additional Author: Mar, Raymond A.

Abstract: *If we have control over our behaviour, it follows that we should be held responsible for our actions, including punishment for wrongful action. This is the basic premise behind the relationship between free will beliefs and punishment attitudes. Empirical work in abstract contexts finds such an association (Shariff et al., 2014), but evidence from more realistic contexts is mixed (Genschow et al., 2021). This study employs an everyday context for punishment, parental discipline, to explore whether we can observe such an association under realistic conditions. In a survey of 373 parents, we found that stronger beliefs in free will and moral agency were related to more consistent reports of discipline. Both general free will beliefs and beliefs specific to their child were unique predictors of disciplinary consistency. General beliefs about free will were also highly related to the endorsement of constructive punishments (e.g., enforcing a timeout). This study grounds abstract theories about free will beliefs and punitiveness in the real-word context of parenting. Our findings also help us*

understand the importance of personal philosophies when examining individual differences in parental discipline.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123689 - Printed Poster

(H)over-Protection: Investigating the Three "Great Untruths," Helicopter Parenting and Psychological Well- Being in Canadian University Students

Main Presenting Author: Hogervorst, Melody

Additional Authors: Siamro, Jake ; Wilson, Anne

Abstract: *In The Coddling of the American Mind, Lukianoff and Haidt (2018) claim that emerging adults' mental health decline is tied to overinvolved parenting, which teaches children maladaptive mindsets that they call the three "Great Untruths"-fragility ("what doesn't kill you makes you weaker"), emotional reasoning ("always trust your feelings"), and us vs them ("life is a battle between good and evil people"). However, these much-discussed mindsets have never been evaluated empirically. We examined links between reported experience with helicopter parenting, mental health indicators (resilience, anxiety, depression, and stress), and our newly developed measure of these three mindsets. Among 435 Canadian university students, correlational and multiple regression analyses reveal that greater experience with helicopter parenting predicted greater endorsement of these three mindsets, lower resilience, and worse mental health. Greater mindset endorsement also predicted worse mental health. In some cases, associations with helicopter parenting were stronger for those living away from home. Findings extend the study of helicopter parenting by examining possible implications for their children's lay beliefs and ultimately may inform parenting practices that foster and not impede resilience.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125385 - Printed Poster

A Brighter Shade of Dark? Reconceptualizing Narcissism in the Dark Tetrad

Main Presenting Author: King, Taryn

Additional Author: Vernon, Tony

Abstract: *The Dark Tetrad describes socially aversive traits unified by antagonism and exploitation, yet emerging evidence suggests narcissism may not uniformly fit this model. This literature review examined whether grandiose narcissism (GN) and vulnerable narcissism (VN) differ in their alignment with dark-trait characteristics. Approximately 500 peer-reviewed studies were identified through systematic searches and evaluated for associations with antagonism, exploitativeness, aggression, sadism, and loadings on the dark core (D-factor). Across analyses, GN showed strong and consistent convergence with dark-trait features, particularly through its antagonistic and entitled components. VN demonstrated weaker and more variable associations, often reflecting emotional reactivity, insecurity, and defensive withdrawal rather than proactive malevolence. Several studies also reported nonlinear patterns, with GN and VN remaining distinct at typical levels, but showing shared antagonistic features only at high trait severity. Overall, findings suggest that grandiose, not vulnerable, narcissism most clearly fits the Dark Tetrad framework. These results support refining*

dark-trait models by distinguishing narcissism subtypes and highlight the value of subtype-specific assessment for future research and applied psychological contexts.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124686 - Printed Poster

A Meta-Analysis of the Relationship Between Psychopathy and Exploitation in Economic Games

Main Presenting Author: Doyle, Liam A.

Abstract: *Psychopathy is theorized to predict exploitative behavior in interdependent situations, yet past research in economic games has yielded inconsistent findings. Guided by the Affordance-Based Framework of Prosocial Behavior, this meta-analysis synthesized the association between psychopathy and exploitation across five major economic games. A systematic search yielded a sample of 55 studies - the largest of any meta-analysis conducted on the topic thus far. In keeping with contemporary best practices for handling dependent effect sizes, random-effects mixed-models were used to estimate effects and test moderators. Psychopathy showed a small but significant positive association with exploitative behavior across games. Effects were strongest in one-shot Prisoner's Dilemma games and in conditions involving the possibility for exploitation. In contrast, associations were weaker or absent in games/roles emphasizing reciprocity or dependence under uncertainty. Moderator tests suggested that game structure and incentive type differences contributed to some of the variability in effect sizes. Findings clarify when psychopathy most reliably predicts interpersonal exploitation and highlight the importance of situational affordances in shaping behavioral expression. A full understanding of the psychopathy-exploitation relationship can inform the development of targeted interventions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124031 - Printed Poster

Attachment Security and Children's Normative Judgments About Caregivers' and Strangers' Comforting Obligations

Main Presenting Author: Weinmann, Sophie

Additional Authors: Steinmaßl, Konstantin ; Paulus, Markus

Abstract: *Attachment theory describes how children form expectations about caregiver behavior. Theoretically, early caregiving experiences may also lay the groundwork for children's emerging normative beliefs about how caregivers should respond to distress, yet this possibility has been scarcely investigated. This longitudinal study examines whether attachment security among 5- to 6-year-old children (N = 120) is associated with their normative stances one year later. Preliminary analyses include a subsample of n = 49 children who evaluated vignettes in which a mother or a stranger comforted or did not comfort a hurt child. Children judged that the mother should provide more comforting than the stranger (p = .001, dz = .52) and evaluated maternal comforting more positively (p = .044, dz = .30), with a trend toward more negative evaluations of maternal non-comforting (p = .090). Attachment security predicted lower overall comforting expectations (β = -0.066, p = .042). Follow-up analyses showed that higher attachment security was associated with lower comforting expectations toward strangers, whereas expectations toward mothers were*

unaffected. Theoretically, this pattern may reflect greater flexibility among more securely attached children in distinguishing caregivers from unfamiliar adults, maintaining stable expectations for the former while attributing lower comforting obligations to the latter.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125125 - Printed Poster

Attitudes Towards Out-groups and Beliefs About Personal Responsibility Drive the Stigmatization of People Experiencing Homelessness

Main Presenting Author: McGeer, Rachel

Additional Authors: Carter-Rogers, Katelynn ; Bourgeois, David

Abstract: *Previous research shows that people experiencing homelessness (PEH) are subject to stigma that negatively affects their health and wellbeing, shapes public policies addressing homelessness, and restricts their access to social services. Attribution theory provides a useful framework for studying this stigma, as internal attributions (e.g., blaming personal choices) are associated with increased stigma. Personal factors can also influence who holds more stigmatized attitudes toward PEH. The present study investigated how PEH gender, immigration status, and substance use affect causal attributions and blame, and who holds more stigmatizing attitudes toward specific PEH. Participants completed an online survey assessing causal attributions and blame in response to vignettes describing different PEH, along with self-report measures of attitudes and prejudice. Regression analyses showed that people with higher income, stronger authoritarian beliefs, and more individualistic values made more stigmatizing attributions. We conclude that beliefs promoting in-group/out-group divisions and personal responsibility drive stigmatization towards PEH. Addressing these beliefs may be integral to reducing discrimination and improving PEH's health and wellbeing. Future research should investigate interventions that target the underlying beliefs and mechanisms that create stigmatized attitudes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126011 - Printed Poster

Autism Stigma in Children and Young Adults: From Imagination to Impressions of Autistic and Non-Autistic Characters

Main Presenting Author: Van Esch, Natalia

Additional Authors: Pontarollo, Gloria ; Sharma, Dishita; Scheerer, E Nichole

Abstract: *Autistic individuals are often perceived negatively. This negative autism bias appears early in life, with children as young as 5 years old showing bias. Experiencing stigma from a young age has negative effects, contributing to increased mental health challenges in autistic people. It is unknown, however, how children characterize autism broadly, limiting what we know about, and reducing our ability to prevent autism bias. Sixty-four children (Mage=7.8,SDage=2.1) made an autistic and non-autistic character and rated each on 8 questions (cool, attractive, smart, strange, mean, has friends, willing to be friends, likeable) using a 0-100 scale. Two-hundred-fifty-one undergraduates (Mage=20.7,SDage=4.8) then rated the characters on the same questions. A main effect of character (autistic or non-autistic) emerged (F(1,308)=10.3,p=.001), along with character by question*

(F(5.9,1805.1)=12.6,p<.001) and character by question by group interactions (F(5.9,1805.1)=9.1,p<.001). Both groups viewed autistic characters as more strange; undergraduates rated them as less attractive and intelligent, while children rated them as less likeable and having fewer friends. Overall, children's bias reflected a general reduced social warmth toward autism, whereas undergraduates' bias showed a lack of perceived competence and attractiveness, highlighting differences in autism bias and understanding.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125159 - Printed Poster

Awe-Inspiring Figures and their Devoted Following: Awe as an Affective Pathway to Commitment

Main Presenting Author: Di Censo, Lucia

Additional Authors: Li, Yachen ; Gholamzadehmir, Maedeh; Stellar, Jennifer

Abstract: *Commitment is typically thought of in the context of close relationships; however, it is also possible to feel committed towards an individual one has never met. Many people find themselves deeply committed to public figures whom they have never personally interacted with. Commitment in this context can take the form of rallying behind the cause of a public figure or sacrificing one's resources to support them. What drives commitment in these one-sided, parasocial relationships? We hypothesize that one powerful driving force is the emotion of awe. To test this claim, we measured awe at two large-scale celebrity events in the field (Study 1), induced awe versus amusement in a controlled laboratory setting (Study 2; pre-registered) and conducted linguistic analysis of Reddit users' language and behaviour about a specific well-known figure (Study 3; pre-registered). Across these studies, feeling awe predicted greater reported and behavioural commitment towards public figures, including more extreme maladaptive forms of commitment (e.g., willingness to act unethically at the public figure's behest). These results highlight the unique role of awe as a driver of commitment in relationships that are purely one-sided.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122733 - Printed Poster

Being Prosocial in STEM: How Compassionate Goals Benefit Graduate Student Wellbeing Through Giving Support

Main Presenting Author: Houshang Tehrani, Estera

Additional Authors: Muragishi, Gregg A; Hall, William M

Abstract: *Graduate students in STEM face many pressures that impact their academic experience. While scientific research culture sometimes prioritizes individual achievement and independence over helping others, qualitative evidence suggests that STEM students benefit from being prosocial (e.g., mentoring undergraduates, supporting labmates). We hypothesize that STEM graduate students' care for others in their academic context contributes to enhanced academic wellbeing, through supportive actions. Two cross-sectional studies were conducted online with graduate students in Engineering, Physics, and Computer Science (N = 517), and Life & Earth Sciences (N = 288). Participants reported their prosocial motives (compassionate goals) and actions (practical vs. emotional support-*

giving) towards people in their program, and completed measures of academic wellbeing (e.g., research engagement, burnout, and dropout intentions). Linear regression analyses revealed significant positive relationships between compassionate goals and academic wellbeing outcomes. Practical (but not emotional) support-giving was identified as a mediator of enhanced academic wellbeing in both samples. We propose that care for others is a relevant (yet oft-overlooked) part of the STEM graduate student experience, and recommend greater incorporation of prosocial opportunities (e.g., peer mentorship) in graduate programs.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123836 - Printed Poster

Beliefs about Belonging and Integration among Self-Identified White Children of Immigrants in Quebec

Main Presenting Author: Moindrot-Zilliox, Ludmilla

Additional Authors: El Mouden, Imane ; Sunohara, Momoka; Epoupa, Rachel Diane; Bilodeau, Antoine

Abstract: *Belonging among children of immigrants in Quebec is shaped by cultural and linguistic dynamics that can influence their social integration and well-being. Although non-racialized White immigrants - such as those from Europe - may integrate into Quebec more easily than racialized immigrants, they can still experience alienation and exclusion, and the meaning of belonging may differ from that of non-immigrant majority Quebecers. This study, conducted within the larger IMBEQ (IMmigrants, BElonging/Bien-être, Québec) project, examines collective perceptions of belonging, identity, and well-being among self-identified White young adults in Quebec with immigrant parents.Using a mixed-methods cultural consensus theory (CCT) approach, we conducted free-listing interviews with self-identified White children of immigrants (N=23; Francophone n=11, Anglophone n=12). Participants generated keywords describing how children of immigrants from their cultural background might experience belonging, identity, and well-being in Quebec. CCT aims at highlighting potential group agreements in shared beliefs, sentiments, and attitudes, and the role of immigration heritage on shaping their lived experiences as children of immigrants in Quebec. These findings deepen our understanding of how racial identity, linguistic integration, and belonging are negotiated in Quebec and can inform province-specific policies related to immigration and mental health for children of immigrants.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125535 - Printed Poster

Belonging in Québec: Identity and Well-Being among Racialized Children of Immigrants

Main Presenting Author: El Mouden, Imane

Additional Authors: Sunohara, Momoka ; Moindrot-Zilliox, Ludmilla; Epoupa , Rachel Diane; Bilodeau , Antoine

Abstract: *In Québec, efforts to preserve the French language and traditions play a central role in shaping cultural identity and fostering a sense of belonging among multicultural immigrant*

communities. In this context, belonging may hold different meanings for children of racialized immigrants whose cultural values and norms may not fully align with those they perceive as dominant in Québec society. Drawing on data from the larger IMBEQ (IMmigrants, BElonging/Bien-être, Québec) project, this study uses a cultural consensus theory (CCT), a mixed-methods approach to explore how children of racialized immigrants living in Québec collectively understand belonging and well-being. We conducted 32 interviews with racialized young adults whose parents are immigrants. The sample included Francophone (n=16) and Anglophone participants (n=16). Participants were asked to free-list responses that reflected collective beliefs and group-level understandings of belonging, identity, and well-being. By examining shared beliefs using CCT, this study can shed light on the unique challenges, rewards, and meanings of belonging for children of racialized immigrants living in Québec.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125869 - Printed Poster

Beyond Concentration-Based Mindfulness: A Systematic Review of Buddhist-Derived Meditation Practices for Reducing Intergroup Bias

Main Presenting Author: Wallace, Maggie

Additional Author: Prusaczyk, Elvira

Abstract: *Buddhist-derived meditation practices (e.g., Metta, Loving-Kindness, Tonglen) are increasingly studied for their potential to reduce intergroup bias. Although prior reviews have examined meditation for prosociality and compassion, no systematic review has evaluated whether Buddhist-derived practices reduce intergroup bias compared to secular mindfulness or no-intervention controls. This gap is important, as secular mindfulness dominates the literature and emphasizes present-moment awareness of the self or breath while omitting the ethical and relational components central to Buddhist practice. Without this comparison, it remains unclear which aspects of meditation are driving reductions in bias. This review will synthesize studies in which Buddhist-derived practices involving concentration, wisdom, or ethics are compared to concentration-based (i.e., secular) or inactive controls. Searches were conducted in PsycINFO (N = 351), Web of Science (N = 289), and Ovid MEDLINE (N = 126), with screening and extraction to be completed in Covidence by March 2026. Outcomes will include implicit and explicit prejudice, stereotyping, and discriminatory behaviour. By clarifying whether and how Buddhist-derived practices differ from secular mindfulness in reducing bias, this review will identify potential mechanisms and support the refinement of anti-bias interventions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126145 - Printed Poster

Blue Bloods: Stress, Stigma, and Resilience in Youth Living in Police Families

Main Presenting Author: Wax, Rachel

Additional Authors: Riondino, Giulia ; Phillips, Brittany; Schwartz, Dean Kelly

Abstract: *Emergency first responders, including police officers, firefighters, and paramedics, face significant operational stressors that can lead to post-traumatic stress injuries and affect family dynamics. Children in these families experience challenges such as parental shift work, worries about*

safety, prolonged absences, and vicarious trauma, all of which can impact their well-being. Police families face additional pressures such as public stigma and media scrutiny, yet research and support programs rarely address the needs of their children. This project aims to understand the experiences of children in police families, focusing on parent-child relationships, mental health, and school adjustment. Qualitative data was collected from a focus group with eight youth aged 11-19. Participants engaged with ten research-based statements, and their responses were explored in a discussion. Data will be analyzed using phenomenological narrative analysis, but preliminary findings include themes of social stigma, limited awareness of resources, the effects of shift work, and the influence of social media on perceptions of police work. Stigma and cultural expectations within police families were also identified as barriers to seeking support. Findings will inform the development of psychoeducational interventions to support children in police families and enhance overall family well-being.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 126072 - Printed Poster

Breaking the Cycle: Examining the Roots of Racial Prejudice in Middle Childhood

Main Presenting Author: Prusaczyk, Elvira

Additional Authors: Marion, Talia ; Durant, Logan; Steele, R Jennifer

Abstract: *Racial bias continues to shape children's social experiences, yet little is known about how early ideological beliefs contribute to prejudice during middle childhood (i.e., 6-10). Although Social Dominance Orientation (SDO) and Right-Wing Authoritarianism (RWA) reliably predict prejudice in adults, their developmental origins remain largely unexamined. This study tests whether new child-friendly measures of SDO and RWA predict racial prejudice among 6-10-year-olds. Guided by the Dual Process Model, SDO and RWA are expected to operate as distinct pathways to higher prejudice. In addition to examining these individual differences, younger children (6-7) are predicted to show higher SDO, RWA, and automatic prejudice due to early stereotype exposure and lower cognitive sophistication, whereas older children (8-10) might demonstrate more individuated judgments. Because children often mirror beliefs in their social environments, parent-child similarities in SDO, RWA, and prejudice are also anticipated. Data collection will occur from January to March 2026, with an expected sample of approximately 120 children and their primary caregivers. Analyses will be conducted before April. Findings will provide rare developmental evidence on ideological predictors of prejudice in childhood and underline the importance of early parent-child interventions to disrupt the transmission of bias.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125903 - Printed Poster

Career Human Agency in Recent Professional Immigrants from Hong Kong in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Hon, Casey L

Additional Author: Chen, Charles

Abstract: *In response to the recent Hong Kong exodus since 2019, Canada has opened various pathways catered to recruit Hong Kongers, with an emphasis on those educated or having worked in*

Canada. This study examined the work experiences of these recent immigrants from Hong Kong through the framework of Career Human Agency Theory (CHAT). Qualitative interviews with 11 recent immigrants from Hong Kong who had been working in Canada were analyzed using interpretive phenomenological analysis, in turn elucidating how the themes of career human agency are evidenced within the context of Canada. The findings of this study connect to existing research to empirically validate the applicability of the CHAT model for use in the context of immigrants from Hong Kong. Challenges faced by this group also highlighted the continued need for systematic changes to reduce barriers to employment and sociocultural adjustment in Canada.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125819 - Printed Poster

Chronic Pain Stigma: Effects of Pain Characteristics on Social Distancing

Main Presenting Author: Bélanger, Marianne

Additional Authors: Lévesque-Lacasse, Alexandra ; Cormier, Stéphanie

Abstract: *Background: Chronic pain is a misunderstood and underestimated condition, making it particularly prone to stigma. This study examined whether characteristics of chronic pain influence social distancing behaviors in the general population. Methods: A community sample of 160 participants were assigned to one of four vignettes depicting a fictional individual with varying pain characteristics: 1) Chronic pain with unknown etiology, 2) Chronic pain with invisible symptoms, 3) Chronic pain involving opioid use, or 4) Acute pain. Participants completed measures of social distancing, and questionnaires assessing knowledge, beliefs, attitudes, and familiarity with chronic pain. Results: Participants exposed to any chronic pain vignette reported significantly greater social distancing, $t(158) = -3.45$, $p = .002$. Chronic pain with unknown etiology and opioid use elicited the highest levels of distancing, $F(3,156) = 4.94$, $p = 0.003$. Social distancing was significantly predicted by participants knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes toward chronic pain ($F(1,150) = 43.27$, $p = <.001$), but not by their familiarity with the condition ($p = .592$). Conclusions: Individuals with chronic pain of unknown etiology and those using opioids may be prone to discriminatory social responses. Impact: Interventions targeting knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes may be more effective in reducing chronic pain stigma.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124734 - Printed Poster

Collective Anti-Mattering: Belief that One's Group is Being Disregarded Fuels Collective Action and Authoritarian Support Among Both Black and White Americans

Main Presenting Author: Boutros, Isabelle

Additional Authors: Wohl, Michael J. A.; Tabri, Nassim

Abstract: *Anti-mattering, the perception that one is insignificant and does not matter to others (Flett et al., 2022), has been associated with decrements to one's well-being (e.g., reduced self-esteem). While research has focused on this sentiment at the individual level, we extend the reach to the group level by developing and testing the predictive utility of collective anti-mattering (CAM)-the belief that one's*

group does not matter to other groups or society at large. We tested the psychometric properties of a scale to measure this construct and assess its emotional consequences and downstream influence on intergroup relations and support for strong leadership. In two studies, we measured CAM, collective angst, group-based anger, and political outcomes. Study 1 (N=368 Black Americans) and Study 2 (N=399 White Americans) tested a mediation model in which collective angst and group-based anger were parallel mediators of the association between CAM and political outcomes. CAM positively predicted engagement in collective action and support for authoritative leaders through collective angst, but not through group-based anger. These findings show that CAM is a novel construct that channels group-based emotions into political behaviour that can escalate or diffuse social tension. Interventions that reduce CAM may hold promise for strengthening intergroup trust and liberal democracy.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124730 - Printed Poster

Communicating for connection or pleasure?: Exploring instrumental and expressive communication within the two-pathway model of sexual self-disclosure

Main Presenting Author: Sampson, Emma D

Abstract: *Sexual communication is positively associated with sexual satisfaction. A model of sexual self-disclosure theorizes two distinct ways that sexual communication may increase sexual satisfaction: an instrumental pathway (with one's balance of sexual rewards to costs as a mediator) and an expressive pathway (with relationship satisfaction as a mediator). However, it is unclear if more goal-oriented (instrumental) versus connection-focused (expressive) types of communication impact the model. Thus, this study replicated and extended the two-pathway model. We recruited 265 participants to complete online measures of sexual communication, perceived partner responsiveness, sexual and relationship satisfaction, and perceived sexual rewards and costs. After replicating the model, regression analyses were conducted to examine associations between communication type and sexual satisfaction, and each pathway mediator. Results showed that both communication types were associated with greater sexual satisfaction. For both mediators, expressive communication was more strongly associated, and instrumental communication was only significantly positively correlated with participants' balance of sexual rewards to costs. These results suggest expressive communication may be particularly important for achieving sexual satisfaction in couples, reflecting the clinical implications of such research.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 126232 - Printed Poster

Cortisol Reactivity as a Mediator of the Association Between Attachment Security and Relationship Satisfaction in Newlyweds

Main Presenting Author: Spence, Erik A

Additional Author: Cobb, Rebecca J

Abstract: *Attachment insecurity (anxiety and avoidance) is robustly associated with relationship dissatisfaction and with cortisol reactivity (cortisol released in response to a stressor). Insecurity may*

increase cortisol release in relationship discussions if they are perceived as threatening or challenging, which may then erode relationship satisfaction. We investigated how attachment anxiety and avoidance were related to individuals' and partners' cortisol reactivity during marital discussions, and how this predicted relationship satisfaction. Participants were mixed-gender (man/woman) newlywed couples (N = 154) who averaged about 28 years of age and were mostly White (75%). They completed questionnaires assessing attachment security and relationship satisfaction just after marriage, provided saliva samples for cortisol assay before and after completing a series of relationship discussions, and then completed relationship satisfaction questionnaires again 1.5 years later. Data are complete; hypotheses will be tested using multiple regression and the Hayes' Process Macro. Results will offer insight into whether partners' cortisol responses during marital discussions contribute to the longitudinal association between attachment insecurity and relationship satisfaction.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126150 - Printed Poster

Cultural differences in emotion beliefs: A path analysis using a seven-dimension model of self-construal

Main Presenting Author: Najem, Lara E
Co-Presenting Authors: Kalic, Andria K; Woods, Marin P

Additional Authors: Huang, Olive Chung-Hui ; Daros, Alexander R

Abstract: *Background: Beliefs about the usefulness and/or controllability of negative emotions shape emotional and mental health outcomes. Studies found that relationships between emotion beliefs (EBs) and outcomes differ across distinct cultural groups. However, despite culture's fluid nature, few studies assessed how cultural dimensions relate to EBs. This study aimed to examine how self-construal (SC; i.e., viewing oneself as independent or interdependent from others) relates to EBs. We expected more interdependent SCs across domains of functioning to be related to more maladaptive EBs.Methods: University and community-dwelling adults (N=214; 72% women, 69% White) self-reported SC on seven domains (Vignoles et al., 2016) and EBs for negative emotions. A path analysis regressing both EBs onto seven SC domains was run.Results: Three SC domains showed significant associations with EBs. Individuals who view themselves as similar and connected to others (i.e., interdependent) reported greater beliefs that emotions are uncontrollable and useless. Those who prioritize self-interest over others (i.e., independent) reported greater uselessness EBs. Other SC domains were not significantly related to EBs.Conclusions/Impact: Results support that EBs differ based on SC. Future work may benefit from dimensional models of culture to characterize differences in EBs and understand wellbeing impacts.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123488 - Printed Poster

Denying Mental Health Science Mediates the Associations Between Previous Experiences with Mental Health Care and Help-Seeking Attitudes and Intentions

Main Presenting Author: Topolniski, Megan

Additional Authors: Dhalla, Jasmine ; Evans, Nicholas

Abstract: *Although effective treatments are available, most people who would benefit from mental health care do not receive treatment. Denying health care-related science poses a prevalent hurdle to enacting important health-related behaviours, and this is likely no different for mental health. People tend to deny science when their own experiences do not align with relevant scientific findings. Therefore, the current studies tested whether participants' previous (direct and indirect) experiences regarding mental health predict their denial of mental health research findings, and in turn, their attitudes and intentions toward seeking help. Study 1 (N = 270) examined participants' general endorsement of mental health science denial. Study 2 (N = 296) examined participants' responses to mental health research findings. The mediation analyses of both cross-sectional studies supported the proposed path of direct experience: Less experience with mental health care positively predicted mental health science denial, which in turn, negatively predicted attitudes and intentions toward help-seeking. This reluctance to accept new contradictory information can have implications for individuals' quality of life and mental wellbeing. Thus, this work may inform practitioners and policy makers on how to combat science denial and foster attitudes and behaviours that bolster people's mental health.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124512 - Printed Poster

Different ways in which partners help with financial self-control: A two-factor scale

Main Presenting Author: Ntemgwa, Dylan

Additional Author: Peetz, Johanna

Abstract: *This project describes the development of a scale that assesses different ways in which people help or receive financial self-control help from their romantic partner. To generate the initial list of items, we borrowed from self-control models and conducted a qualitative pilot study to assess people's self-reported types of help in a financial self-control context (Study 1, N=101). A total of 27 items were generated. We then conducted a second study (Study 2, N=200) to reduce the number of items via exploratory factor analysis. The final scale included 15 items which loaded on two factors. Factor 1 captured active financial self-control helping that is perhaps more often encountered 'in the tempting situation' (i.e., reactive strategies) whereas Factor 2 captured communication about finances or forms of helping that occur outside of tempting situations (i.e., proactive strategies). Both factors independently predicted better financial satisfaction. Only factor 2 (proactive strategies) predicted better relationship satisfaction. We conclude that there are different types of help from a romantic partner towards financial control that roughly sort into direct help given when faced with temptations and communication about financial issues. Couples who aim to improve their relationship not their finances might want to focus on communicating about monetary goals.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123815 - Printed Poster

Do People Accurately Perceive How Others Communicate About Their Sexual History? An Assessment of the Actual and Perceived Norms for Sexual History Communication

Main Presenting Author: Moore, Sean E

Additional Author: Mills, Emmalee

Abstract: *People's perceptions of sexuality norms can have important consequences for how they express their own sexuality. One understudied aspect of sexual norms perceptions concerns how individuals perceive social consensus in communicating their past sexual history. If these norm perceptions are biased or inaccurate, it may impact how individuals choose to express or withhold sexual history information to partner(s). To examine accuracy in perception of sexual history communication norms, we constructed an anonymous self-report survey that assessed actual and perceived norms pertaining to sexual history communication in a convenience sample of young adults aged 18-25 (n = 99). Actual norms were assessed by asking about respondents' personal feelings and intentions for communicating their sexual history; perceived norm items asked respondents to indicate how they thought others would typically respond to the same sexual history communication questions. Results indicated significant discrepancies for 12 out of 14 items, and reflected a general pattern of greater perceived discomfort and unwillingness to share sexual history information in others compared to respondents' own reports. These findings imply that educating people about norm misperceptions may be a way to reduce apprehension and promote more open communication about one's sexual history with current/future partners.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123243 - Printed Poster

Dysphoria and Support Provision Tendencies in Friendships

Main Presenting Author: Montanino, Milena

Additional Authors: Antoun, Jillian P; Jacobson, Jill A

Abstract: *Despite people with dysphoria (i.e., subclinical depression or chronic negative mood) having heightened accuracy in perceiving social situations (Harkness et al., 2005; Kenny & Albright, 1987), they experience worse social outcomes than do non-dysphoric individuals (Joiner & Timmons, 2002; Marcus & Askari, 1999). To reconcile this paradox, we hypothesized that because they are more accuracy motivated (Weary et al., 1993) and focused on solving their own problems (Andrews & Thomson, 2009), dysphoric individuals might respond to other people by focusing on fixing their problems instead of providing social validation or emotional support (e.g., mirroring feelings). Their preference for problem-solving responses, then, would contribute to their interpersonal difficulties because providing more practical support and less emotional support can be associated with worse interpersonal outcomes (Horowitz et al., 2001). In an online questionnaire, participants (N = 301) completed measures of depression, anxiety, causal uncertainty, and support provision in their friendships. Consistent with our hypothesis, dysphoria was positively related to problem-solving responses and negatively related to social validation in friendships. However, unlike a similar study on stranger interactions, our results for friendships were accounted for by two concomitants of dysphoria, anxiety and causal uncertainty. The implications of these findings on dysphoric individuals' relationships are discussed.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123044 - Printed Poster

Dysphoria as a Predictor of Providing Problem-Solving versus Emotionally Validating Support in Social Interactions

Main Presenting Author: Manneh, Nicole

Abstract: *Dysphoria (i.e., subclinical depression) is associated with a hypersensitivity to social cues and an enhanced motivation and ability to accurately perceive the others' mental states (e.g., Harkness et al., 2012; Weary et al., 1993). Paradoxically, it also is associated with poorer and fewer social relationships (Harkness et al., 2012). One reason for these social deficits could be that greater accuracy in inferring others' mental states is associated with providing practical support (e.g., offering advice) rather than emotional support (e.g., offering validation; Verhofstadt et al., 2008). However, emotional support is associated with stronger relationships and increased well-being (Koudenburg et al., 2014; Zaki & Williams, 2013). Moreover, dysphoric individuals might be uniquely motivated to problem-solve (Andrews & Thomson, 2009). The goal of the current study was to investigate if, compared to non-dysphoric people, dysphoric individuals are more likely to offer practical support and less likely to offer emotional support when presented with another individual's problem. Participants (N = 73) completed a series of questionnaires and engaged in a five-minute conversation with a stranger (actually a confederate) who shared a personal problem. As predicted, greater dysphoria was related to more problem-solving and less social validation during the social interaction.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125266 - Printed Poster

Effects of Attention Bias Modification on Relationship Quality: Considering Individual and Partner Attachment Traits

Main Presenting Author: Yong, Isabel Yihui

Additional Authors: Ellenbogen, Mark ; Bonnieux, Justin

Abstract: *Attachment theory posits that interactions with caregivers in childhood influence later relational patterns. Insecure attachment styles in adulthood, consisting of attachment anxiety and avoidance, can lead to interpersonal difficulties in adulthood. These attachment styles are associated with distinct attentional biases toward emotional cues, which might be modifiable. While attention retraining has targeted general attentional biases, few randomized trials have matched the retraining with attachment style, and none have considered the influence of partner attachment. Thirty-four couples completed a measure of attachment security at baseline. Participants with elevated attachment anxiety were randomized to a trait-matched or control protocol. Relationship quality was collected pre- and post-intervention. Trait-matched attention retraining lowered relationship quality for participants with elevated attachment anxiety ($b = -0.51$, $p < .05$). Moderation analyses revealed that higher partner anxiety attenuated this negative effect ($b = 0.20$, $p < .05$). Findings suggest that trait-matched attention retraining may undermine relationship quality for anxiously attached individuals, especially when partners are low in attachment anxiety. Future research is needed to better understand intra- and interpersonal mechanisms underlying attachment insecurity and its modification.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124945 - Printed Poster

Evaluating the Real-World Performance of the STABLE-2007: A 15-Year Field Study of Dynamic Risk Assessment for Sexual Recidivism

Main Presenting Author: Villeneuve, Audrey

Additional Authors: Morrison, Joel ; Babchishin, Kelly M; Hanson, R. Karl

Abstract: *Effective correctional practice depends on matching services to individuals' risk of reoffending, which in turn requires risk assessment tools that are both empirically sound and reliable in day-to-day operations. Tools validated only in controlled research settings may not perform the same way when used in routine correctional practice, making field validation essential. This study evaluated the real-world performance of the STABLE-2007, a dynamic sexual recidivism risk assessment tool, as implemented by British Columbia Corrections from December 2004 to July 2019, with outcomes tracked through December 31, 2023 (average follow-up: 15 years, SD = 2.6; sexual recidivism rate = 11.4%). Among approximately 4,291 men convicted of a sexual offence in BC, the STABLE-2007 showed moderate ability to distinguish recidivists from non-recidivists based on Cox regression analyses (HR = 1.08, 95% CI = [1.06, 1.09], p < .001). Item-level results are also reported, offering insight into which dynamic factors function most effectively in applied correctional contexts. Our findings strengthen confidence in STABLE-2007's utility for long-term case management, support its role in guiding supervision and treatment planning.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125026 - Printed Poster

Examen du phénomène de la récurrence à la protection de la jeunesse : une méta-analyse

Main Presenting Author: Bédard, Sandrine

Additional Authors: Tarabulsy, George ; Rousseau, Michel; Gauthier-Légaré, Audrey; Rivet, Sophie

Abstract: *La récurrence se définit comme deux épisodes distincts des services de la protection de la jeunesse (PJ) dans la vie d'un enfant. La proportion d'enfants expérimentant ce phénomène apparait incertaine, puisque la littérature montre une forte variabilité dans les taux de récurrence observés. Cela peut s'expliquer par une hétérogénéité dans les choix méthodologiques et conceptuels des auteurs, rendant difficile le groupement et l'interprétation des résultats. Ainsi, cette étude visait à réaliser une méta-analyse pour mieux comprendre comment le taux de récurrence varie selon divers facteurs modérateurs. L'ensemble des articles portant sur les enfants suivis à la PJ et présentant au moins un taux de récurrence ont été inclus. Le calcul d'un taux de récurrence moyen ainsi que des analyses de modération ont été effectués. Au total, 94 études ont été incluses, contenant 136 taux de récurrence indépendants (N = 6 872 414 enfants) variant entre 1,82% et 75,10% (taux moyen de 21,1%). Plusieurs facteurs modérateurs semblent liés à un taux plus élevé : bas âge de l'enfant, parent consommateur, faible taux d'abus psychologique dans l'échantillon, plus grande durée d'observation et définition moins stricte de la récurrence. Ces résultats montrent que la variabilité notée dans la littérature est liée à la fois à des différences méthodologiques et à des différences chez les familles étudiées.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123830 - Printed Poster

Examining Potential Mediators in the Relationship Between Causal Uncertainty and Roommate Rejection

Main Presenting Author: Schuck, Teagan

Abstract: *Milano (2012) found that the relationship between people's higher causal uncertainty (i.e., doubt about one's understanding of social events) and greater rejection by their roommates was mediated by participants' self-reported intimacy and self-disclosure. In the current study, we attempted to replicate her results both within and across time. Additionally, we tested if roommates perceived the participants' social withdrawal and if their ratings similarly would serve as mediators. Undergraduate roommates who had been assigned to live together (N = 62 dyads) completed personality measures and scales about their perceptions of their roommates at 2 time points, roughly 6 weeks apart. As we have found in 3 prior data collections including Milano, greater participant causal uncertainty was related to greater roommate rejection both within and across time, and consistent with some (i.e., the confidence interval) but not other (i.e., statistical significance) criteria for replication (LeBel et al., 2019), the effect was replicated. Contrary to our hypotheses, neither participants' intimacy nor their self-disclosure as rated by the participants or by their roommates were significant mediators either within or across time. Thus, future research should explore alternative mechanisms to account for the causal uncertainty-rejection relationship.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122868 - Printed Poster

Examining Spontaneous Science Stereotyping of South Asian and East Asian Women and Men

Main Presenting Author: Eslamian, Emilie

Additional Authors: Steele, Jennifer R; Colaco, Patricia

Abstract: *Gender stereotypes in STEM are well documented; however, less is known about race-based stereotypes and their intersection with gender. In the present research, we examined science stereotypes of South and East Asian women and men, using the Implicit Association Test (IAT) and self-report measures. Participants (N = 424) were randomly assigned to one of four conditions, where they completed an implicit measure that included same or different gender South Asian and East Asian targets. Across conditions we found evidence of racial stereotyping, such that participants were faster to pair South Asian people with Science and East Asian people with Arts. However, in the East Asian men versus South Asian women condition, responses were more consistent with gender stereotyping, with East Asian men being paired relatively more quickly with Science. Explicit measures revealed only consistent gender (not racial) stereotyping. The results highlight how race and gender stereotypes operate differently depending on the context and comparison group, with women being most likely to be gender-stereotyped and less strongly associated with Science compared to men. The results also emphasize the importance of examining how multiple social identities shape STEM stereotyping and the need to consider diverse Asian subgroups separately in stereotyping research.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123646 - Printed Poster

Exploring narcissism and human- and animal-centered empathy in pet and non-pet owners.

Main Presenting Author: Rai, Ronak

Additional Authors: Giacomin, Miranda ; Legge, Eric

Abstract: *Individuals high in narcissism typically exhibit an exaggerated sense of self-importance, heightened sensitivity to criticism, and reduced empathy toward others. Pet ownership, often linked to greater empathy, may help mitigate narcissism-related reductions in empathic concern. This study examined human- and animal-centered empathy among pet and non-pet owners (N = 381) who were high or low in three facets of narcissism: Agentic Extraversion, Antagonism, and Narcissistic Neuroticism. Bivariate correlations found that Agentic Extraversion was negatively associated with human-centered empathy but unrelated to animal-centered empathy. Antagonism was negatively related to both forms of empathy and to attitudes toward animals, whereas Narcissistic Neuroticism was unrelated to both forms of empathy. Pet and non-pet owners did not differ in their levels of narcissism or human-centered empathy, however, pet owners reported higher animal-centered empathy and more positive attitudes toward animals. Regression analyses indicated that pet ownership did not moderate the relationship between narcissism and animal-centered empathy. Examining narcissism and empathy reveals how its facets influence responses to humans and animals and may inform improved mental healthcare and social strategies for narcissistic individuals.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 125321 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Interplay Between Network Density and Heterophily in Predicting International Students' Adjustment in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Stora, Lisa

Additional Authors: McManus, Delainey ; Grunspan, Daniel; Giguère, Benjamin

Abstract: *Previous research has mainly examined individual characteristics as determinants of international student's adjustment; however, building new social networks is a core aspect of their experience in a new country. Building on social network and social capital theories, this study adopted a social network approach to examine how the composition and structure of international students' social networks predict their adjustment. International students from two universities in Southern Ontario (N = 131) reported the people they interacted with (alters) across seven consecutive days and completed adjustment measures. Results showed statistically significant interactions between country of origin heterophily (i.e., having more alters whose country of origin differs from one's own) and density among alters from Canada (i.e., degree of interconnectedness among alters from Canada): higher country of origin heterophily was associated with higher depression, anxiety, and stress, and lower well-being, only when density among Canadian alters was low. Neither heterophily nor density predicted sense of belonging to university or cultural competence. Findings suggest that social network composition and structure influence international students' mental health. Future research should continue to explore how international students' experiences are shaped by their social networks.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 124234 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Self-Structure of Individuals Higher in Narcissism

Main Presenting Author: Blakley, Kaiden

Additional Author: Giacomin, Miranda

Abstract: *Narcissists' self-content (i.e., qualities and traits) is well understood. Grandiose narcissism relates to dominance, entitlement, and deceitfulness, whereas vulnerable narcissism is characterized by neuroticism, rumination, and need for recognition. However, narcissists' self-structure (i.e., organization and stability of their self-views) remains unclear. Thus, we examined the self-structure of individuals higher (vs. lower) in grandiose and vulnerable narcissism. We hypothesized that grandiose narcissism (vs. vulnerable) relates to higher self-concept clarity (SCC; confident, stable, and consistent self-views) and lower self-concept differentiation (SCD; how much one's self-views vary across roles). 314 undergraduate students completed the SCC scale (Campbell et al., 1996), the Self-Incoherence Scale (Styla & Suszek, 2010), and the Five Factor Narcissism Inventory Short Form (Sherman et al., 2015). Grandiose narcissism predicted higher SCC but was unrelated to SCD. However, vulnerable narcissism predicted lower SCC and higher SCD. Higher grandiose narcissism relates to possessing consistent and clearly defined beliefs of oneself, whereas individuals higher in vulnerable narcissism may be more likely to vary in how they see themselves across roles.Understanding the structure of a narcissistic personality is a stepping stone to understanding narcissistic behaviour.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125248 - Printed Poster

Exposure to Stress Increases Women's Perceptions of Social Threat in Other Women's Faces

Main Presenting Author: Palmer-Hague, Jaime L.

Additional Author: Quapp, Madison

Abstract: *Women are less likely than men to engage in overt, physical aggression; instead, their aggressive behaviour tends to be covert and aimed at social harm. Interestingly, recent work has shown that people can accurately detect women's propensity for indirect aggression from their faces. This suggests that we may have evolved mechanisms for detecting social, rather than physical, threat in women's faces. Here we examined the effect of an acute stressor on women's perception of indirect aggression (i.e., social threat) in other women's faces. Thirty women participated in 2, counter-balanced, lab-based sessions: acute stress and control. During the stress condition, they were exposed to a stressful situation (Maastricht Acute Stress Test), and during the control condition, they were exposed to a non-stressful sham situation. After each, they were asked to rate 50 neutral women's faces for perceived social harm. We found that women rated faces higher in social threat following stress compared to control. These findings suggest that stress may enhance women's ability to detect social threat in potential same-sex rivals' faces, facilitating faster, more efficient response strategies. This has direct implications for our understanding of indirect aggression in women, particularly in stressful situations like adolescent bullying and workplace interactions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123246 - Printed Poster

Faith-Based Mental Health Interventions for Muslim Populations: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Mazumder, Ashmita
Co-Presenting Author: Raitman, Michelle

Additional Authors: Hamzai, Hanna ; Mohammed, Sara; Dere, Jessica

Abstract: *Muslim communities face distinct mental health challenges, compounded by past trauma, Islamophobia, and acculturative stress, while navigating unfamiliar healthcare systems. Despite significant mental health needs within this demographic, access to conventional services is frequently impeded by structural and sociocultural barriers. Faith, family, and community institutions, particularly mosques and religious leaders, often provide initial psychosocial support, positioning them as critical partners in mental health promotion. We review and summarize the literature on faith-based mental health interventions for Muslims in Western countries, including intervention characteristics, implementation strategies, and outcomes; we also map interventions according to Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory to examine the multiple levels at which they operate. We include mental health outcomes, personal recovery outcomes, and behavioural outcomes. 900 papers have been identified, and screening is currently underway. The review will provide a comprehensive overview of the interventions, highlighting patterns, gaps, and methodological strengths and limitations. By clarifying how faith components are integrated and identifying culturally responsive strategies, this work can inform future research, intervention development, and evidence-informed clinical practice in Muslim communities.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125792 - Printed Poster

Falsely Accused of the Unthinkable: The Stigmatizing Effect of Being Falsely Accused of Child Sexual Abuse

Main Presenting Author: Martin, Sarah L

Additional Author: Erentzen, Caroline

Abstract: *Background: Alarmingly, 85% of those exonerated from child sexual abuse were falsely accused, typically where no crime occurred. The stigmatizing effects of a false accusation may be profound but remain understudied. The present research investigated the comparative stigma toward child sexual abuse versus other offences and whether dislike of an offence type erodes the presumption of innocence.Method: Participants read a scenario in which a man claims he was falsely accused of a crime. Study 1 varied the offence type and Study 2 varied how far into the legal system this accusation had gone. Ratings of offence-based stigma, innocence, and social distance were obtained. Results: Study 1 revealed that child sexual abuse was associated with the highest levels of offence-based stigma, doubt about innocence, and preferred social distance. Study 2 revealed that this stigma attached to a loose verbal accusation, before police are even involved. Conclusions: Child sexual abuse is uniquely stigmatizing, even for those falsely accused. Interestingly, dislike of an offence predicted guilt and stigma independently of presumption of innocence ratings, suggesting*

dimensionality of generic prejudice. Action/Impact: These results suggest the need for juror screening on offence-based stigma, publication bans on sexual violence cases, and public education regarding the dangers of false accusations.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 122744 - Printed Poster

Feed For Thought: Understanding Using Social Media as a Mental Health Resource

Main Presenting Author: Russell, Hailey N

Additional Author: Lymburner, Jocelyn

Abstract: *This study examined the factors influencing individuals' engagement with mental health content on social media, focusing on both active searching and passive viewing behaviors. Using a non-experimental survey design, data were collected from 176 participants regarding their mental health history, social media habits, and potential predictors of engagement. Building on prior research (Akhther & Sopory, 2022), which identified predictors such as mental health history, self-reported depression and anxiety scores, and perceived helpfulness of social media, this study introduced additional variables, including perceived credibility of social media and prior psychological treatment. Binary logistic regression revealed that higher depression scores (PHQ-9) and greater perceived credibility of social media significantly predicted active searching for mental health content. In contrast, passive viewing was more likely among women and individuals with a mental health diagnosis. These findings highlight the role of mental health status and perceptions of credibility in shaping social media engagement. Future research should further investigate the accuracy and utility of mental health information available on social media platforms.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125106 - Printed Poster

Friendship and the Autism Spectrum: Neurotypical Women's Perceptions and Expressions of Social Interest Towards Autistic Women

Main Presenting Author: Cleverdon, Tamara L
Co-Presenting Author: Ajabu, Savannah A

Additional Authors: Doerksen, Kaitlyn H; Geniole, Shawn N; Proietti, Valentina

Abstract: *Autistic women often report challenges in building and maintaining friendships despite a strong desire for social connection. While prior research has primarily focused on how autistic traits contribute to these social challenges, the present study investigated the other side of the friendship equation by examining neurotypical women's social interest towards autistic vs. non-autistic peers. Participants (n = 134) viewed six vignettes depicting women with and without subtle autistic traits and then rated their social interest towards each of the women described in the vignettes. Afterwards, participants completed measures of autism-related experience (i.e., educational and professional experience). A paired samples t-test revealed that neurotypical women expressed significantly less social interest towards women with (vs. without) autistic traits. Additionally, correlational analyses showed that this negative bias was reduced in participants who reported having greater autism-*

related experience. These findings suggest that the social challenges that autistic women face partly stem from the negative biases that neurotypical women hold. Additionally, future research should focus on the development of autism-related educational interventions for neurotypical individuals to buffer against social biases.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126348 - Printed Poster

From Self to Group: A Dual Rumination Model of Meaning-Making Pathways from Racial Discrimination to Depression and Critical Action

Main Presenting Author: Sinclair, Erin M

Additional Authors: Sinclair, Lisa ; Trapnell, Paul D; Cameron, J Jessica; Torres, Shae; Warmington, Kely

Abstract: *Racial discrimination is linked to psychological distress, yet people's cognitive responses to these experiences may shape whether they internalize harm or engage in sociopolitical action. This study introduces a Dual Rumination Model of Racial Discrimination, distinguishing between personal rumination on how discrimination affects the self and group-focused rumination on how it affects one's racialized group. We hypothesized that these two forms of rumination lead to different outcomes: depression or critical action. Racialized university students (N = 261) completed measures of discrimination, personal and group-focused rumination, brooding, critical consciousness, and depression. Structural equation modeling supported the model. In response to racial discrimination, personal rumination predicted brooding and subsequent depression, whereas group-focused rumination predicted greater critical reflection and motivation, which in turn predicted critical action. Personal rumination also predicted group-focused rumination, creating "personal to political" pathways to action. Findings highlight the role of cognitive processing in response to racial harm and that group-focused rumination may promote sociopolitical action. The model provides guidance for clinical interventions and identifies cognitive pathways through which racial discrimination fosters either distress or activism.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123632 - Printed Poster

Girl Politics? Gender, Online Experiences and Perceptions of Candidates

Main Presenting Author: Midgley, Claire

Additional Author: Edwards, Jade

Abstract: *Do differences between men's and women's online experiences shape their opinions of political candidates? In analyses using existing data (Edwards et al., under review), we examined whether gender predicts predicts familiarity with viral content, which in turn predicts attitudes towards political candidates.In an online survey, Canadian undergraduate students were asked questions about one of the two 2024 Presidential candidates: Kamala Harris or Donald Trump, which assessed 1) their attitudes about the candidate, 2) their familiarity with viral content, and 3) the valence of various pieces of content, allowing us to classify them as positive, negative, or neutral. Women were more familiar with positive Harris content than men, which in turn predicted rating Harris more positively, abindirect = .26, SE = .12, 95% CI [0.06, 0.52]. Women reported being less*

familiar with positive viral Trump content than men, which in turn predicted, rating Trump more negatively, abindirect = -.08, SE = .12, 95% CI [0.06, 0.52]. These findings held controlling for familiarity with negative content, which predicted more negative ratings for both candidates, regardless of gender. Results suggest gender differences in social media use, which in turn predicts differences in attitudes towards candidates. These findings may help explain the recent political polarization among young men and women.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126092 - Printed Poster

Intellectual Humility in the Canadian Context: Predicting students' respect for others' viewpoints and openness to revise their own beliefs on controversial matters

Main Presenting Author: Gooding, Gregory D

Additional Authors: Houmad, Sarah ; Yang, Grace; fleming, Amanda; Korner, Annett

Abstract: *Background: Polarization has become increasingly visible on Canadian university campuses. To address this issue, we examine whether intellectual humility (IH) helps foster more constructive dialogue.Objective: We investigate whether IH predicts students' willingness to discuss controversial topics and whether this effect varies across thematic categories. We also examine which demographic factors predict levels of IH.Methods: We surveyed +850 students from 31 francophone and anglophone universities across Canada, gathering responses to a range of contentious topics along with a validated measure of intellectual humility (Comprehensive Intellectual Humility Scale). A linear mixed-effects model will be used to test whether the association between IH and willingness to discuss differs by theme. Linear regression will be used to identify demographic predictors of IH.Results: Analyses are currently underway.Conclusion: This study will advance our understanding of the role intellectual humility may play in the Canadian context. It is the first step towards developing an evidence-based approach to reducing polarization on university campuses.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125434 - Printed Poster

Invent, Insist, Inspire: Creativity is Power in a Child's Pretend Play

Main Presenting Author: Ng, Arella

Additional Authors: Jalili, Saba ; Tong, Claudia; Cameron, Catherine Ann

Abstract: *Imagination is a core tool through which young children assert authorship, autonomy, and emotional agency within adult-structured worlds. While imaginative play is associated with creativity, identity formation, and emotional expression, most research relies on interviews or adult reports, missing how imagination occurs in children's lived experiences. This study used a naturalistic, quasi-ecological A Day in the Life (DITL) approach to follow one preschool-aged child across home and community settings, capturing spontaneous imaginative activity embedded in daily routines and relationships. Through event-level coding of video data, imagination emerged not only as play but as a means of shaping experience, negotiating control, and experimenting with identity and social power. Four recurring imaginative modes were documented: transforming environments, adopting character*

roles, inventing new content, and recruiting others into shared pretend scenarios. Throughout these moments, imaginative creativity served as a mechanism for agency, allowing the child to redefine physical spaces, direct interactions, and practice emotional and interpersonal influence. Viewing imagination as a form of power invites educators, caregivers, and researchers to consider how early play supports children in asserting themselves with agency in their everyday lives.

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 122861 - Printed Poster

Is athleisure "nice"? Effects of identity, attractiveness, and formality on social judgments of dress

Main Presenting Author: Kahlon, Kashish

Additional Author: Hester, Neil

Abstract: *The attractiveness halo effect is a cognitive bias where people associate positive personality traits with attractive people. The present research explores a novel instance of this effect, examining how perceived attractiveness impacts judgments of effort and style in dress. Across two studies, we examined how formality and attractiveness interact to shape perceptions of the individual. In Study 1, 116 participants rated separate face (N = 323) and clothing (N = 450) images. We found that facial attractiveness positively predicts perceived effort and style with no significant interaction between attractiveness and formality. In Study 2, 145 participants rated full-body stimuli (N = 240). We replicated the finding in Study 1 and additionally found that the effects of attractiveness on effort and style were stronger for targets wearing informal clothing (e.g., streetwear). This novel expansion of the attractiveness halo effect has practical implications for how individuals navigate fashion-related social judgments. For instance, more attractive individuals may face lower expectations in formal contexts, allowing them greater flexibility in their fashion choices for settings like job interviews or first dates. These findings might also be relevant to the formation of fashion trends, which "trickle down" from celebrities and influencers to the general public. By utilizing diverse stimuli, our findings aim to generalize across different racial and gender groups, addressing gaps in previous literature predominantly focused on White samples. More broadly, this research contributes to understanding the role of attractiveness bias in fashion perception and underscores the need to consider such biases in fashion research.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125562 - Printed Poster

Job Status and Canadian University Professors' Career Concerns Related to Political Opinion Disclosure

Main Presenting Author: Turkoglu, Ayse
Co-Presenting Author: Hughes, Sara

Additional Authors: Cormier, Gina ; Drapeau, Martin

Abstract: *Recent discussions concerning academic freedom have gained momentum in recent years. Evidence from Canadian higher education highlight ongoing concerns about censorship and academic freedom. This study examined how professors' job status relates to their career concerns if*

their political opinions were to become known. Canadian university professors (n = 1,287, 54.1% men) aged 29-90 (M = 53.78, SD = 11.34) completed a nationwide survey. Analyses were conducted to examine whether career concerns differed among professors based on their job status when controlling for age. Professor job status was found to be significantly associated with career concerns related to political opinion disclosure, when controlling for age. Professors in more senior positions reported less concern compared to professors in less stable roles (e.g., part-time, non-tenured). Findings are consistent with research suggesting that non-tenured faculty may be more concerned about potential career repercussions. In contrast, the job and economic security associated with tenured positions may mitigate perceived risks of political opinion disclosure. The results emphasize the importance of future research into self-censorship and strategies to protect academic freedom.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125465 - Printed Poster

Le sentiment de proximité lors de discussions par messagerie texte et en face-à-face chez les couples de jeunes adultes : le rôle modérateur de la satisfaction relationnelle

Main Presenting Author: Turgeon-Arès, Maude

Additional Authors: Métellus, Sarafina ; Léonard, Florence; Vaillancourt-Morel, Marie-Pier; Daspe, Marie-Ève

Abstract: *La messagerie texte (MT) est couramment utilisée par les jeunes adultes pour communiquer avec leur partenaire amoureux. Compte tenu des différences avec la communication en face-à-face (fàf), il importe d'étudier ses effets relationnels. Les objectifs de cette étude étaient de 1) comparer le sentiment de proximité lors de discussions entre les partenaires selon le mode de communication (fàf ou MT) et le type de discussion (non-conflictuelle ou conflictuelle) et 2) d'examiner si ces effets varient selon la satisfaction relationnelle de chaque partenaire. Les participants ont complété l'Échelle d'ajustement dyadique et ont participé à une séance en laboratoire comprenant quatre discussions variant selon le mode de communication et le type de discussion. Après chaque discussion, les partenaires ont rapporté le sentiment de proximité ressenti lors de l'interaction à l'aide de deux items. Des analyses acheminatoires multiniveaux ont révélé des effets principaux significatifs du mode de communication et du type de discussion, montrant un sentiment de proximité accru en fàf et lors de discussions non-conflictuelles. Une interaction significative entre le type de discussion et la satisfaction relationnelle de l'individu indique que les discussions conflictuelles sont liées à une proximité moindre, et ce de façon encore plus marquée lorsque la satisfaction relationnelle est faible.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 124717 - Printed Poster

Mapping the Dark Core: Regional Variation and Societal Outcomes of Dark Personality in Estonia

Main Presenting Author: Xie, Catherine

Additional Authors: Guo, Yangyilin ; Xu, Ling; Vainik, Uku; Mõttus, René ; Götz, Friedrich M

Abstract: *Research in geographical psychology has established that personality traits vary across regions and relate to important societal outcomes. However, this work has largely focused on the Big Five, overlooking socially aversive traits. To bridge the gap, this study extends the geographical psychology framework by examining regional variation in the dark core of personality, the general tendency to prioritize one's own gain at the expense of others, across Estonia. Using large-scale geo-tagged personality data from over 80,000 residents combined with archival regional indicators from Statistics Estonia, we investigate 1) how dark personality is distributed across the 79 municipalities and 15 counties of Estonia, and 2) how the regional distribution of the dark core relates to political, economic, social, and health outcomes. Analyses will map regional dark personality distributions, assess spatial clustering, and examine the relationship between regional dark personality and societal indicators through spatial regression models to identify spatial patterns and macro-level correlates of dark personality. This study advances geographical psychology by expanding beyond the Big Five and the West to illuminate how socially aversive traits manifest across regions and relate to societal conditions in an Eastern European context.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122454 - Printed Poster

Marginalized Individuals' Meta-Perceptions of Outgroup Members: A Systematic Review of the Content, Accuracy, and Associated Outcomes of Perceived Outgroup Views

Main Presenting Author: Sarraf, Lisa

Additional Authors: McPherson, Kaelan ; Elsaadawy, Norhan

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Marginalized individuals form meta-perceptions or beliefs about how outgroup members perceive them. These beliefs can shape psychosocial and intergroup outcomes. This review aimed to examine the content, accuracy, and outcomes of these meta-perceptions.Methods: Following PRISMA guidelines, a systematic search was conducted in PsycINFO, Web of Science, PubMed, and ProQuest. Twenty-two studies (N = 6,465 marginalized participants) met the inclusion criteria and were analyzed for themes related to the valence, content, accuracy, and outcomes of meta-perceptions.Results: Marginalized individuals consistently reported negative meta-perceptions, often believing outgroup members viewed them as inferior, threatening, or less than fully human. These beliefs were frequently negatively biased but generally aligned with outgroup members' self-reported attitudes. Negative meta-perceptions were associated with adverse intergroup outcomes, whereas positive ones were linked to better psychological adjustment and more favorable intergroup outcomes.Conclusions: Meta-perceptions among marginalized individuals appear to be shaped by negative intergroup experiences and systemic power imbalances.Action/Impact: Interventions that address intergroup perceptions may reduce prejudice and promote more positive intergroup relations.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 121105 - Printed Poster

Mate Selection Criteria and Dating Platform Attributes Across Cultures

Main Presenting Author: Wen, Angele

Additional Author: Ji, Li-Jun

Abstract: *Mate selection is shaped not only by universal preferences but also by the cultural values people bring into modern dating contexts. As the first study in a larger project, we examined how these values appear in online dating environments, both in platform design and in users' opportunities for self-presentation. We created mock profiles across long-term and short-term platforms from Canada, China, India, France, Latin America, and Nigeria, and documented all profile attributes offered in the interface. Using qualitative coding, we compared how platforms reflect cultural models of individualism-collectivism, cultural tightness, and relational mobility. Results showed clear cultural patterns: tighter and more collectivist cultures emphasized family background, religion, income, and community ties, while individualist cultures offered broader self-expressive options, including non-binary gender selections and flexible relationship goals. Long-term platforms consistently requested more socioeconomic and family-oriented information. Overall, these findings suggest that dating platforms actively mirror cultural norms around mate selection. Implications highlight the need to consider cultural values when studying online self-presentation and when designing platforms intended for global audiences.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126404 - Printed Poster

Meals, Feels & Heals: The Role of Food as Nurturance and Emotional Support in Female Friendship

Main Presenting Author: Xie, Catherine
Co-Presenting Author: Ng, Arella

Additional Authors: Shen, Wentao ; Siminuic, Maria ; Cameron, Catherine Ann

Abstract: *Food is a powerful instrument of nurturance, as it promotes emotional well-being and strengthens relationships, especially among women. Though food sharing is widely recognized in the literature as a bonding activity, its function as a tool for nurturance in girls' friendships remains largely unexplored. This study used semi-structured, conversational two-on-two online interviews, wherein a pair of female friends was interviewed by two similar female researchers, employing natural discussion to gain insight into relational dynamics. By coding transcriptions of the discussions for themes of nurturance, we show that food acts as a multifaceted symbol of care: It functions as a one-way provision embodying unconditional generosity, and fulfills specific needs such as offering relief in hard times or daily meal reminders and provisions while simultaneously establishing a two-way relationship categorized by reciprocity, gratitude, and the mutual support of food-related passions. These findings provide crucial insights for strengthening female relationships, identifying the incorporation of "food as nurturance" into educational and wellness programs to promote supportive and nurturing social environments. Additionally, it validates the use of two-on-two dyadic interview methods for future relational research seeking authentic insights.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124559 - Printed Poster

Men who Sexually Offend Against Strangers or Acquaintances are More Likely to Reoffend: A Meta-Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Labrecque, Josie C I

Additional Author: Brankley, Andrew

Abstract: *Background: Men who sexually offend against acquaintances or strangers are more likely to reoffend than men who offend only against family members, yet some argue this reflects higher reporting rates rather than higher risk (Campbell et al., 2001), challenging victim-relationship items in risk tools. Methods: Using a dynamic risk measure that is relatively independent of criminal history (STABLE-2007; Hanson et al., 2007), archival data from adult men who committed sexual offences (N = 5,714) across six samples were aggregated meta-analytically. Results: Men with stranger victims showed the highest density of risk-relevant problems (fixed-effects mean STABLE-2007 total = 9.2, 95% CI [8.9, 9.4]), followed by those with acquaintance victims (6.7, [6.5, 6.8]); both groups scored higher than men who offended only against family (6.0, [5.8, 6.2]). Item-level differences suggested contributions from both general criminality and sex-crime-specific problems. Conclusion: Differences in dynamic indicators of risk by victim type make it unlikely that the association between victim selection and recidivism is solely due to reporting bias. Impact: Findings support the clinical and legal relevance of victim-relationship items in tools such as Static-99R and highlight the need to further clarify mechanisms underlying victim selection.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126045 - Printed Poster

Morally Ambiguous Stories and Moral Judgement

Main Presenting Author: Hooshiar, Ryan

Additional Authors: Dunk, Rebecca J; Mar, Raymond A

Abstract: *Audiences enjoy engaging with characters who they perceive to be realistic (Raney et al.,2013), and characters who are morally ambiguous are often seen as more realistic (Hoorn et al.,2003). Morally ambiguous characters have good qualities but often break the rules. Despite theirflaws, or even crimes, audiences often love and view these characters charitably (Shafer et al.,2012). Although audiences are more flexible in their judgments of these characters, we do notyet know the extent to which this flexibility extends to judgements in the real world. Do peopleengage in more nuanced moral reasoning after engaging with morally ambiguous stories? To testthis question, we ran a pre-registered between-subjects experiment, with 418 undergraduatesrandomly assigned to read one of two closely-matched short stories (77.51% female; MAge =19.75, SD = 3.97), differing solely in the moral ambiguity of the characters. After reading,participants read vignettes about crimes committed under mitigating circumstances and indicatedhow much the subject should be punished. We anticipated that those who read the morallyambiguous story would consider more of the mitigating context and recommend weakerpunishments. Data analysis is currently under way, comparing the difference in meanpunishment for the judgement task between story conditions (i.e., Morally Ambiguous vs.Morally Unambiguous).*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124294 - Printed Poster

Motivations Matter: Social Media Use Motives and Well-Being in Adolescents and Emerging Adults

Main Presenting Author: Hutchinson , Lynda

Additional Authors: Bubela, Rachel ; Ellis, Wendy

Abstract: *Although frequent social media use is nearly universal among youth, less is known about how different motivations for use relate to well-being. Moving beyond measures of screen time, this study examines whether distinct motives predict life satisfaction, anxiety, and friendship quality. 338 adolescents and young adults (Mage=19.9 yrs; 35.3%male,61.7%female) participated in an one-time online survey. Survey items measured social media frequency, types of motivations, friendship quality, anxiety, and life satisfaction. Three regression analyses examined how motivations subscales predicted well-being outcomes, controlling age and gender. The information/entertainment motivation significantly predicted lower life satisfaction (B = -.31, 95% CI= [-.60, -.01], p =.04). The status motivation significantly predicted higher anxiety (B =. 3, 95% CI= [.14,.46], p <.001). The values motivation significantly predicted higher friendship quality (B=.123, 95% CI= [.01,.23], p =.03). Also, time on social media was significantly correlated with anxiety (r =.128, p =.025), but not life satisfaction or friendship quality. These findings highlight the importance of considering why adolescents and young adults engage with social media, not just how often they use it. Future longitudinal research is needed to understand how these motivations develop and whether they contribute to changes in well-being.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 123137 - Printed Poster

Navigating Conflict: Developing a New Model and Measure of Conflict Orientations

Main Presenting Author: Saklofske, Donald

Additional Author: Feher, Anita

Abstract: *Although conflict is universal, our conflict orientations are not! The present research investigates individual differences in conflict orientations, which represent the relatively stable mental frameworks people have about conflict. We introduce a new four-dimensional model of conflict orientations, thus building on the traditional two-dimensional framework by also incorporating people's core social motivations. Our new model contains two underlying dimensions (avoid/approach and self/mutual focus) which combine to create four distinct conflict orientations: (1) Tranquility Orientation, (2) Resolve Orientation, (3) Seek Orientation, and (4) Self-Protect Orientation. To measure these four conflict orientations, we also developed a novel assessment questionnaire. We tested our conceptualization of conflict orientations in two samples: Amazon's Mechanical Turk participants (N = 566) and an academically diverse group of Canadian university students (N = 344). A series of factor analyses supported our new four-dimensional structure of conflict orientations. Expected relationships with other measures of conflict orientations and outcomes were also found.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126426 - Printed Poster

Non-Linear Associations Between Reward and Threat Sensitivity and Lie-Telling Behaviour in University Students

Main Presenting Author: Biasin, Jessica M

Additional Authors: Tyrrell, Emily ; Carruthers, Aliyah; Evans, D Angela; Heffer, Taylor

Abstract: *Background. Deception, like lie-telling, is often used to avoid punishments and gain rewards, yet little is known about how reward and threat sensitivity relate to these behaviours. Methods. This study examines how reward and threat sensitivity jointly relate to university students' self-oriented (told to protect oneself) and other-oriented lies (told to benefit others; N = 379, Mage = 24.28, 48.81% female). Results. Using a generalized additive mixed-effects model (GAMM; a flexible statistical method that models smooth, non-linear effects between variables), we identified a significant three-way interaction between threat sensitivity, reward sensitivity, and lie-type (edf =3.23, ref.df =3.63, F =3.29, p = .03). Conclusions. Higher self-oriented lie-telling was associated with elevated threat sensitivity, particularly when reward sensitivity was exceptionally high or low. Specifically, those who told more self-oriented lies also had either (1) high threat sensitivity and low reward sensitivity (perhaps indicating a motivation to avoid punishment) or (2) high threat and reward sensitivity (perhaps indicating concurrent motivations to avoid punishment and pursue reward). The interaction for other-oriented lies was not significant. Impact. This study identified motivational profiles related to lying, advancing our understanding of how reward and threat sensitivity shape deception.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122889 - Printed Poster

Parental and child mental health in refugee families: A meta-analysis

Main Presenting Author: Kotch, Gabriel

Additional Authors: Buchan-Pham, Chris ; Racine, Nicole; Vitoroulis, Irene

Abstract: *Background: Refugee families are vulnerable populations because of exposure to trauma, conflict, and displacement, and face an increased risk factors on mental health that can transmit from one generation to the next. This intergenerational transmission links parent and child mental health, aligning them over time. Methods: We conducted a meta-analysis following PRISMA guidelines to examine the strength of association between parental/caregiver mental health and child mental health within refugee families. In August 2024, we searched seven electronic databases (PsycInfo, MEDLINE, CINAHL, ERIC, Education Source, Cairn, and Érudit) for quantitative studies published in English or French between 2000 and 2024. Articles were considered for inclusion if findings reported on the association of mental health dimensions between refugee parents/caregivers and refugee children. Twenty-five studies met our inclusion criteria. We pooled effect size estimates using the random-effects method and explored heterogeneity using meta-regression analysis. Results: A total of 5,412 parents and primary caregivers and 5,449 children were included: 4,080 mothers, 1,127 fathers, and 61 caregivers, with 2,468 male children and 2,533 female children. We found evidence of a small-to-moderate correlation between parental/caregiver mental health symptoms and child mental health symptoms within refugee families (r = .28; p < .0001; 95% CI [0.18, 0.37]). Moderator analyses were conducted due to heterogeneity of the results. Five variables were tested in the analysis, but no significant relationships were found, leaving high residual heterogeneity within the results. Conclusions: Further research should look at family relationships between informants' reports, and*

how parents who experience mental health problems may be more likely to rate their children as having mental health problems as well.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 123318 - Printed Poster

Parenting stress and parent-directed attributions for challenging child behaviour: A meta-analysis

Main Presenting Author: Rogerson, Mia

Additional Authors: Theule, Jen ; Clayton, Kylee; Ward, Michelle; Rennie, Samantha; Cheung, Kristene

Abstract: *Parent-directed attributions for challenging child behaviour are explanations parents make towards themselves for the cause of their child's behaviour, often measured with the Parental Locus of Control Scale. Past research shows that these attributions are related to several variables of family functioning. Due to previous mixed findings on the relationship between these attributions and parenting stress, our goal was to assess the overall size of the relationship. A meta-analysis of 12 studies was conducted to assess relationships between total parenting stress and three types of attributions: locus of control, controllability, and responsibility. Results revealed that high total parenting stress was significantly associated with an external locus of control (i.e., the cause of the behaviour is not within the self; $r = .43$, $p < .001$, $k = 11$) and low control over child behaviour ($r = .55$, $p < .001$, $k = 5$). Total parenting stress was not related to perceived responsibility for child behaviour ($r = .08$, $p = .473$, $k = 4$). None of the variables examined as potential moderators significantly impacted the relationship between total parenting stress and locus of control. Findings suggest that interventions designed to shift parents' attributions for challenging child behaviour to be within the self and within one's control may be desirable for those seeking to reduce their stress.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125604 - Printed Poster

Parenting Stress and Social Support in Mothers and Fathers of Neurodiverse Children

Main Presenting Author: Sparks, Brynn A

Abstract: *Past research has outlined that parents of children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) experience decreased social support compared to parents of typically developing children (Lange et al., 2005). Further, these parents undergo heightened parenting stress due to various factors including a lack of support systems and navigating their child's problematic behaviour (Craig et al., 2020; Deater-Deckard, 2006). Additionally, parenting research greatly focuses on mothers while neglecting fathers' experiences in parenthood (Craig et al., 2020). This gap in parenting research exemplifies the need for studies on all parents regarding the support and stress they endure. The current study will assess how the association between social support and parenting stress differs for mothers and fathers of children with ADHD, as well as evaluate their family quality of life. This secondary data analysis includes a correlational design where parents of children with ADHD completed the Parenting Stress Index, Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support, Family Quality of Life Scale, and additional measures. This research will elucidate the differences*

between mothers' and fathers' social supports and parenting stress when raising children with ADHD. Potential implications include an emphasis on the importance of social supports as a mechanism to mitigate parenting stress.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124737 - Printed Poster

Paternity Leave in Quebec: Organizational, Family, and Personal Factors Influencing Fathers' Decisions

Main Presenting Author: Mathew, Kyoko

Additional Authors: Vaillancourt, Monica ; Da Costa, Deborah

Abstract: *Quebec, the only Canadian province offering up to five weeks of non-transferable paid paternity leave, reports substantially higher uptake than the rest of Canada. This study examined factors influencing fathers' leave decisions to inform policy development. Cross-sectional data from 136 fathers (mean age=34; 59.3% first-time fathers) recruited mainly via social media and surveyed six months postpartum were analyzed to determine organizational, family, and personal influences. Financial stress and income differences were tested using t-tests and chi-square analyses. Results showed that 79.4% took leave (mean duration=6.5 weeks), primarily motivated by personal beliefs: valuing active parenting (93.5%) and viewing leave as a right (85.2%), followed by organizational factors such as no negative career impact (76.9%). Non-takers (20.6 %) reported organizational and family constraints, with personal beliefs less influential. Key reasons included work demands (57.1%), partner's leave (53.6%), and financial concerns (46.4%). No significant differences in financial stress (p=0.28) or income (p=0.58) emerged, suggesting Quebec Parental Insurance Plan may mitigate economic barriers. Findings highlight cultural and workplace norms as key drivers, underscoring the need for policies that reduce stigma and foster supportive environments to normalize parental leave and advance gender equality.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123152 - Printed Poster

Pathways Beyond Polarization: A Scoping Review On Political Parasociality and Wisdom Interventions

Main Presenting Author: Lai, Alvina
Co-Presenting Authors: Faddick, Kate; Tjhin, Jocelyn E

Additional Authors: Drotenko, Alex ; Zhang, Lydia; Iyer, Sanjana; Ferrari, Michel

Abstract: *Political parasocial relationships (PPSRs) are one-sided attachments to political figures linked to trust, loyalty, and political polarization, yet the literature remains conceptually fragmented. This scoping review synthesizes research on PPSRs and overlapping constructs, including leader charisma and political trust, while also examining the underexplored role of wisdom-related traits, such as intellectual humility and metacognition, in buffering against polarization. Six databases were searched to conduct a scoping review (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005); titles, abstracts, and full texts were screened against inclusion criteria, and data was charted primarily across psychology, sociology, and political science. Preliminary synthesis of the included studies suggests that PPSRs are most often*

framed via charisma, trust, and loyalty, and are consistently associated with political polarization. In parallel, emerging evidence indicates that wisdom-related traits may mitigate endorsement of extreme attitudes, increase openness to outgroup perspectives, and support reflective engagement with political media. Ongoing thematic analysis will elaborate on these patterns. Results will guide in identifying methods, clarifying conceptual overlaps, and discerning gaps to direct future research and intervention design, addressing the mediating effect of wisdom on political polarization.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123177 - Printed Poster

Perceived Dissimilarity and Relational Self-Expansion in Close Midlife Friendships

Main Presenting Author: Farah, Imane

Additional Author: Harasymchuk, Cheryl

Abstract: *Perceived similarity in friendships is linked to greater attraction and friendship satisfaction. However, self-expansion theory suggests that dissimilarity can enhance relationships through broadened perspectives and experiences. Although relational self-expansion is predictive of relationship satisfaction, most research focuses on romantic contexts. I explored two competing hypotheses in established friendships: whether perceived dissimilarity predicts a) higher or b) lower relational self-expansion and friendship satisfaction. I also examined self-concept clarity as a moderator predicted to strengthen the association between dissimilarity and self-expansion. Midlife adults (N = 241) completed questionnaires about their closest friend assessing perceived general similarity, relational self-expansion, friendship satisfaction, and self-concept clarity. A moderated-mediation model assessed whether self-expansion mediated the link between perceived dissimilarity and friendship satisfaction, and if self-concept clarity moderated this mediation. No moderation effect was found. Self-expansion mediated the negative association between perceived dissimilarity and friendship satisfaction. Dissimilarity may be detrimental to friendship quality by limiting self-expansion opportunities. Thus, encouraging and instructing people to self-expand may be more important for these friendships.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123685 - Printed Poster

Perceived threat modulates social decision-making and memory for faces.

Main Presenting Author: Uppal, Amrit

Additional Authors: Geniole, Shawn N; Albonico, Andrea

Abstract: *Humans are sensitive to threats in their environment, which are thought to capture attention and shape memory for social information. Little is known, however, about whether these threat effects depend on the broader environmental context in which they occur-specifically, whether threatening urban versus natural environments differentially influence social memory. Participants (n=140) were randomly assigned to one of four immersive VR environments (urban vs natural; threatening vs non-threatening) before completing a resource taking task with high- and low-threat faces, followed by a recognition memory test for those faces (resulting in 2x2x2 mixed design). Participants took more from, and showed reduced recognition performance with, high (vs low) threat faces. This pattern suggests that facial threat may bias economic decisions and social memory. Exploratory analyses*

revealed significant gender-related interactions. These effects were driven largely by men in threatening urban environments, who showed greater taking from, and enhanced (rather than reduced) memory for, high-threat faces. Such patterns suggest that threatening urban contexts may activate competitive, vigilance-related systems consistent with the Male Warrior Hypothesis and Intrasexual Competition Theory.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126133 - Printed Poster

Perceptions of Defenses of Consent in Sexual Assault Claims

Main Presenting Author: Wingrove, Twila

Abstract: *Roughly 1 in 4 women will experience sexual assault in their lifetime, yet cases of sexual assault are under-prosecuted. One reason prosecutors choose not to pursue these cases is that they think the case is ambiguous and are not confident they can secure a guilty verdict. This is especially true in "he said/she said" cases, sexual contact is undisputed and the question is whether she consented. While we know that prosecutors are reluctant to file charges, we do not know much about what potential jurors really think about these cases. I presented American participants with a vignette depicting an ambiguous heterosexual sexual situation that ended with an allegation of sexual assault by the woman. The primary manipulation was the defense of consent argument raised by the man (4 levels), which were pulled from media coverage of actual cases. In addition, three variables were tested as potential moderators of perceptions of consent-male intoxication, female intoxication, and whether they had previously known each other. All data have been collected. Participants were sensitive to the condition where the woman explicitly said "no," assigning higher blame to him and lower blame to her, compared to the three more ambiguous conditions. Overall, there were few interactions between the proposed moderators and the primary independent variable. Additional analyses and implications will be presented.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 124790 - Printed Poster

Perpetrator-Victim Relationships in Childhood Sexual Maltreatment: Differential Associations with Adult Sexual Revictimization in Women

Main Presenting Author: Wong, Sarah

Additional Authors: Rowe, Jessica ; Harkness, Kate

Abstract: *Child sexual maltreatment (CSM) is associated with increased risk of sexual assault in adulthood, referred to as revictimization. Theoretical and empirical frameworks suggest that adult sexual revictimization (ASR) severity may vary depending on perpetrator-victim (P-V) relationship in the original instance of maltreatment. The goal of the current study was to evaluate whether P-V relationships in CSM are differentially associated with ASR presence and severity within a sample of sexually maltreated women. Severity of CSM and ASR were assessed in two separate online sessions through self-report questionnaires. We evaluated P-V relationships in two ways; (1) in a primary analysis (N = 507) with broad P-V categorizations varying in known, relative and household status, and (2) in a secondary analysis (N = 272) with precise P-V categorizations. In both analyses, ASR severity significantly differed across P-V relationship; CSM from 'known' perpetrators was associated with greatest ASR severity compared to other P-V groups (primary analysis) and CSM from (a)*

authority figures, (b) friends and (c) romantic partners was associated with greater ASR severity compared to CSM from close family members (secondary analysis). Knowledge of these differential associations can inform early identification of women who are most at risk for high-severity ASR and facilitate targeted intervention.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124862 - Printed Poster

Personal growth disclosure in couples: Attachment-based differences in perceived partner responsiveness

Main Presenting Author: Larmand, Emily

Additional Authors: Harasymchuk, Cheryl ; Lonn, Atara

Abstract: *Personal growth has benefits to well-being for the self as well as for romantic relationships when these experiences are disclosed to a partner. However, individuals with insecure attachment may have negatively distorted perceptions of partner responsiveness to these disclosures, limiting the relational benefits of these experiences. The goal of this study was to test whether higher attachment insecurity predicts declines in relationship satisfaction over time via reduced perceptions of partner responsiveness during personal self-expansion disclosures. A sample of 212 couples completed an intake survey, a 21-day daily diary, and a follow-up assessment three months later. Data were analyzed using APIM mediation controlling for initial relationship satisfaction. As expected, individuals lower in attachment security perceived significantly less constructive partner responses to their personal growth disclosures, which in turn predicted less relationship satisfaction 3-months later. Interestingly, their partner also reported less relationship satisfaction 3-months later. These findings suggest that insecure attachment may undermine the relational benefits of personal growth disclosures by dampening perceived partner support. Interventions that target biased interpretations of partner communication might help couples more effectively capitalize from personal growth experiences.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123984 - Printed Poster

Physiological Arousal, but not Context, Negatively Influences Women's Judgements of Men's Trustworthiness

Main Presenting Author: Palmer-Hague, Jaime L.

Additional Author: Lawrence, Isabella

Abstract: *Misattribution of arousal suggests that individuals mislabel the source of physiological arousal to unrelated contextual stimuli. Past research has mostly tested this theory on men and its effects on attraction, but here we explored how it applies to women in making other social judgements such as trustworthiness. We predicted that exposure to an arousing, positive prime would cause women to perceive male targets as more trustworthy whereas exposure to an arousing, negative prime would cause women to perceive male targets as less trustworthy. Participants watched 1 of 3 emotionally-valenced video clips: positive, negative, or neutral, then rated male faces for trustworthiness. We found that trustworthiness ratings were lower in both the positive and negative*

conditions compared to control. Together, our results suggest that trustworthiness judgements cannot be fully explained by misattribution in women; they may automatically misinterpret any arousal as threatening. This has direct implications for women's interactions with men in daily life, as any arousal could cause lower trustworthiness perceptions. Future research should use more refined emotional manipulations to test how other factors, such as connection, familiarity, and other cues might interact with arousal to influence women's social judgements.

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 123422 - Printed Poster

Quels sont les facteurs individuels et familiaux associés à l'utilisation des écrans chez les enfants de 3,5 ans ?

Main Presenting Author: Gilbert, Nicolas

Additional Authors: Garon-Carrier, Gabrielle ; Bédard, Samantha; Surprenant, Rachel; Fitzpatrick, Caroline

Abstract: *L'utilisation des écrans à l'âge préscolaire est associée à des enjeux développementaux et de régulation émotionnelle. Cette étude examine quels sont les facteurs individuels et familiaux qui prédisent l'utilisation des écrans chez les enfants d'âge préscolaire. Les parents ont rapporté le temps d'écran, le contexte d'utilisation et le contenu visionné par leur enfant (N= 378, âge moyen = 3,6 ans), desquels un indice de risque d'utilisation des écrans a été dégagé. Ils ont aussi rapporté plusieurs facteurs individuels de l'enfant (ex., tempérament) et familiaux (ex., pratiques parentales de gestion des écrans). Les résultats des régressions linéaires multiples indiquent que l'affectivité négative (dimension du tempérament de l'enfant) est associée à un indice de risque d'utilisation des écrans plus élevé (β= 0.148, p= 0.008). Inversement, les stratégies restrictives de gestion des écrans (β= -0.182, p< 0.001) et axées sur l'apprentissage (β= -0.171, p= 0.010) prédisent un indice de risque d'utilisation des écrans moins élevé. Ces facteurs expliquent 29.9 % de la variance de l'indice de risque d'utilisation des écrans. Cette étude suggère que les pratiques de gestion des écrans, dont les pratiques restrictives et axées sur les apprentissages, sont importantes à cibler dans les interventions visant à promouvoir une saine utilisation des écrans des enfants d'âge préscolaire.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124727 - Printed Poster

Reading Romance Fiction: Associations with Sexual Beliefs and Sexual Self-Esteem

Main Presenting Author: Shoemaker, Lilly H

Additional Author: Mar, Raymond

Abstract: *Romance novels generate billions in yearly revenue and accounted for over a quarter of all books sold in the US in 2018 (Doherty, 2023). Given their popularity, it is important to understand whether and what people can learn from reading romance. Romance novels often contain explicit sexual content, which may shape sexual beliefs and attitudes. To examine these ideas, we asked undergraduate women to complete a survey (N = 568). This included measures of how frequently they read romance, beliefs in sexual growth (i.e., that sexual compatibility can be developed) and sexual*

destiny (i.e., that sexual chemistry is pre-ordained), and components of their sexual self-concept (i.e., sexual self-esteem, preoccupation, and depression). Beginning to read romance at an earlier age was associated with weaker beliefs in sexual destiny (r = -.11, 95% CI [-.19, -.02]), and reading for many years was associated with stronger sexual growth beliefs (r = .10, 95% CI [.02, .19]). Current frequency of reading romance predicted lower sexual self-esteem (r = -.20, 95% CI [-.27, -.12]) and greater sexual depression (r = .15, 95% CI [.07, .23]). These associations were not moderated by sexual relationship status or experience. Overall, reading romance novels is associated with women's sexual beliefs and self-concept, both of which are tied to sexual health, well-being, and satisfaction.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123331 - Printed Poster

Relations Among Cyber Intimate Partner Aggression, Animal Maltreatment, and Thoughts and Behaviours Related to Leaving a Relationship Due to Concerns About Pets' Safety and Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Jraige, Helana
Co-Presenting Author: Fritz, Patti

Additional Authors: Stevenson, Rochelle ; Fitzgerald, Amy; Barrett, Betty; Peirone, Amy

Abstract: *Given ubiquitous use of online communication, greater attention has been given to cyber intimate partner aggression (C-IPA). However, no known research has explored the intersection between C-IPA and animal abuse (AA). Many IPA victim-survivors delay leaving abusive relationships due to concerns over their pets' safety and wellbeing. We examined the relations among C-IPA, AA, and victims-survivors' thoughts and behaviours related to leaving their abusive relationships based on the role pets played in these decisions. 882 Canadian women (51.6% White, Mage = 43.21 years) who reported having male partners and at least one pet were recruited via the Qualtrics Research Panel. They completed the Cyber Aggression in Relationships Scale (CARS) victimization subscale, the Partners Treatment of Animals Scale (PTAS), and two items about women's thoughts and behaviours related to leaving their abusive partners. There were significant positive correlations between (a) C-IPA and AA subtypes, (b) C-IPA and thoughts about leaving and days delayed leaving, and (c) AA and thoughts about leaving and days delayed leaving. Preliminary negative binomial regressions showed that C-IPA and AA significantly predicted the number of thoughts about leaving but not the number of days women delayed leaving. Pet-friendly policies in domestic violence shelters are needed to support victims of IPA and their pets.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125176 - Printed Poster

Rethinking Guilt in Careers: An Institutional Logics Perspective

Main Presenting Author: Yessayan, Patil

Abstract: *Every year, thousands of skilled immigrants arrive in Canada from conflict-affected regions. This transition disrupts careers and introduces guilt tied to leaving family, community, and professional identities. Guilt is the feeling that one has violated responsibilities or harmed others, and it remains overlooked in management research. How is guilt experienced in careers? I use a*

problematizing review to revisit dominant assumptions about guilt across psychology and sociology, drawing on feminist social constructionism and institutional logics. Research often portrays guilt as a socio-moral and self-evaluative emotion that regulates behavior and supports relational repair, while also noting that it can constrain individuals when responsibilities conflict or control is limited. My analysis proposes a framework that defines the experience of guilt as relational, socially embedded, and shaped by institutional and professional expectations to show how institutional logics influence guilt in career shocks. The study concludes that guilt functions as a career-shaping emotional experience that guides decision making and identity rebuilding. The results offer guidance for employers who support immigrant talent, insight for policymakers who address credential and integration barriers, and resources for institutions that assist immigrants in rebuilding careers.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126318 - Printed Poster

Roads to Redemption: The Impact of Apology on Forgiveness Online

Main Presenting Author: Buckle, Emma A.

Additional Author: Wilson, Anne E.

Abstract: *In contemporary society, lives are lived increasingly online, and long-past transgressions sometimes resurface. Although many have observed the "cancel culture" phenomenon, little is known about when people are condemned or forgiven for past wrongs. The aim of the present study was to examine people's moral judgements of a body positivity influencer when past transgressions are resurfaced, varying features of perceived hypocrisy and apology. Undergraduate students (n = 678) were assigned to one of nine conditions in a 3 (Apology condition: none, basic, rich) X 3 (Transgression condition: unrelated, related, related plus current) design. Participants learned that the influencer committed a past transgression unrelated or related to their current online profile (bullying about intelligence or body-bullying), and in one condition it was also revealed that they currently call others out for body bullying (signalling added hypocrisy). The influencer either offered a basic or rich apology, or no apology. A 3X3 between subjects factorial ANOVA revealed that as predicted, participants were more forgiving after a rich apology that conveyed growth and were more condemning if the influencer's offences seemed hypocritical (i.e., a harm related to their current sphere of influence). Ultimately this work advances the field's limited knowledge of the psychological dynamics of "cancellation."*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125410 - Printed Poster

Roles of Affective Polarization and Personality in Anxiety about Global Issues

Main Presenting Author: Turcescu, Luc

Additional Authors: Watt, Margo C.; Lively, Christopher J.

Abstract: *Surveys (e.g., CUSAF, 2024, IPSOS 2025) indicate that anxiety about global issues (e.g., wars, pandemics, climate change) is increasing. Affective polarization (i.e., partisan out-group hostility; Nelson, 2022) also is increasing and has been linked to poor mental health (Fraser et al., 2022), including anxiety about global issues (Abrams, 2024, Trachman, 2024). The present study*

investigated this relationship in an undergraduate and community sample. To date, 227 participants (80% undergrads, 76.8% female, Mage=20.74, SD=6.63) have completed measures of affective polarization; general anxiety, stress, depression; intolerance of uncertainty; personality; and an author-constructed Global Issues Scale. It is predicted that certain personality traits (i.e., openness, neuroticism) will mediate the relationship between affective polarization and anxiety about global issues. Stepwise regression will test which variables best predict anxiety about global issues. Results of this study have important mental health implications for emerging and older adults, since personality traits could protect against, or increase risk for, anxiety about global issues.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125709 - Printed Poster

Self-Censorship, Expression of Opinions, and Perceived Repercussions in Canadian and Quebec Universities and in the Field of Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Turkoglu, Ayse

Additional Authors: Cormier, Gina ; Guo, Yangyilin; Yim, Brian; Drapeau, Martin

Abstract: *Academic freedom is facing uncertainty in Canada and around the world. This topic also gained attention in Quebec following a series of controversies related to academic freedom. As a result of this, the Quebec government established the Commission Cloutier to examine academic freedom and provide recommendations for its protection. Expanding on this area of interest, we conducted a nationwide survey exploring psychology students' (n = 398), university students' (n = 1523) and professors' (n = 1222) levels of comfort of expression and the repercussions expected when sharing their views. Both professors and students in Quebec and the rest of Canada reported engaging in self-censorship; those outside of Quebec reported higher self-censorship, particularly professors. More than one-third of all professors and students in both Quebec and the rest of Canada reported being somewhat to very reluctant about sharing their views on controversial topics. About half of psychology students expressed reluctance in sharing their views on the topic of politics and religion, exceeding that of professors and students overall. Findings among faculty and students indicate a hesitancy to voice personal opinions and a propensity to self-censor. More active efforts are required to promote dialogue between members of the academic community and encourage open expression within the university.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125483 - Printed Poster

Self-construal and Acculturation in Social Anxiety and Taijin Kyofusho among Asian International Students

Main Presenting Author: Lee, Andrea D. Y.

Additional Authors: Yang, Lixia ; Vickers, Kristin

Abstract: *Asian samples in Western contexts often report elevated social anxiety. Studies have found that acculturation and independent self-construal are negatively associated with social anxiety. This study replicated these findings and extended them to Taijin Kyofusho (TKS), the fear that one's appearance and actions are offensive to others. In this cross-sectional study, 208 Asian international*

students completed self-report measures of social anxiety, TKS, acculturation, enculturation, and independent/interdependent self-construal. In multiple regression analyses, acculturation and independent self-construal were negatively associated and interdependent self-construal was positively associated with social anxiety. Independent self-construal was negatively associated and interdependent self-construal was positively associated with TKS. Exploratory moderation analyses found that the interaction between independent self-construal and acculturation was significant, where higher acculturation strengthened the negative association between independent self-construal and both social anxiety and TKS. Findings indicate that self-construal are central to both social anxiety and TKS, and inform our theoretical understanding of social anxiety and TKS experienced by Asian international students and the interaction cultural adaptation and self-construal play on social anxiety.

Section: *Asian Psychology*
Session ID: 123528 - Printed Poster

Self-Observation and Executive Function in Online Intergroup Interactions

Main Presenting Author: Chen, Jasmine

Additional Author: Vorauer, Jacquie

Abstract: *Academic, professional, and social interactions are increasingly occurring over online platforms, many of which subject users to continuous self-observation via the self-view feature. Such constant visual access to their external self may heighten individuals' sense that interaction partners will focus on their distinctive visible features, potentially amplifying concerns about being viewed through the lens of their group membership. This study examined whether self-observation in online interactions leads to executive resource depletion compared to in-person interactions, as a result of such heightened metaperceived group membership salience. 139 dyads consisting of one POC and one White participant engaged in either a face-to-face (FTF) or Zoom conversation before completing a majority-congruent Stroop task. Analyses revealed an interaction ($p = .014$, $\eta p2 = .043$) whereby after interacting over Zoom, POC participants were less accurate on incongruent trials than their White interaction partner; this was not the case after FTF interaction. Self-observation did not affect reaction times. Given the connection between low feelings of power and reduced ability to maintain goal focus as indexed by Stroop accuracy (Smith et al., 2008), these findings suggest a way in which self-observation may uniquely disadvantage members of marginalized groups.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122848 - Printed Poster

Self-observation leads to gender stereotype-consistent behaviour in online negotiation interactions

Main Presenting Author: Klassen, Carly

Additional Author: Vorauer, Jacquie

Abstract: *Interactions over online platforms are becoming increasingly frequent. By default, these platforms confront the user with their self-image during interaction. Because of individuals' enduring concern with how they are viewed by others, it stands to reason that such self-observation might turn their thoughts to another person's reactions to externally visible self-aspects that are distinctive in the*

interaction context. Preliminary work in our lab found that self-observation enhanced women's sense that a male negotiation partner was focused on their gender (metaperceived gender salience), which exerted a negative indirect effect on women's outcomes in an online mixed-sex negotiation; no such effects were evident for men. The goal of the current research was to examine whether self-observation decreases women's but not men's power behaviours during online mixed-sex negotiation. Coders analyzed the power behaviours of men and women from video recordings of the online negotiations. Contrary to predictions, self-observation did not decrease women's power behaviours, but instead increased men's power behaviours. Additional behaviours coded on an exploratory basis revealed that self-observation increased friendly behaviour for women. The results of this study tentatively suggest enhanced gender-stereotypic behaviour for both men and women in online interactions.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124601 - Printed Poster

Sex and substances: Motivations for and consequences of sexualized drug use for young adults

Main Presenting Author: Shinbine, Danielle L

Additional Authors: Kim, Andrew H. S. ; Nagy, Léna; Bőthe, Beáta ; Hodgins, David; Keough, Matthew T; Tabri, Nassim ; Shead, William; Dawson, Samantha; Thulin, Maya C

Abstract: *Sexualized drug use (SDU) refers to engaging in sexual activity while under the influence of psychoactive substances (Edmundson et al., 2018). Research on SDU has primarily focused on health risks, including sexually transmitted infections and poorer health (Glynn et al., 2018; Moreno-Gámez et al., 2022). However, limited qualitative research has explored motives for SDU and its consequences. This study examined Canadian adults who reported SDU (n = 390). The sample was predominantly female (n = 274, 70.3%) with a mean age of 23.34 (SD = 7.12). Using two open-ended questions from a mixed-method study, we asked about motivations for SDU and its consequences. Responses were analyzed using content analysis. Preliminary findings indicate that top motives included experimentation and enhanced pleasure. Participants reported diverse positive and negative consequences. Positive consequences included increased sexual pleasure and enhanced sexual confidence, while negative consequences included shame and negative health effects. A chi-square analysis revealed no significant differences between genders in motivations for SDU. However, men reported significantly more negative impacts on sexual performance (17%) than women (7%), p = .010, and only women reported memory loss from SDU. These findings provide insight into contextual factors contributing to SDU and its varied consequences.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 123731 - Printed Poster

Sexual Shame and Pride as Predictors of Mental Health and Technology-Mediated Sexual Behaviours in India and Turkey

Main Presenting Author: Dewhirst, Ella J

Additional Authors: Noorishad, Pari-Gole ; Arranz, Artemis; Díaz, Mauricio; Tazreean, Tess; Shaughnessy, Krystelle

Abstract: *Sexual shame and pride are self-conscious emotions that reflect how people feel about their sexuality. Researchers have linked these emotions to depression, anxiety, and in-person sexual behaviours in Western samples. However, these relationships have not been tested in non-Western contexts; decreasing cross-cultural generalizability. Additionally, their relationships with a prevalent form of sexual behaviour, technology-mediated sexual interactions (TMSI), is unclear. TMSI are interpersonal exchanges of self-created sexual content using technology (e.g., sexting). To contribute to cross-cultural research, we examined the extent to which sexual shame and pride predicted anxiety, depression, and TMSI in adults from India and Turkey.We recruited 311 participants (India=175, Turkey=138) using a novel online platform. Participants completed measures of sexual shame and pride, anxiety, depression, and TMSI. Using hierarchical regressions to control for gender, we found that sexual shame predicted higher depression (R2=0.190, R2=0.209) anxiety (R2=0.278, R2=0.419), and TMSI frequency (R2=0.180, R2=0.225) in both countries. Sexual pride predicted greater TMSI frequency in Turkey (R2=0.225). These findings highlight sexual shame and pride as key predictors of mental health and TMSI. We will discuss implications for sexual and mental health providers through a cultural psychology lens.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125926 - Printed Poster

She Said No, He Heard Maybe: Gender & Toxic Masculinity on Perceptions of Stranger Sexual Harassment

Main Presenting Author: Castelhano, Danielle

Additional Author: Erentzen, Caroline

Abstract: *Background: Toxic masculinity promotes male power over women. The present research examined how participant gender and toxic masculinity beliefs influence perceptions of stranger sexual harassment. Methods: In Study 1, participants read a scenario where a man approaches a woman in public stating romantic interest. The woman, uninterested, responds either confrontationally or passively. In Study 2, this interaction resulted in victim assault or escape. Participants rated the appropriateness of the man's behavior and the woman's reaction, reported their toxic masculinity beliefs and endorsement of sexual harassment myths. Results: The woman who confronted the man was seen as more inappropriate than the one who remained passive, but this difference disappeared when she was assaulted. Normalization of the man's behavior did not vary by victim reaction, but it was less normalized if he assaulted her. Male participants found the man's behavior more normalized and the woman's reaction more inappropriate overall, but these gender differences disappeared after controlling for toxic masculinity and sexual harassment myth beliefs. Conclusion: Findings suggest sexual harassment myths and toxic masculinity beliefs override effects of participant gender. Action: Results indicate education programs focused on dismantling toxic masculinity to disrupt the normalization of harassment are needed.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 123188 - Printed Poster

Signalling Belonging in the Classroom: Anti-Racist Education for High School Students

Main Presenting Author: Robinson, Kayla B

Additional Authors: Cyr, Emily N; Hines, Shernell; Steele, R Jennifer

Abstract: *Black students continue to encounter curricular barriers that undermine their sense of belonging in school and across the broader education system. The current research examined the experiences of Black and non-Black adolescents enrolled in a high school elective designed to deconstruct anti-Black racism, or a comparison course. Students reported social belonging at the start (Time 1; n = 125) and end of the semester (Time 2; n = 103; n = 88 at both times). Controlling for their responses at Time 1, Black students (vs. non-Black students) in the anti-racism course reported significantly higher end-of-term social belonging, b = 0.19, p = .024. There were no race-based differences in social belonging for students in the comparison courses, p = .447. Turning to the other set of simple effects, Black students in the anti-racism course reported marginally higher social belonging than Black students in the comparison courses, b = 0.19, p = .098, but non-Black students' social belonging did not differ across courses. The results of this study suggest that the social belonging of Black students can be meaningfully supported through anti-racist curriculum design.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124376 - Printed Poster

Social anxiety with self-compassion: Effects on shyness entity mindset and post-event processing in conversations

Main Presenting Author: Brambell, Autumn N.

Additional Authors: Szczyglowski, Kamila A.; Kocovski, Nancy L.

Abstract: *Shyness entity mindset, the belief that shyness is a fixed, unchangeable trait, has been linked to increased post-event processing, a repetitive pattern of self-focused rumination following social interactions. Since fixed beliefs about shyness can reinforce negative interpretations of social performance, identifying strategies that reduce these beliefs may help limit post-event processing. The current study examined whether a self-compassion writing task could decrease shyness entity mindset and post-event processing among undergraduates with elevated social anxiety (n = 46; 84.8% female). Participants recalled a distressing social interaction and were randomly assigned to a self-compassion or control writing task before completing a 10-minute conversation with a confederate. Shyness entity mindset was measured twice (immediately and 24 hours later), while post-event processing was measured only at 24 hours. Although the self-compassion writing task did not reduce shyness entity mindset, lower shyness entity mindset was associated with lower post-event processing 24 hours later (p = .02). These findings suggest that beliefs about the malleability of shyness may be a promising avenue to explore as a mechanism for reducing post-event processing. Future research can investigate growth-oriented interventions targeting these beliefs in socially anxious individuals.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124981 - Printed Poster

Stereotypes and Hiring Bias Toward Farmers in Nova Scotia

Main Presenting Author: Prusaczyk, Elvira

Additional Authors: Patmore, Emma ; Purc-Stephenson, Rebecca

Abstract: *Canadian agricultural producers often report feeling misunderstood by the non-farming public, contributing to cultural loneliness--a sense that their community is marginalized or inaccurately perceived. Yet little research has examined stereotypes or discrimination toward farmers, despite evidence that limited knowledge of a group can increase reliance on stereotypes and shape discriminatory judgments. Existing stereotypes portray farmers as independent, hardworking, and traditionally male, with Nova Scotians potentially idealizing traditional small family-run farms over modern industrial operations. To examine intergroup bias toward farmers, this study recruited 122 Nova Scotians who completed a brief survey assessing stereotype content and hiring decisions. After trait endorsement measures and a filler task, participants evaluated fictitious applicants varying in gender and farm type. Data analyses will be conducted in January 2026. It is predicted that stereotypes of self-reliance, masculinity, and traditionality will emerge, and that traditional farmers will be hired more often than modern farmers. Consistent with Role Congruity Theory, female (vs. male) applicants are expected to face greater rejection. Findings will clarify how farmer stereotypes shape discrimination in a regional context and help guide outreach and policy efforts supporting agricultural communities.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125389 - Printed Poster

Strength in Support: Unpacking Resilience Among Survivors of Childhood Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

Main Presenting Author: Parsons, Jenna R.

Additional Author: Timmons Fritz, Patti

Abstract: *Background: Intimate partner violence (IPV) involves physical, emotional, or sexual harm and controlling behaviours by a current or former partner. Children are often present during parental IPV (P-IPV), placing them at risk for immediate and long-term physical, psychological, and social difficulties. Despite this adversity, many show positive adaptation, leading to research on resilience-the ability to cope and thrive despite stress. Prior research highlights the role of social supports (family, friends, and professional services) in resilience among adults exposed to P-IPV, but less is known about community influences. Objectives: This study examined individual, interpersonal (social support), and community/organizational factors (community cohesion) within a social-ecological model of resilience using latent variables. Methods: Data were drawn from 2,278 respondents (60% female, 70% White, Mage = 52.6) in the 2019 General Social Survey who reported P-IPV exposure before age 15. Results: Social support and community cohesion were both significantly associated with resilience, although the overall model showed poor fit. Significance: This study provides a novel latent modelling approach using a large, representative sample and demonstrates that both social support and community cohesion meaningfully contribute to resilience in P-IPV-exposed individuals.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 126216 - Printed Poster

Students' experiences with name-based microaggressions within the Canadian education system

Main Presenting Author: Tran, Carolyn

Abstract: *Names are central to identity, reflecting cultural heritage and history. Although research has examined the challenges of having an ethnic first name in the workplace, few studies explore name-based microaggressions in educational settings. Guided by Critical Race Theory, Ethnic Identity Development Theory, and Intersectionality, this study examined students' experiences with name-based microaggressions across K-12 and post-secondary education. Using a critical narrative approach, the study recruited 14 participants who were asked to complete three phases of the semi-structured interview. First, they completed a table outlining salient memories of how their ethnic first name shaped their school experiences, with each column representing a life chapter (e.g., elementary school). After, participants were asked to narrate these chapters. Finally, participants reflected on their experiences. Critical narrative analysis revealed varied ways students navigated name-based microaggressions, including seeking parental support or coping independently. Findings also highlight the importance of diversity in schools and classrooms, as well as the powerful role teachers play in shaping students' sense of belonging and identity.*

Section: *Educational and School Psychology*
Session ID: 124920 - Printed Poster

The Effect of Explanation Type and Mental Illness Disorder on Mental Health Stigma in Psychology and Non-Psychology Majors: A Replication Study.

Main Presenting Author: Adams, Myka
Co-Presenting Author: Peters, Kevin R

Additional Author: Crate, Mia

Abstract: *Background: We replicated Zimmerman et al. (2020) who found that stigma towards mental illness was higher for biological vs. psychological explanations, and for schizophrenia vs. depression. Surprisingly, they found little evidence that stigma was lower in psychology vs. non-psychology majors. Methods: 435 undergraduate students (48% psychology majors) from Trent University read four vignettes describing depression or schizophrenia, each presented once with a biological explanation and once with a psychological explanation. Participants rated 4 aspects of stigma: Associative, perceived dangerousness, desire for social distance, and prognostic pessimism. Results: Four 2(Major) x 2(Illness) x 2(Explanation) ANOVAs were performed with stigma as the DV. We also found stigma was higher for schizophrenia than depression ($p < .001$ for all) and for biological than psychological explanations ($p < .001$ for 3 of 4 aspects of stigma). Stigma ratings did not differ between psychology and non-psychology majors ($p > .134$ for all). Conclusions: Biological vs. psychological explanations of mental illness led to higher levels of stigma, consistent with a neuroessentialism perspective (i.e., individuals with mental illness are biologically and therefore fundamentally different). Action: Future research should examine why psychology majors did not exhibit less stigma than non-psychology majors.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125804 - Printed Poster

The Evolution of Research on East Asian Parenting in Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Lo, Julia Ming

Additional Author: Miranda, Dave

Abstract: *Parenting styles identified in Western psychology (e.g., authoritarian, authoritative, permissive) may not always apply to East Asian cultures in the same ways (e.g., tiger parenting). In this mixed-methods study, Study 1 explores the quantitative evolution of East Asian parenting publication trends within parenting works, from 1870 to 2019. Then, Study 2 qualitatively looks at how research on East Asian parenting styles changed from 1980 to 2019. In Study 1, we searched a major publication database (PsycINFO) with keywords for parenting and East Asian parenting, decade by decade, from 1870 to 2019. Preliminary results suggest that, in Western psychology, the proportion (%) of East Asian research within the total amount of parenting research is small, peaking alongside historical events (e.g., 1940s' World War 2). Specifically, relative peaks for proportions of East Asian parenting literature were in the 1940s, 1960s, and 2010s, while lows were in the 1950s and 1970s. With the keywords used, no East Asian parenting research was observed before the 1930s. For Study 2, we will do a decade-by-decade deductive thematic analysis of articles on East Asian parenting, with a sample of 40 articles published between 1980 to 2019. Those mixed-methods findings will better our understanding of how East Asian parenting research has changed throughout the history of Western psychology.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123895 - Printed Poster

The Impact of Peer Influences on Eating Disorder Symptoms in Adolescence

Main Presenting Author: Mastronardi, Carli N

Additional Authors: Rappaport , Lance M; Oliver, Bonamy R; Breen, Gerome

Abstract: *Prior research links peer influences to eating disorder symptoms, but it is unclear whether this reflects peer effects or liability shared between both outcomes. This study explored the direct association of peer relationships with eating disorder severity in adolescence by adjusting for genetic and environmental influences common to (i.e., correlated between) both phenotypes. Data were drawn from the Twins Early Development Study, a community sample of mono- and dizygotic twins from England and Wales. At age 16, twin pairs (n = 5,109) reported on eating disorder symptoms and peer relationships (i.e., attachment, communication, alienation, and victimization). Biometrical twin models tested the concurrent association of peer relationships with eating disorder severity. Models were estimated prior to and after adjustment for correlated genetic and environmental contributions common to peer relationships and eating disorder severity. Prior to adjustment, peer outcomes were associated with eating disorder symptoms (B= -0.07-0.07; ps<0.02), which no longer held after adjustment for correlated genetic and environmental influences indexing shared liability to both phenotypes. These findings suggest that the association of peer relationships with eating disorder severity may partly reflect shared liability, highlighting the role of common (i.e., correlated) biopsychosocial influences.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125157 - Printed Poster

The Influence of Personality Trait Similarity on the Halo Effect

Main Presenting Author: Zangari, Maria J

Abstract: *The halo effect is a bias of social cognition in which the perception of one positive trait leads to favorable assumptions about unrelated traits. This study examined the influence of the personality*

traits extroversion (desire for stimulation, activity, social interaction) and conscientiousness (tendency to be organized, disciplined, ambitious) on the halo effect, with a focus on whether similarity or a match between participants' traits and those of a target amplifies the halo effect. A sample of 92 female undergraduate students completed questionnaires with written scenarios containing embedded personality descriptors and corresponding halo effect manipulations. Participants also completed the Big Five Inventory-2 Short Form and a social desirability measure. Repeated measures ANOVAs confirmed that scenarios depicting positive, extroverted, or conscientious characteristics elicited stronger halo effects than neutral scenarios. Correlation and regression analyses revealed that higher participant scores in extroversion and conscientiousness significantly predicted an increase in the halo effect, supporting the hypothesis that trait similarity enhances the halo effect. The results have implications for bias awareness in interpersonal interactions, professional settings, and institutional decision-making, highlighting how internal traits may unconsciously influence judgments.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126362 - Printed Poster

The Misplaced Truth: Hopelessness, Personality, and the Power of Misinformation

Main Presenting Author: Crossland, DJ JT
Co-Presenting Author: Watson , David

Additional Authors: Schmaltz, Rodney ; VonStein, Dawson

Abstract: *As access to online information grows, so does the spread of misinformation. This studyexamined whether feelings of hopelessness, defeat, and personality traits influence how likelypeople are to believe different types of misleading information. Results indicated thathopelessness and defeat were the strongest emotional predictors, but their effects were specific toconspiracy theories. Individuals who felt more hopeless or defeated were more likely to believeconspiracy explanations, suggesting that these emotions may heighten a sense of powerlessnessand draw people toward ideas that seem to offer hidden causes or control. In contrast, theseemotional states did not increase belief in most forms of health-related misinformation and werelinked to slightly lower belief in some health myths. Personality traits showed only small andinconsistent connections overall. Together, these findings highlight that underlying psychologicalprocesses, particularly feelings of hopelessness and defeat, play a more dominant role insusceptibility to conspiracy theories than broad personality characteristics. Understanding theseemotional pathways may help inform strategies to reduce vulnerability to misinformation.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126131 - Printed Poster

The Potential of Direct and Vicarious Gaming-Based Intergroup Contact: The Role of Sense of Relatedness in Positive Intergroup Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Justus, Brandon J

Additional Author: Lou, Nigel Mantou

Abstract: *Playing video games with members of different social groups, either through direct contact or by observing others, could help foster positive intergroup interactions. However, little is known about which forms of engagement, playing versus watching video games, are more effective, or about how they promote better intergroup relations. To address this gap, we compared direct and various contact within video gaming context and examined whether basic psychological needs and game enjoyment explained positive intergroup relations. Participants (163 White domestic students from a Canadian university) were randomly assigned to one of two groups: (1) Game group-participants played the video game cooperatively in-person with an Asian student confederate, who posed as an international student; (2) Video group-participants watched a video of two people, White and Asian international students, playing the same video game together. Following the activity, participants completed a survey. The results showed that both conditions were equivalent on all intergroup outcomes, although the video condition elicited a higher-level satisfaction with relatedness and competence than the game condition. Similar across both conditions, satisfaction of relatedness, but not game enjoyment, consistently predicted positive intergroup outcomes (allyship and behavioral intentions towards international students). These findings clarify that both direct and vicarious contact through video games have similar potential to promote positive intergroup relations, and it is primarily through the fulfillment of psychological needs of relatedness. This suggests that designing video game experiences that nurture players' sense of connection is the key for intergroup harmony.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124004 - Printed Poster

The presence of research on music in cultural psychology from 1870 to 2024

Main Presenting Author: Miranda, Dave

Additional Authors: Lo, Julia M.; Matharu, Kiran

Abstract: *Music is a beloved, popular, meaningful, and ubiquitous cultural product. However, cultural psychology may not have always echoed music's sociocultural importance. The goal of this study is to examine the share of research on music within the total research on cultural psychology, across more than 150 years. A major publication database (PsycINFO) was searched by decade intervals with keywords about culture and music from 1870 to 2024. From a relative publication curve, we calculated the proportion (%) of research works on music within the total research works on culture in psychology. Preliminary results suggest that music had a very small share of research throughout the history of cultural psychology (always under 5% of research output). The already small interest for music in cultural psychology decreased gradually from the 1910s to the 1970s, as the volume of cultural research expanded. However, three decades (1900s, 1930s, and 2010s) were periods when music had slight peaks in relative popularity within cultural psychology. Conversely, the 1970s was the period when research on music showed the least relative popularity in cultural psychology. We propose interpretations from a history of scientific developments in music and cultural psychology, as well as from sociohistorical events and sociocultural factors outside of psychology as a discipline.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126396 - Printed Poster

The role of Contemporary Erotic Fiction Literature in the Construction of Women's Sexual Scripts

Main Presenting Author: Burchill, Elyse L

Abstract: *Contemporary erotic fiction novels have seen a marked 52% increase in sales between 2022 and 2023. Readership is largely composed of women, yet women report lower levels of sexual satisfaction than men. Studies suggest that sexual self-disclosure and sexual script flexibility are linked with greater sexual satisfaction, though current research focuses primarily on content analysis rather than women's lived experiences. Research has yet to examine how women may adopt and adapt new sexual scripts from a broad range of erotica. This study aims to examine how women describe the role of contemporary erotic fiction on their sexual scripts. Participants (n=4) completed one-hour, in-depth, semi-structured interviews in person or online discussing their experiences with erotica and their sexual scripts. Using a flexible approach grounded in feminist and sexual script theory, data was assessed through thematic analysis. Preliminary themes suggest women re-author scripts around pleasure, gain comfort in sexual communication, and use erotica as a tool for mapping desires without interpersonal pressures. Erotica may allow women to explore new sexual scripts and in turn increase instances of pleasurable sexual experiences. This study has the potential to provide insight into how women cultivate sexual pleasure and may point to an intervention for those experiencing low sexual satisfaction.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 124635 - Printed Poster

The Role of Passion in Visual Perception

Main Presenting Author: Leprince, Nicolas

Additional Author: Vallerand, Robert J

Abstract: *Being passionate about an activity influences the way one thinks, feels and most importantly, behaves (Vallerand, 2015). Yet, very little is known about whether passion affects how one perceives the environment. This study investigated the links between passion and visual processes using a binocular rivalry task. A total of 22 psychology students completed the passion scale regarding education (Vallerand et al., 2003) and participated in a binocular rivalry task. During that task, images related to their passionate activity (education) were presented to one eye, while neutral images (sports or vehicles) were shown to the other eye for 300ms using E-prime. Thirty-six pairs of images were presented twice, while switching eye of presentation the second time to control for ocular dominance. Participants indicated to which category - education, sports or vehicles - the image they perceived more saliently belonged. Pearson correlations revealed that higher levels of passion for education were linked to perceiving higher proportion of education images. The effects took place both for harmonious passion (passion is under one's control) and obsessive passion (passion controls the person). These results suggest that passion does affect visual perception.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125546 - Printed Poster

The Role of Social Support Sources in Major Life Events

Main Presenting Author: Jabbour, Rita

Additional Authors: Lonn, Atara ; Harasymchuk, Cheryl

Abstract: *Negatively perceived major life events (e.g., relationship dissolution, loss of a relative) can hinder wellbeing. Though social support moderates this effect, little is known about whether different*

sources-romantic partners, friends, and family-uniquely buffer this link. This study examined whether support from romantic partners, close friends, and family uniquely moderated the association between major life event negativity and life satisfaction. Adults (N=464) reporting a recent major life event completed measures of event distress, life satisfaction, and satisfaction with a romantic partner, friend, and family support (all participants were in romantic relationships). Using linear regression analyses, we tested whether support satisfaction (total and source-specific) moderated the association between the negativity ratings for major life events and life satisfaction. In terms of basic associations, more negative ratings of the major life event predicted lower life satisfaction and higher social support predicted greater life satisfaction. Although total support did not buffer distress effects on life satisfaction, support from close friends uniquely did: distress was harmful only if people were unsatisfied with close friend support. Future research should examine how friendship networks offer a distinct protective role during negatively perceived major life events.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124060 - Printed Poster

The role of the Machiavellianism trait in smile judgment.

Main Presenting Author: Mazerolle, Marie-Pier

Additional Authors: Gould, Noémie ; Dionne, Zoé; Fournier, Jacob; Lajoie, Denis; Roy-Charland, Annie

Abstract: *Smiles are a common nonverbal strategy for concealing negative emotions, but subtle traces may appear despite regulation, raising questions about individual differences in facial control during deception. This study tested whether Machiavellianism influences how dynamic smiles are perceived. Two experiments were conducted using video stimuli from eight encoders (4 women, 4 men; 2 high-Machiavellian and 2 low per gender), assessed with the Short Dark Tetrad (SD4). In Experiment 1, 28 university students completed 96 emotion-categorization trials (positive, neutral, negative). In Experiment 2, 29 participants rated smile authenticity across 64 trials on a 7-point scale. The categorization task was difficult overall, showing low recognition rates consistent with past work. High-Machiavellian encoders' smiles were harder to categorize and judge. Strikingly, their masking and simulated smiles were rated as more sincere than their authentic smiles, suggesting an advantage in producing convincing deceptive expressions. Low-Machiavellian encoders' smiles were better identified and categorized. These results support a perceptual role for Machiavellianism in facial control and in the capacity to produce believable deceptive smiles.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123920 - Printed Poster

The social consequences of gendered perception: Implicit and explicit attribution of gender stereotypes

Main Presenting Author: Gibbs, Laeticia Fatima

Additional Authors: Blain, Juliette ; Capozzi, Francesca

Abstract: *Gender shapes social relations, which aligns with the human tendency to categorize others' faces into sex/gender groups spontaneously. However, the socio-evaluative effects of such categorization remain unclear. For example, face perception is thought to activate gender stereotypes*

implicitly, but the consistency of such activation with explicit evaluations has been questioned. This study introduces a new trait-association task to investigate the links between implicit and explicit processes in gender perception. On each trial, this online computerized task shows participants a face stimulus (male or female) and a stereotypically gendered personality trait (e.g., empathic, dominant, etc.). Participants attribute the trait to the face from 1 to 7 with a speeded response. Results show differential implicit and explicit effects in stereotyped trait attributions which differentially affect female and male faces, indicating that both genders may suffer from social discrimination based on gender stereotypes. By investigating implicit and explicit processes simultaneously, this study promises to clarify contradictions between explicit gender stereotyping, shifting towards neutrality, and societal discrimination, which may largely depend on implicit processes.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122500 - Printed Poster

Through the eyes: understanding the role of direct gaze in social attention and first impressions

Main Presenting Author: de Coetlogon Claveau, Clara

Additional Authors: Human, Lauren ; Capozzi, Francesca

Abstract: *Eyes are often described as a window to others' souls, yet this intuition remains scientifically underexplored. This experimental study investigated how direct gaze (looking someone in the eyes) during live interactions contributes to impression formation and subsequent joint attention. Participants engaged with four confederates serving as impression targets, while targets' eyes visibility was manipulated. Following the interactions, participants rated targets' personalities and completed a joint attention task using the faces of the confederates they had just interacted with as stimuli. A repeated measures ANOVA revealed that participants spent significantly more time engaging in direct gaze (looking at the target's eyes) compared to non-social gaze (looking away from the target). While results from the Social Accuracy Model indicated overall impression accuracy, direct gaze did not significantly improve impression accuracy. However, direct gaze was found to predict enhanced subsequent joint attention, whereas focusing on the targets' bodies was associated with reduced joint attention when their eyes were visible. Integrating theories and methods from various psychological domains, this research is an important step toward answering fundamental questions about the importance of the social information conveyed by eyes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122718 - Printed Poster

Trajectoire d'améliorations de la version canadienne francophone du Parent empowerment and efficacy measure : validation du Questionnaire sur le sentiment d'efficacité parentale

Main Presenting Author: Nadeau, Pascale

Additional Authors: Fortin, Sabrina ; Pilon, Mathieu; François-Sévigny, Juliette

Abstract: *Le Parent empowerment and efficacy measure (PEEM), non validé en français, permet de mesurer le sentiment d'efficacité parentale, qui est central dans le succès des services offerts aux famille. Pour valider la version canadienne francophone du PEEM, soit le Questionnaire sur le sentiment d'efficacité parentale (QSEP), 199 mères, 80 pères et leurs enfants âgés de six à 16 ans ont été recrutés. Les enfants présentaient un trouble du déficit de l'attention avec ou sans hyperactivité, un haut potentiel intellectuel, les deux conditions ou aucune d'entre elles. Deux versions du QSEP ont été créées, soit une pour les mères (QSEP-M) et une pour les pères (QSEP-P). Les résultats de la cohérence interne (,860 < ω < .888) et de la validité convergente (p <,001) sont meilleurs que pour le PEEM. De plus, les résultats de la validité concomitante correspondent à la littérature, mais la structure factorielle du QSEP-M représente peu le modèle théorique attendu et les analyses structurelles du QSEP-P demeurent à confirmer, par manque de participants paternels. Les résultats reflètent un outil globalement valide et indiquent les propriétés psychométriques qui nécessiteraient un perfectionnement. Cette étude a l'avantage d'avoir inclus un échantillon de jeunes ayant des profils cliniques diversifiés et elle permet de soutenir l'utilisation future du QSEP auprès de parents québécois.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 125160 - Printed Poster

Using Clothing to Infer Cognition: Beliefs about the Dress-Mind Link

Main Presenting Author: Koetke, Syrus

Additional Author: Hester, Neil

Abstract: *How others dress is a rich and accessible cue for informing perceivers' social judgments of targets. Perceivers may vary considerably in their utilization of dress cues, in part due to their beliefs about the extent to which dress reflects qualities of others' minds such as their personality, social identity, goals, and mood. We refer to these beliefs as the Dress-Mind Link. Two studies broadly examined this link. Study 1 investigated the strength of belief in the Dress-Mind Link in relation to both perceiver and target differences. Study 2 examined the relationship between belief in the Dress-Mind Link and confidence when rating targets with no facial information provided. In Study 1, 300 participants completed scales measuring Theory of Mind and Proximity of Clothing to Self (PCS). Participants also responded to 4 novel items to measure their beliefs about the Dress-Mind Link. We found a significant positive correlation between participants' PCS and their beliefs about the Dress-Mind Link. In Study 2, 123 participants rated 12 neck-down targets on perceived openness to experience, conscientiousness, conservatism, self-esteem, and mood. Participants with higher Dress-Mind Link scores expressed more confidence in their ratings. These findings implicate subjective importance of dress as a significant influence in how dress cues are incorporated into person perception.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125944 - Printed Poster

Validation of the Wiseheart Socioeconomic Status Scale in Undergraduate and Normative Adult Population Samples

Main Presenting Author: Wiseheart, Melody
Co-Presenting Author: Agur, Amy

Additional Author: Wiseheart, Sandi

Abstract: *Psychologists have used socioeconomic status (SES) to assess access to resources and opportunities. SES proxies were developed in a historical context in which traditional indicators (education, occupation, and income) could produce meaningful SES trends. Today, dynamic economic, social, and market conditions mean these proxies no longer reliably capture access to resources. We decomposed existing proxies of SES and its twin social class to identify the underlying concepts. We then developed and validated the Wiseheart Socioeconomic Status Scale (WSESS) using two populations: psychology undergraduates and an adult normative population sample. Confirmatory factor analyses demonstrated strong to excellent fit-in both populations-for a set of scales that includes newly developed education and occupation measures, wealth, relationships, school/work environment, household environment, health, and spirituality. These scales can be used in conjunction to provide a more complete understanding of individual differences in SES, or in isolation to focus on a specific aspect. The WSESS reconceptualizes SES as a complex, cross-domain structure, whose implementation may support stronger SES modelling, interpretation, and data collection in education, health, and equity research.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124634 - Printed Poster

Virtual Self-Discrepancy and Symptoms of Mental Illness

Main Presenting Author: Labonte, Rachel

Additional Author: Leshner , Connor

Abstract: *As the social world becomes increasingly virtual, it is important to consider how concepts of self and identity can be applied to online settings. The virtual self is described as the self presented in digital media environments such as social media platforms. Previous research has shown that a discrepancy, or a measurable difference, between virtual and actual selves results in cognitive dissonance and affects psychological well-being. There has yet to be a study directly measuring virtual self-discrepancy and how it relates to mental illness symptoms. I am proposing a study hypothesizing that larger discrepancies between virtual and actual selves will be positively correlated with symptoms of mental illness. Virtual self-discrepancy scores will be calculated using a modified version of the self-discrepancy measure. Depression and anxiety symptom scores will be obtained using validated measures. I expect that people with high actual-ideal virtual self-discrepancy scores will display high depression symptom scores, and people with high actual-ought virtual self-discrepancy scores will display high anxiety symptom scores. This research has important implications as understanding how virtual identities can impact mental health will inform people about how to best represent themselves online without negative consequences.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125042 - Printed Poster

Weather Threats to Child, Parent, and Family Mental Health: A Systematic Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Markwell, Alexandra

Additional Authors: De Luca, Paul ; Grant, Parker; Prime, Heather

Abstract: *Background. Climate change-related weather threats (e.g., heatwaves) pose substantial risks to child and family well-being; yet existing research is limited, focusing mainly on disasters, child physical health, and quantitative methods. The current systematic scoping review and narrative synthesis maps the landscape of research on weather threats to child, parent, and family mental health, considering both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Methods. Eligible studies included children <18 or their families and focused on a weather threat and a child, parent, or family mental health outcome. Following PRISMA-ScR guidelines, major databases (e.g., PsycINFO) were searched, with 9022 abstracts and 786 full texts screened, resulting in 29 eligible studies. Results. Preliminary results (k=23 studies) show most studies were quantitative (k=20), from high-income countries (k=16), with mixed socioeconomic status (k=14), and primarily focused on disasters (k=17) and child mental health (k=18). Narrative synthesis identified three pathways from weather threats to child and family mental health: structural/social disruption, caregiver/relational disruption, and child mental health disruption. The synthesis will be finalized in January 2025. Conclusions. Results will guide a conceptual framework linking weather threats to child and family mental health to drive future research.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 126242 - Printed Poster

When correction is seen as suppression: Claims of censorship can overwhelm effects of content moderation in social media ecosystems

Main Presenting Author: Scullion, Maren

Additional Author: Wilson, Anne E

Abstract: *Social media companies have had some success countering misinformation with fact-check labels, avoiding the reactance produced by restricting content. However, although fact-checked misinformation remains freely available to users, the label itself can still sometimes evoke claims of censorship online. We tested whether a censorship claim (vs. none) can affect the impact of misinformation content moderation (moderation method: content removal vs. fact-check vs. none) among participants whose worldview is consistent vs. inconsistent with a misleading claim. ANOVAs showed that a single social media post claiming censorship increased perceptions of censorship and led to more belief in the misinformation. Censorship claims were far more influential than content moderation approaches which had little effect. Censorship claim effects were strongest among those whose political views aligned with the misleading post but still occurred among worldview-inconsistent participants. This raises questions about the efficacy of content moderation in complex digital ecosystems, given that even a single random user's claim of censorship has the potential to overshadow content moderation strategies. This research expands the literature on fact-checking by examining potential real-world challenges to their effectiveness, with the goal of finding ways to make them more psychologically robust.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126104 - Printed Poster

When self-compassion helps - or hurts: Self-compassion as a moderator of intergroup contact and attitudes towards immigrants

Main Presenting Author: Wong, Kezia Q

Additional Author: Bailis, Dan

Abstract: *Past research on the contact hypothesis suggests that increased frequency and quality of intergroup contact leads to more positive attitudes between higher- and lower-status group members. Apart from right-wing authoritarianism and ingroup identification, few other individual differences have been examined as moderators of intergroup contact's positive influence on attitudes. Self-compassion reflects individual differences in how kind and understanding people are toward themselves in difficult times. We reasoned that individuals higher (vs. lower) in self-compassion may trust their personal experiences more to inform their attitudes. In a preliminary study of 159 adult Canadian respondents (sourced from Prolific.com), whose contact experiences and attitudes toward immigrants were surveyed, we found a significantly stronger relationship between contact quality and attitudes among those higher (vs. lower) in self-compassion. The present study is intended to replicate these results in a larger independent sample, using additional attitude measures and covariates. At this time, 400 participants have completed this study, and the data analyses follow the same moderation analyses as before. This research will inform if higher (vs. lower) self-compassion continues to predict immigration attitudes that are more positive or more negative, depending on the quality of prior contact.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123681 - Printed Poster

Who You Tell Matters More Than Why: Relationship-Based Structure of Perceived Cannabis Stigma

Main Presenting Author: Hooshiar, Ryan

Additional Authors: Courtice, Erin L; Dimitrova, Nicole; Moore, Annabelle; Wardell, Jeffrey D

Abstract: *Cannabis use is increasingly common yet remains stigmatized in some contexts (e.g., healthcare). How individuals perceive stigma for their cannabis use is not well understood, particularly how it varies across reason for cannabis use (i.e., medicinal cannabis use; MCU, or recreational cannabis use; RCU), and relational context of stigma (e.g., parents). To stimulate research on perceived cannabis stigma, we examined the factor structure of a newly developed cannabis stigma scale. Data came from a cross-sectional survey of 151 young adults who reported both MCU and RCU (79.47% female, Mage=24.41, SD=3.91). The survey included a new measure assessing participants' discomfort disclosing and perceived disapproval of their MCU and RCU across different relationship types (e.g., friends). We used exploratory factor analyses to test the factor structure of this measure. Preliminary results indicate a 5-factor solution, explaining 64% of variance, with factors organized by relationship type (parents, friends, family members, healthcare workers, and strangers/society) rather than reason for cannabis use (MCU vs. RCU). Our findings suggest that cannabis stigma may vary more across relational context than reasons for use. Validating a cannabis stigma scale is an essential step for researchers to better understand how stigma is perceived and the potential negative outcomes stemming from it.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 123468 - Printed Poster

Why Attachment Matters in Sexting: Longitudinal Links Between Insecurity, Motivation, and Outcomes

Main Presenting Author: Marin-Dragu, Silvia D

Additional Authors: McArthur, Jennifer ; Dolek, Simal ; Blais, Julie ; Chorney, Jill; Rosen, Natalie; Stewart, Sherry; Meier, Sandra

Abstract: *Sexting is a common relational practice among emerging adults, with experiences ranging from intimacy-enhancing to potentially harmful. Guided by Attachment and Self-Determination Theory, this longitudinal study explored how attachment patterns and sexting motivations shape the quality of sexting experiences. A sample of 422 emerging adults (EAs: 18-29 years old) in casual or committed relationships completed online measures of attachment (anxiety; avoidance) at baseline and of their motivations to sext (controlled; autonomous) and outcomes of sexting (positive; negative) six weeks later. Structural equation modelling was used to test whether sexting motivations explain the link between attachment insecurity and sexting outcomes, while adjusting for age, biological sex, relationship status, and relationship length. Results showed that attachment anxiety predicted more negative sexting outcomes (β=.143, p=.044), while avoidance predicted fewer positive outcomes (β=-.225, p=.002). Controlled motives significantly mediated the pathway between anxiety and negative outcomes (β=.066, p=.007). No other indirect effects were significant. Findings highlight the role of externally driven motives in shaping sexting experiences in emotionally insecure EAs. Interventions promoting autonomous communication and reducing pressure-based sexting may support healthier digital intimacy among EAs.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124989 - Printed Poster

Why Do People Believe in Conspiracy Theories?

Main Presenting Author: Both, Lilly

Abstract: *Conspiracy theories have garnered much discussion in the media and general public, and occur globally. Past researchers have identified a number of variables that contribute to a belief in conspiracy theories. The purpose of this study was to extend this research by assessing how demographic variables (such as age, gender, religiosity, political leaning), personality factors, life satisfaction, depression/anxiety/stress, and superstitious behaviours, relate to a belief in conspiracy theories. One hundred and twenty-nine undergraduate students (Mage = 20.14; SD =3.79) completed an online survey that measured these constructs. All participants were domestic students. The analyses indicated that belief in conspiracy theories was correlated with higher scores on Machiavellianism, psychopathy, superstitious beliefs, and lower scores on satisfaction with life. A hierarchical linear regression found superstitious beliefs and lower satisfaction with life were significant predictors of conspiracy beliefs, and accounted for 20% of the variance after controlling for gender and political leaning. Future studies should address this relation among superstitious behaviour, life satisfaction and conspiracy beliefs.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124975 - Printed Poster

Why Students Change Majors: Understanding the Impact of Motivation on Academic Performance and Well-Being Through a Mixed-Methods Design

Main Presenting Author: Norquay-Pahl, Pippin R.J.
Co-Presenting Author: Grouzet, Frederick M.E.

Additional Author: Sones, Juliette M

Abstract: *Up to 30% of undergraduate students change their major at least once during their academic trajectory, having potential time, financial, and personal consequences. Through a self-determination theory (Deci & Ryan, 2000) framework, we examined why undergraduate students change their academic major, and the academic and well-being outcomes associated with the type of motivation for changing majors. We hypothesized that changing majors for autonomous reasons would result in higher levels of academic achievement, satisfaction, and well-being following major change, than changing majors for controlled reasons. We also hypothesized that changing majors for controlled reasons leads to a higher likelihood of a future major change than changing majors for autonomous reasons. Participants were undergraduate students who had changed majors and were under 26 years old. Data was collected using a mixed-methods design consisting of an online survey (n=169) and semi-structured interviews (n=17). We found a positive, significant correlation between autonomous motivation and all the variables studied (academic success, persistence, satisfaction, and well-being). These results have important implications through university policies, counselling, and academic advising to better-support students during a major change to decrease the likelihood of negative outcomes and secondary major changes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126358 - Printed Poster

Young Women's Friendships Enhance their Socio-Emotional Wellbeing

Main Presenting Author: Xie, Catherine

Additional Authors: Phan, Kyla ; Casarenko, Lara; Cameron, Ann Catherine

Abstract: *Close friendships enrich the emotional, social and physical wellbeing in young wonen's relationship bonds. Many studies emphasize the importance of female friendships in terms of bonds that contribute to social wellbeing. However, there is limited information about the specific aspects that contribute to the enrichment of female friendships such as mutual growth, communication and emotional safety. To explore relational dynamics, we engaged in semi-structured, conversational two-on-two online interviews. By pairing female friends with female researchers, the format fostered natural discussion and authentic interaction. Our consolidated coding of the transcriptions reveals that shared pastimes and the longevity of friendship cultivate an environment of deep acceptance, familial-typed caring, and unconditional trust. This emotional safety empowered the friend-pairs to engage in open communication, enabling both intuitive non-verbal understanding and direct conflict resolution without fear of judgment, which ultimately deepened their bonds of intimacy. These findings highlight the importance of fostering female friendships' value in emotional safety, shared experiences and open communication. This knowledge can inform programs and interventions that enhance social wellbeing and guide future research on the value of emotional support to female friendship quality.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 124693 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

From Silence to Support: How the Mechanisms of Moral Disengagement Relate to Passive, Reinforcer, and Defending in Cyberbullying Contexts

Main Presenting Author: Sarraf, Lisa

Additional Authors: Sharp, Rachel ; Daniels, Tina

Abstract: *Background: Moral disengagement is a well-established factor predicting bystander behaviour, with higher moral disengagement predicting passive and reinforcer behaviours, while lower moral disengagement predicting bystander defending online. However, little is known about how specific mechanisms of moral disengagement relate to passive, reinforcing, and defending behaviours online.Methods: University students (N = 603; Mage = 19.73) completed an online survey assessing demographics, online bystander behaviour (Cyberbullying Bystander Scale), and moral disengagement (Moral Disengagement Using Cyber Aggression).Results: Minimizing agency and dehumanizing the victim were positively associated with passive outsider behaviour, whereas distortion of negative events was negatively associated with passivity. Cognitive restructuring and distortion of negative events were positively associated with reinforcing the cyber bully. Minimizing agency and dehumanization were negatively associated with defending, while distortion of negative events positively predicted defending.Conclusions: Specific moral disengagement mechanisms appear to influence whether individuals remain passive, defend, or reinforce victims of cyberbullying.Action: Interventions that interrupt moral disengagement processes may reduce justifications for inaction and strengthen readiness to defend cyberbullying victims.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126154 - Virtual Poster

Intergenerational Connections: A Scoping Review of the Effect on Cognition, Connectedness, and Well-Being

Main Presenting Author: Goerzen, Zee G
Co-Presenting Author: Grouzet, Fredrick M.E.

Abstract: *Intergenerational programs are increasingly recognized for their potential in reducing loneliness and promoting psychological well-being in youth and older adults, yet existing evidence is fragmented across settings and outcomes (Pinazo-Hernandis & Carrascosa, 2024). This scoping review aims to synthesize review-level literature to clarify what is known about the social, psychological, and cognitive impacts of intergenerational engagement. Following Arskey and O'Malley's (2005) framework and PRISMA-ScR guidelines, systematic reviews, scoping reviews, and meta-analyses are identified through a search in PsycINFO, ERIC, and Medline, and then analyzed using descriptive and thematic synthesis. Preliminary mapping of existing reviews indicates consistent benefits, including increased social connectedness, reduced loneliness, enhanced empathy, and cognitive stimulation. However, mechanisms such as storytelling, mentoring, and emotional reciprocity appear to be under-theorized. This review will inform more intentional, evidence-based*

intergenerational programs by identifying key mechanisms and highlighting areas required for further research.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125455 - Virtual Poster

Like Birds of a Feather: The Role of Values in Friendship Creation, Maintenance, and Dissolution

Main Presenting Author: Stepanyan, Maria
Co-Presenting Author: Grouzet, Frederick M.E.

Abstract: *Friendships provide a variety of benefits (Peets & Hodges, 2018), yet these benefits can only be reaped if the friendship is maintained. Guided by the similarity-attraction effect (Byrne, 1971), this study examined whether value similarity (Grouzet, 2013) differs across stages of a friendship. Undergraduate students (n = 468) reported their own values and rated perceived value similarity with a new acquaintance, a new friend, a long-time friend, and a former friend. A repeated measures ANOVA compared similarity across these relationships. Long-time friends (M = 1.76) showed significantly higher value similarity than former friends (M = 2.38, p < .001). Former friends also showed lower similarity than new acquaintances (M = 1.69, p < .001) and new friends (M = 1.76, p < .001). No differences emerged between new acquaintances and new friends (p = .18) or between new and long-time friends (p = 1.00). These findings indicate that value similarity is most strongly associated with friendship maintenance rather than dissolution. This highlights the importance of understanding how shared values contribute to relational stability, suggesting that interventions aimed at improving friendship longevity may benefit from helping individuals communicate and navigate value similarities and differences.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125575 - Virtual Poster

Parental Experiences of Infant Loss: A Thematic Analysis of Reddit Discussions

Main Presenting Author: Paunovic, Sofia E

Additional Authors: Fontaine, Aleah ; Reynolds, Kristin

Abstract: *Background/rationale: The loss of a newborn in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) is filled with complex emotions and distinct challenges. In seeking support, some parents may turn to online forums, such as Reddit, to connect with others with similar experiences and anonymously express their grief. Examining these forums can offer unique, naturalistic insights that can deepen our understanding of NICU parents' mental health experiences, as they are not subject to researcher influence in the way that other research methods, such as interviews, might. Methods: This study will examine the online Reddit forum r/babyloss to identify how forum users discuss their emotional experiences and offer sympathy to others who have lost their newborn. Using an inductive approach, we will conduct a reflexive thematic analysis of both posts and comments on r/babyloss.Results and Conclusions: With 1700 weekly visitors, the forum r/babyloss offers rich data that we expect will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of NICU parents' emotional experiences, highlighting the common worries and struggles amongst these parents. Action/Impact: These findings will identify areas in which NICU parents are suffering to offer insight that may be used to develop programs and interventions aimed at supporting NICU parents coping with infant loss.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124023 - Virtual Poster

The prevalence of unforgiveness in ongoing romantic relationships

Main Presenting Author: Davison, Brianna

Abstract: *People often enter romantic relationships with the expectation that their romantic partner will not harm them. However, romantic relationships are not without their challenges. Inevitably, romantic couples will experience relational transgressions or occasions where a romantic partner engages in behavior that breaches relationship rules. Forgiveness is generally considered an effective response for restoring positive relationship outcomes following an offence; however, forgiveness may not always be achievable, is sometimes purposely withheld and, at times, should not be encouraged. Therefore, it is important to further understand the prevalence and experience of unforgiveness (i.e., the experience of not forgiving a past offence). 112 participants in current romantic relationships completed an online survey to assess the prevalence of unforgiveness in ongoing romantic relationships. Data analysis includes a series of frequency analyses, t-tests, and ANOVAs to explore group differences in unforgiveness and forgiveness. Groups will be based on demographic (e.g., age, gender), relationship (e.g., relationship type) and offence-related variables (e.g., victim/offender perspective). Data analysis is underway but incomplete. This research will contribute to the theory and literature on unforgiveness and have broad implications for counselling practices and romantic couples.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 122749 - Virtual Poster

Review Session

"Not just a machine, but a part of me": A phenomenological exploration of the meanings of mobility aids

Main Presenting Author: Hall, Catherine

Additional Author: Yen, Jeffery

Abstract: *Through this review session, I aim to explore one overarching question: How do mobility aid users make sense of their mobility aids? The persistent medicalization of disability across academic literature, social and health policy, and in applied settings such as rehabilitation centres, has meant that mobility aids have been traditionally defined predominantly in terms of their functional role. As such, mobility aids tend to be understood solely as tools that help compensate for impairment or as aids to achieve higher levels of independence and participation (Resnik et al., 2009; Scherer & Glueckauf, 2005). However, for the people who use them, mobility aids can take on many different meanings that intertwine deeply with their lifeworlds and identities. Yet, this meaning-making has received little attention in psychological research. In this review session, I will explore how people who use various types of mobility aids, including crutches, scooters, walkers, and manual and electric wheelchairs, make sense of their mobility aids and the intricate relationships they can develop with them. This review session will be especially pertinent to psychologists seeking a deeper understanding of mobility aid users and their experiences. Additionally, it is relevant to psychologists interested in phenomenological research and critical psychological research grounded in lived experiences.*

Section: *History, Theory, and Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology*
Session ID: 124565 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

Care & Reconciliation in Action: Indigenous Knowledges and Approaches to Safe, Effective Counselling for and with Indigenous Peoples

Main Presenting Author: Gabriel, Mikaela D

Abstract: *While Indigenous history and realities are continuing to surface among Canada, the realities and impacts to mental health care and delivery. Systemic racism, economic barriers, and the still-enduring effects of colonization compound Indigenous realities and experiences to frightening trends: overrepresentation among the visibly homeless on urban centres; complex health intersections; and distrust of Western service providers. As the fastest growing population in Canada, and the first care takers of Canada, we have an ethical obligation to equip our interventions to better guide cultural safety and treatment. This session looks at our ethical obligations for Indigenous mental health and advancing our understanding; relevant colonial history and how it arises in session; trauma-focused formulations; cultural intersections to interventions; case examples; and insights for practice.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 125609 - Section Featured Speaker Address

If Contact Theory is a Question, then What is the Answer? Indirect Ethnography and the Search for Solutions

Main Presenting Author: White, Bob W.

Abstract: *Despite the important role that anthropology played in early research on intercultural communication and cross-cultural psychology, and despite the fact that the vast majority of knowledge produced by anthropologists depends on the dynamics of intercultural encounters, anthropologists are more interested in the complexity of specific cultural communities than they are in the interactions between groups. This may explain why anthropologists are unaware that the field of cross-cultural psychology has developed a general theory of intercultural communication that spans more than 75 years, building from Allport's important early work on prejudice. After a general introduction to the paradoxical nature of anthropology's relationship with the field of intercultural communication, I will discuss how psychological work on contact theory may contribute positively to debates within anthropology and more broadly across the social and psychological sciences. Finally, I will present a new methodology, called "indirect ethnography," that anthropologists in Québec have developed to facilitate the documentation of intercultural dynamics in rapidly diversifying urban settings and to develop tools for designing intervention strategies for influencing intercultural policy in local government. Implications of the approach for applied social science research on intercultural relations are discussed*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125736 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

A Scoping Review of Counselling Challenges & Effective Techniques for Couples with High Narcissism

Main Presenting Author: Perlinghis, Constandina

Additional Authors: Drapeau, Martin ; Hughes, Sara; Turkoglu, Ayse

Abstract: *This scoping review systematically synthesizes the empirical and clinical literature to address two primary research questions: 1) What are the predominant challenges present when treating a couple where one partner or both partners have high narcissism, Narcissistic Personality Type or Narcissistic Personality Disorder?; and 2) Which therapeutic and counselling techniques are most effective in treating the major issues present for these couples? A comprehensive search strategy across multiple databases yielded 71 studies after rigorous screening and data extraction. Findings reveal that predominant challenges include therapeutic alliance ruptures, empathy deficits, power dynamics and issues around control, defensiveness and blame externalization, comorbidity, infidelity, clinician stress, and important ethical considerations. Psychodynamic and psychoanalytic approaches dominated the literature (n=42) with effective techniques including boundary setting, interpretation of transference patterns, mentalization-based interventions and systemic work with narcissistic defenses. This review contributes essential knowledge for clinicians who are navigating the complexities of couples therapy when narcissistic pathology is present. It also identifies critical gaps for future research.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 126085 - Snapshot

Adverse Childhood Experiences & Attachment Style as Predictors of Sexual Violence Perpetration in Community Men

Main Presenting Author: Nasim, Mariya K

Additional Author: Harkins, Leigh

Abstract: *Despite the large discrepancy between perpetration rates in the general population and official crime statistics, research on factors influencing sexual violence has largely focused on convicted populations. This study examined whether adverse childhood experiences, child abuse, and insecure attachment style were associated with sexual violence perpetration in a community sample of North American men. Participants (N = 731) completed measures of childhood adversity, attachment style, and self-reported sexually violent behaviour. Logistic regression analyses examined whether these variables predicted perpetration. More than half of the participants reported engaging in at least one sexually violent act. Higher levels of adverse childhood experiences significantly increased the likelihood of perpetration. Childhood abuse, particularly sexual abuse, was also associated with a greater likelihood of engaging in sexual violence. Insecure attachment style did not significantly predict perpetration in this sample. These findings suggest that developmental adversity is an important predictor of sexual violence among community men, whereas attachment style may be less influential. The results highlight the need for prevention and intervention efforts that address trauma-related vulnerabilities and broader social risk factors within the general community.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 126127 - Snapshot

Better to stay? Institutional, psychosocial and clinical characteristics associated with reluctance towards release in Canadian inmates

Main Presenting Author: BOWNS, AVA J.

Additional Author: Joubert, David

Abstract: *In most cases, incarceration ends in an eventual release, where it is expected that most incarcerated individuals wish for release and reintegration into society. Yet, for many, the prospect of release is associated with both intrapsychic and interpersonal conflict and anxieties regarding anticipated social responses to reintegration, stigma, strained relationships, and lack of adequate healthcare. The current study examined legal, institutional, psychosocial and clinical factors that characterize inmates who appear to lack interest in release as documented in interview or file data. A coincidence analysis (CNA), a type of configurational method (Rihoux & Ragin, 2009), was used to uncover conjunctural causation. The analysis revealed that apparent lack of interest towards release is multidetermined and can be related to different configurations of factors. Some individuals struggle with current major mental disorders, while others have no social supports along with more extensive mental health histories. Others display antecedents of multiple, potentially traumatic, stressful life events. These findings highlight the importance of understanding lack of interest in release from a pluralistic framework integrating clinical, criminological and sociological concepts.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123236 - Snapshot

Can intergroup contact reduce prejudice toward a secondary outgroup? A longitudinal exploration of secondary transfer effects among White, heterosexual Americans' contact with Black and gay people

Main Presenting Author: Puffer, Hanna

Additional Author: Hodson, Gordon

Abstract: *The Secondary Transfer Effect (STE) of contact refers to how prejudice-reducing contact effects theoretically generalize to secondary outgroups. Importantly, the effects of intergroup contact are assumed to be within-person effects (i.e., an individuals' increase in contact predicts an increase in favourable attitudes) not between-person effects (e.g., those who generally have high contact also generally have more positive attitudes). Yet recent research finds between-subjects, not within-subjects, primary contact effects, contradicting the core contact assumption. Here, we assessed White, heterosexual Americans' contact with Black and gay people across four timepoints separated by three weeks, employing multilevel modeling to parse between-from-within person effects (T1 N=456; 51.6% women, Mage=46.71). Between-subjects gay-to-Black associative generalization was observed: greater contact with gay people was associated with more positive Black intergroup outcomes. Within-subjects Black-to-gay process generalization was observed: greater contact with Black people predicted more positive gay intergroup outcomes. Thus, contact with a primary outgroup can change people in ways that generalize across groups. We recommend researchers further explore the potential for contact to reduce prejudice across groups, including uncovering boundary conditions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123795 - Snapshot

Contentious socio-political matters: Agreement, relevance, and willingness to engage among Canadian university students

Main Presenting Author: Gooding, Gregory D

Additional Authors: Houmad, Sarah ; Yang, Grace; Khalili, Ayda; Korner, Annett

Abstract: *Rationale: This exploratory study seeks to identify which socio-political issues Canadian students perceive as most controversial and nevertheless worthy to engage with.Methodology: We surveyed over 850 students from 31 francophone and anglophone universities across Canada, collecting responses on a wide range of topics alongside validated measure of intellectual humility.Analyses: Ongoing analyses aim to determine which topics students view as most contentious by examining levels of agreement versus disagreement, perceived importance, and willingness to discuss. We will also assess whether these patterns vary across demographic characteristics and level of intellectual humility.Conclusions: We expect to identify the issues students find most contentious and to observe meaningful differences in how students engage with them across demographic groups.Implications: These findings will inform future efforts to address polarizing topics on Canadian university campuses and support the development of evidence-based strategies to foster constructive dialogue.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125390 - Snapshot

Digital Discrepancies: The Impact of Social Media on the Internalization of Body Ideals and Body-Ideal Discrepancies

Main Presenting Author: White, Makenya

Abstract: *Previous research on the internalization of body ideals and body ideal discrepancies emphasizes generalized dissatisfaction with one's body and weight-related issues amongst women, with little focus on factors that may influence these relationships. The current study aimed to examine how motivations towards social media influence the internalization of body ideals and their relationship with body ideal discrepancies. Additionally, the role of appearance-based motivations to use social media has on specific body-part discrepancies, across genders, addressing the gaps in existing research. Participants included 287 Trent University undergraduate students who completed the Body-Image Ideals Questionnaire (BIQ) and Motivations for Social Media Use Questionnaire. The study revealed that motivations for social media use are correlated with the internalization of body ideals and body ideal discrepancies. Additionally, it revealed different patterns in correlations between specific body-part discrepancies and appearance-based motivations for social media use across genders. These findings emphasize the complex relationship motivations for social media use have with body image issues, highlighting the importance of specific gendered differences within the internalization of differentiating body parts. It also highlights the need for specific, tailored interventions to address and potentially prevent the use of social media for harmful motivations that can amplify the internalization of body ideals and body ideal discrepancies and promote a healthier perception of one's body image.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125623 - Snapshot

Dysphoria and Social Validation

Main Presenting Author: Babb, Paige

Abstract: *Dysphoric (i.e., mildly-to-moderately depressed) individuals often have negative social experiences (Joiner & Timmons, 2002). They also engage in more effortful social information seeking and processing (Weary et al., 1993) with a specific focus on problem solving (Andrews & Thomson, 2009). Providing more problem-solving than validating social support is associated with poorer social relations (Horowitz et al., 2001), and greater dysphoria is related to more self-reported problem-solving and less social-validation responses in social interactions with strangers (Manneh, 2025) and friends (Montanino, 2025). In the current study, we wanted to see if training about either problem-solving or social-validation approaches would affect participants' behaviour in a social interaction with a confederate who shared a personal problem. As expected, the problem-solving training yielded more problem-solving responses than did the social-validation training, but the latter did not yield greater validation responses perhaps because those responses already were high. Dysphoria did not moderate the training condition effects, but we still found evidence that greater dysphoria was associated with more problem solving and less social validation although the association with problem-solving responses was not as strong as prior studies without any training manipulation.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123153 - Snapshot

Emotional Intelligence, Negative Interpretation bias, and Loneliness

Main Presenting Author: Reid, Shannon

Abstract: *Chronically lonely individuals tend to experience worse health and mental health outcomes than their non-lonely counterparts. Deficits in emotional skills and cognitive biases are implicated in the development and maintenance of chronic loneliness. Two such factors, emotional intelligence (EI), and negative interpretation bias (NIB) have been shown to be associated with chronic loneliness such that those with more NIB and less EI tend to experience more chronic loneliness. However, how these constructs interact have not been investigated. The present study aimed to characterize the relationships between NIB and EI and whether EI moderates the relationship between NIB and chronic loneliness. The relationship between family loneliness and NIB was shown to be significantly moderated by the individual's level of ability EI. This was not the case for social or romantic loneliness. Furthermore, trait EI did not moderate any of these relationships. Potential mechanisms and recommendations for future research are discussed.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124578 - Snapshot

Enculturation and Eating Disorders: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Brar, Simran

Additional Authors: Ouédraogo, Safia ; Racine, Sarah E.

Abstract: *Culture - socially transmitted norms, values, practices, and beliefs in a society - has been posited as a risk factor for the development of eating disorders (EDs). Previous literature reviews on culture and EDs focus on acculturation - referring to the interaction between a person's familial culture and the society's dominant culture, typically resulting in conforming to the dominant culture (i.e., assimilation). Acculturation tends to adopt a deficit-based lens, highlighting challenges related to adapting to the dominant culture. Focusing on enculturation - the degree to which individuals engage in cultural practices and values - can offer a strengths-based perspective. This scoping review will explore the association between enculturation and eating disorders and will explore what facets of enculturation (e.g., behaviours, values, language) relate to eating disorder symptoms.A comprehensive search of three databases will be conducted to identify quantitative and qualitative studies examining the association between enculturation and eating disorders. Preprint servers and listservs will be searched to identify grey literature. Two independent reviewers will be conducting screening and data extraction. Findings will have implications for prevention and intervention, highlighting how cultural ties can act as buffers for ED behaviours and how to reduce barriers to treatment.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123729 - Snapshot

How Well Do Our Measures Capture In-Group and Out-Group Racial Attitudes? Examining the Psychometric Properties of the ATB and ATW Scales

Main Presenting Author: Kredl, Katya F

Additional Authors: Penniston, Trinda L; Jacobson, Jill A; Chivers, C Meredith

Abstract: *The study of racial attitudes has sparked long-standing debates on how the construct is measured. Most existing scales measure attitudes toward minority rather than majority groups, and few studies examine in-group attitudes. Recent debates question whether valid cross-group comparisons (e.g., Black vs. white people's racial attitudes) can be drawn when groups may differ for legitimate reasons. This study evaluated whether the Attitudes Toward Black People (ATB) and Attitudes Toward White People (ATW) scales assess racial attitudes consistently across Black and white participants (N = 278). Confirmatory factor analyses (CFAs) tested configurations needed for measurement invariance, followed by multi-group CFAs and alignment analyses. Measurement invariance was not supported for either scale using traditional multi-group CFAs but was supported using alignment analyses. Unexpectedly, Black participants scored lower than white participants on the ATB, while white participants scored lower than Black participants on the ATW. Researchers are encouraged to consider the utility of measurement invariance in the context of racial attitudes when groups are expected to differ.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124830 - Snapshot

Intersectional Wealth Biases: A Lens Model Approach

Main Presenting Author: Allen, Erik J.K.

Additional Author: Steele, Jennifer R.

Abstract: *Previous research has found that people show a pro-wealth bias on implicit measures, being faster to pair wealthier people with good words and poorer people with bad words than the reverse pairing (e.g., Allen & Steele, 2025). In the current research we examined whether target race moderates this bias. Participants (N = 208) were randomly assigned to complete a wealth Implicit Association Test (Greenwald et al., 1998) by sorting upper class and working class targets who were White and/or Black in a 2 (Upper Class Target Race: White or Black) x 2 (Working Class Target Race: White or Black) between-subjects design. Consistent with a lens model of social categorization (Pesko et al., 2022) and our pre-registered predictions, participants showed a pro-wealth bias across all conditions (D = 0.37, p < .001). Importantly, this bias was not moderated by the race of the targets (Fs < 0.16, ps > 0.93). The findings highlight the persistence of pro-wealth biases when participants are asked to categorize others based on wealth cues. The results also contribute to our understanding of the contextual nature of biases based on cues to wealth and race, which are identities that can come in and out of focus based on contextual cues, and provide additional evidence for a lens model of social categorization.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126302 - Snapshot

Linking Childhood Adversity to Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration: The Mediating Role of Externalizing Depressive Symptoms in Men.

Main Presenting Author: Storey, Quinn

Additional Authors: Woodin, Erica ; Ogrodniczuk, John; Morgan, Sean

Abstract: *Exposure to varied adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), encompassing both abuse/neglect and household dysfunction, is associated with a greater risk of intimate partner violence (IPV) perpetration among men. These ACE domains are also linked to an increased propensity for psychological distress in adulthood, including depressive symptoms. Converging evidence suggests that externalizing manifestations of depression more commonly exhibited by men may contribute to various forms of IPV, including coercive control and overt abuse. This study will present a series of path models exploring the potential mediating role of externalizing depressive symptoms in the association between varied profiles of ACEs and IPV outcomes in men (physical, sexual, or psychological aggression and coercive control). Data were drawn from a cross-sectional sample of 239 adult men. Preliminary analyses suggest externalizing manifestations of depression may mediate the relationship between experiences of abuse or neglect in childhood and the perpetration of abuse or dominating behaviors in intimate relationships as an adult. Findings from the present study will further explore externalizing depressive symptoms as a mechanism linking childhood adversity to IPV perpetration among men, with meaningful implications for IPV prevention and intervention efforts.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125657 - Snapshot

Navigating Chronic Illness Together: Partner Experiences and Dyadic Coping in Online Narratives

Main Presenting Author: Sharma, Anya

Abstract: *Background: Partners of individuals with chronic illness experience emotional and relational strain, yet their perspectives are often captured through interviews that limit authenticity. Naturalistic online narratives offer an opportunity to examine real-world partner experiences, coping strategies, and relational impacts. This study analyzes Reddit posts to address gaps in understanding how partners support their ill spouse and how these dynamics influence relationship functioning. Methods: Posts from r/ChronicIllness, r/Relationships, and r/Caregivers were collected using Python's PRAW API. A preliminary sample of 250 posts has been coded, with a target of 1,000-1,500. Thematic analysis supported by NVivo is complemented by quantitative content analysis informed by dyadic coping theory. Results: Early findings show (1) emotional buffering, with partners suppressing distress; (2) role strain linked to competing demands; and (3) support-quality effects, where emotional validation relates to closeness, while logistical support alone often co-occurs with fatigue and conflict. Conclusions: Online narratives capture candid complexities of partner support and show how coping quality shapes relational well-being. Action/Impact: Findings can inform interventions that strengthen dyadic coping, improve communication, and enhance relationship health for couples managing chronic illness.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125373 - Snapshot

Newcomers in the Classroom: An interactive, digital tool to promote conversations among high school students

Main Presenting Author: Kassan, Anusha

Abstract: *Based on ten years of research on school integration, we developed a digital platform that enables in-depth, multi-layered, and contextual conversations centered on the newcomer experience. The phenomenon of school integration encompasses the experiences of newcomer students both inside and outside the school environment, including-but not limited to-English as an Additional Language, academic performance, classroom behavior, social networks, identity negotiation, emotional and familial well-being, participation in school life, and understanding of the educational system. The platform was designed for high school teachers and other educational stakeholders to facilitate dialogue between newcomer and non-newcomer students in the classroom. It includes several modules focused on identity, school, family, community, and advocacy. Each module offers an introductory video, a didactic component, and an in-class worksheet. A "how-to" guide accompanies the platform, providing instructions for navigating and engaging with the content. This five-minute snapshot will provide an overview of the digital platform along with a demonstration of one of the modules. It will highlight ways the platform can be used in high school classrooms and beyond to promote inclusive conversations among students. Implications for counselling psychology practice, training, research, and policy will also be discussed.*

Section: *Counselling Psychology*
Session ID: 123621 - Snapshot

Observed Dyadic Coping Profiles in Parents of Preschoolers and Their Associations with Coparenting, Trust, and Attachment

Main Presenting Author: Espinosa Becerra, Ana Karen

Additional Authors: Seal, Harshita ; Bureau, Jean-François; Lafontaine, Marie-France

Abstract: *While couples' coping strategies are linked to relationship quality, their association with coparenting, trust, and attachment remains unclear, particularly in families with preschool-aged children. This study combined observed couple interactions with parental reports to capture relational outcomes.Sixty-six couples who had a preschooler engaged in a filmed conflict discussion coded with the GCICS (Bélanger et al., 1993). Each parent was classified by coping style (positive or negative), yielding four profiles (e.g., both positive, father-positive/mother-negative). They also completed questionnaires on coparenting (CRS; Feinberg, 2003), attachment (ECR; Wei et al., 2007), and trust (DTS; Larzelere & Huston, 1980). ANOVAs revealed differences in relational quality, parenting, and trust across coping profiles. Fathers in father-positive/mother-negative couples reported significantly more coparenting conflict, undermining coparenting, higher avoidant attachment, and lower trust and partner parenting than father-negative/mother-positive and both-positive couples. Findings suggest that fathers who report lower satisfaction with their relationship may adopt an avoidant style that, during conflict, can be misinterpreted as positive coping. Results underscore the need to integrate observed behaviors with self-reports to comprehensively examine coping in parents of young children.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123812 - Snapshot

Partner-Schema Structure, Romantic Relationship Outcomes, and Depression: Reciprocal Influences Over Two Years

Main Presenting Author: Rain, Sarina

Additional Authors: Hicks, Owen ; Murphy, Gabriela C. M.; Ying, Fei; Dozois, David J. A.

Abstract: *Depression is both a cause and consequence of difficulties in romantic relationships, yet the mechanisms underlying this association remain poorly understood. Although the organization of core beliefs about a romantic partner - known as partner-schema structure - may shape depression and relationship quality over time, this has not been tested longitudinally in couples. A community sample of 73 couples completed measures of partner-schema structure, romantic relationship quality, and depressive symptoms at a baseline assessment and two-year follow-up. Multilevel models (Actor-Partner Interdependence Model; APIM) revealed that, at baseline, loosely connected positive partner-schemas were associated with lower perceived relationship quality ($b = -1.11$, $p < .001$) whereas tightly connected negative partner-schemas were associated with higher depressive severity ($b = -4.52$, $p < .001$). Thus, partner-schema structure may underlie depression and romantic relationship difficulties. Structural equation modelling with APIM will evaluate the temporal stability of these associations. This research highlights the importance of partner-related cognition and advances our understanding of a key mechanism that may contribute to the strong reciprocal link between depression and romantic relationship difficulties. The implications of these findings and future research directions are addressed.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 121097 - Snapshot

Rewriting Stigma: How Digital Narratives Transform Mental Health Understanding

Main Presenting Author: Benghazi Akhlaki, Miryame

Additional Authors: Ferrari, Manuela ; Raugh, Ian; Toche Mbah, Nurya Kamsu; Burko, Hope; Davies, Megan; D'Amico, Simone; Shah, Jai; Iyer, Srividya N.; Mitchell, Claudia

Abstract: *Mental health stigma undermines life opportunities for many. Contact-based anti-stigma initiatives, such as professionally produced testimonials and user-generated digital stories created by individuals with no formal filmmaking experience, can improve attitudes toward mental illness, yet few studies have empirically tested their effectiveness. We hypothesized that user-generated digital stories would be more effective at reducing stigma than professional video testimonials. In this mixed-methods study (NCT04881084), university students (N = 198) were randomly assigned to either condition. Participants completed the Difference and Disdain Scales for Public Stigma and the Social Distance Scale before and after watching the assigned videos. Multilevel models for repeated measures showed social distance decreased in both groups ($t = 7.98$, $p < .001$), with no significant Video × Time interaction ($\chi^2 = 3.68$, $p = .055$). Difference/disdain did not change, but blame toward people with mental illness increased similarly over time ($t = 4.5$, $p < .001$). Both formats reduced mental health stigma but were associated with increased blame. Qualitative analyses will examine how each video format challenges or reinforces stigma. Beyond improving anti-stigma campaigns, these findings can inform initiatives that encourage the public to share recovery stories, fostering openness and reducing stigma.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125015 - Snapshot

Seeing, Feeling, Understanding: How Digital Mental Health Videos Shape Empathy

Main Presenting Author: Toche Mbah, Nurya Kamsu

Additional Authors: Raugh, Ian ; Benghazi Akhlaki, Miryame ; Burko, Hope ; Davies, Megan ; D'Amico, Simone; Mitchell, Claudia ; Shah, Jai; Iyer, Srividya N.; Ferrari, Manuela

Abstract: *Media often perpetuates negative stereotypes about mental health, portraying individuals as dangerous and fueling stigma. Empathy--understanding others' perspectives--can counter this by fostering connection. While media can reinforce stigma, it can also challenge it. With the rise of social media, videos whether professionally produced testimonials or digital stories created by people with lived experience, are increasingly used to raise mental health awareness. Both formats share personal perspectives and may reduce stigma by promoting understanding, yet their impact on empathy remains underexplored. This study used a mixed-methods sequential design, including a randomized clinical trial with 198 participants assigned to either the digital storytelling or testimonial videos condition. Empathy was measured before and after viewing videos using the Toronto Empathy Questionnaire. Repeated-measures ANOVAs showed a significant main effect of time on empathy ($t = 5.78$, $p < .001$), but no significant interaction between video type and time ($X^2 = 1.48$, $p = .224$). Qualitative analyses will explore mechanisms shaping empathic responses in each format. Findings suggest mental health videos can increase empathy, potentially reducing stigma and feelings of ostracization. Empathy helps people relate across differences, promoting inclusion for those with mental health challenges.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125016 - Snapshot

Selective Sex-Positivity: Men Using Sextech Elicit More Disgust than Do Women

Main Presenting Author: Williams, Madison E.

Additional Authors: Petruzzello, Gabriella ; O'Sullivan, Lucia F.

Abstract: *Background: The use of sextech, including sex toys and AI-powered companions, is becoming increasingly common among all genders, although it remains stigmatized. One factor that may contribute to this stigma is disgust, an emotional state linked to negative attitudes and stigmatization toward groups that violate social norms. Research has not yet examined whether disgust is implicated in sextech stigma. Addressing this gap, we investigated: 1) whether disgust ratings of sextech users differ based on their gender; and 2) whether disgust ratings vary as the sextech in use becomes more humanlike.Method: N=371 adults (49.0% men, Mage = 45.5) responded to a scale of sextech-related disgust, featuring items about men or women using varying forms of sextech that increased in humanlikeness. Results: An ANOVA revealed that men depicted using sextech elicited greater disgust ratings than did women. Disgust levels also increased as the tech depicted became more humanlike.Conclusions: This study finds evidence that men in particular, and users of more humanlike devices, are penalized for sextech use. Impact: These results have implications for the field of sextech and adoption of more sophisticated sexual surrogate forms. Findings advance insights around integration of technology and normalization of varied sexual behaviors as tech becomes increasingly incorporated into sex lives.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123800 - Snapshot

Show up, but don't take over: Psychological standing of advantaged group members to support versus lead anti-discrimination action

Main Presenting Author: Trickey, Jessica

Additional Authors: Bergsieker, Hilary B; Garg, Soumya

Abstract: *Calls to action against discrimination often emphasize that members of advantaged groups should act as allies, yet these individuals may feel that it is not their place to lead…or even participate. We theorize that one's psychological standing, defined as the perceived legitimacy one has to act on an issue (Sherf et al., 2017; Thai et al., 2021), depends on one's status on the issue and role in action. Members of disadvantaged groups prefer action from allies that is supportive and uplifting (Ostrove & Brown, 2018) rather than leading and dominating (Radke et al., 2022). Two experiments (N = 1,212) examined how perceived psychological standing, measured as appropriateness of a target taking action, varies based on their role. When advantaged or disadvantaged group status was implied via photos, everyone was seen as having similar standing to challenge a pay gap, but when group status was explicitly labeled, members of advantaged (vs. disadvantaged) groups were ascribed less standing, especially when taking a leading (vs. supporting) role against inequity. Moreover, the actions seen as especially appropriate for members of disadvantaged groups were on average also harder and riskier, compounding a disproportionate burden of action. Increasing allyship through psychological standing may then reduce this larger burden.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125405 - Snapshot

Social Reactions to Casual and Committed Relationship Dissolution: An Attachment Perspective

Main Presenting Author: Stanley-Blackwell, Ruthie

Additional Author: MacDonald, Tara

Abstract: *Social support is critical for recovery from major stressors, including breakups. It is unclear whether people offer support following casual relationship dissolutions, an increasingly popular yet understudied relationship type. I hypothesized participants would respond less supportively to casual compared to committed breakups across all outcomes (emotional reactions, Initial reactions, support recommendations, Timeline of support, and Minimizing attitudes). I also expected attachment orientation, especially attachment anxiety, to moderate these effects.MethodsParticipants (N = 818) were recruited on MTurk and randomly assigned to read a scenario describing a friend experiencing either a casual or committed breakup. They reported how they would respond and support their friend.ResultsMultiple regressions tested main effects and two-three-way interactions between relationship type, attachment anxiety and avoidance. Participants in the casual condition reported less supportive initial reactions, fewer support recommendations, and fewer minimizing attitudes compared to the committed condition. Relative to those low in anxiety and high in avoidance, individuals high in attachment anxiety showed more expected negative emotions, more supportive initial reactions, more support recommendations, a longer timeline of support, and fewer minimizing attitudes toward casual breakups.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124245 - Snapshot

The role of social media in reducing loneliness among adults with developmental disabilities

Main Presenting Author: Hodges, Amanda

Additional Authors: Stobbart, Jade S; Nolan, Hannah; Johnson, J Nathaniel

Abstract: *Research indicates that social media use (SMU) may enhance social connection among people with developmental disabilities (DD), which could mitigate their risk of loneliness associated with reduced social participation (SP). This study examines whether SMU moderates the relationship between SP and loneliness, and whether this is unique to individuals with DD. 117 adults (61 with DD) completed self-report measures of SMU, SP, and loneliness. Three hierarchical regression models with SP (predictor), SMU (moderator) and loneliness (outcome) were conducted: Model A (full sample), Model B (subsample without DD), and Model C (subsample with DD). In Model A, the negative association between SP and loneliness ($b = -1.1$, $p < .001$) was attenuated at higher levels of SMU ($b = -0.73$, $p = .024$). In Model B, neither SP, SMU, nor their interaction was significantly associated with loneliness. In Model C, SP ($b = -0.97$, $p < .001$) and SMU ($b = -0.74$, $p = .002$) were significantly associated with loneliness; however, their interaction was non-significant. A post-hoc exploratory model with DD group membership as a moderator between SMU and loneliness revealed that SMU was negatively associated with loneliness only among individuals with DD ($b = -1.57$, $p =$*

.001). Taken together, SMU appears to offer unique benefits to individuals with DDs, reducing their experience of loneliness.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125269 - Snapshot

Understanding Intimate Partner Violence in Sexual Minority Men: A Dyadic Examination of Minority Stress and Partner Maltreatment

Main Presenting Author: Morgan, Sean

Additional Author: Woodin, Erica

Abstract: *Intimate partner violence (IPV) among sexual minority men is understudied, especially compared to heterosexual populations. This study examines how minority stress contributes to IPV using dyadic data from 213 couples in the National Couples' Health and Time Study. We assessed distal (e.g., discrimination) and proximal (e.g., internalized homophobia, outness, concealment) minority stressors as predictors of IPV, including identity abuse, a violence form unique to 2S/LGBTQIA+ and other marginalized populations. Structural equation modeling and Actor-Partner Interdependence Models accounted for dyadic influences. Results revealed that proximal stressors - internalized homophobia (b=0.059, p=.027), outness (b=0.136, p=.020), and concealment (b=0.102, p=.008) - were linked to identity abuse perpetration. Distal stress experienced by partners predicted partner maltreatment (b=0.215, p=.002). This research highlights the need to address both individual and relational minority stress factors in IPV interventions. Inclusion of non-monosexual and diverse racial/ethnic participants enabled intersectional analysis, informing culturally responsive, affirming prevention strategies tailored to 2S/LGBTQIA+ experiences. Implications for research, clinical practice, and policy aimed at reducing IPV in sexual minority populations are discussed.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 124251 - Snapshot

Unveiling Bias: How Cybersex Crime Type, Victim Age, and Education Influence Juror Perceptions of Cybersex Crimes

Main Presenting Author: Engel, Katherine M.

Additional Author: Bruer, Kaila C.

Abstract: *As technology continues to advance and become more integrated into daily life, cybersex crimes are simultaneously rising. Negative views of cybersex victims are linked to a reduced reporting of these crimes; however, no research has explored how educational interventions impact these perceptions. This study examines how adults' perceptions of cybersex crime severity, victim credibility, and culpability vary by victim age (12, 15, 24) and the type of cybersex crime committed (digital exhibitionism, non-consensual distribution of intimate images), and whether exposure to educational materials alters those perceptions. Using mock trial transcripts and questionnaires, data were collected from adults (N=381; undergraduate students), and analyses are underway. Preliminary results indicate that crime type significantly affects perceived crime severity, $F(1, 369)=17.80$, $p < .001$, $\eta p^2=.046$, and victim culpability, $F(1, 369)=65.22$, $p < .001$, $\eta p^2=.150$, with significant crime type x victim age interactions for each outcome. Education does not appear to influence perceptions.*

This research is important as these adult perceptions likely reflect the larger community perceptions, including those who could be called to serve on a jury in criminal court. Uncovering the mechanisms behind this stigma may help support victims and empower them to report these crimes.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123838 - Snapshot

Where Masculinity Goes to Comment: Gender Conformity, Identity, and The Manosphere.

Main Presenting Author: Castelhano, Danielle
Co-Presenting Author: Erentzen, Caroline

Abstract: *Background: The Manosphere is a collection of online communities that praise traditional masculinity and critique feminism. The present research examined how participants' conformity to gender roles and gender identity affects their agreement with Manosphere content.Methods: Cisgender men and women completed measures of conformity to masculine/feminine gender norms, reference group identity, and agreement with Manosphere content (e.g., red pill ideology, pick-up artist).Results: Men who agreed with Manosphere content endorsed masculine norms of power over women, non-emotionality, winning, and connection with only a subset of men. Women who agreed with Manosphere content endorsed feminine norms prioritizing sexual purity, physical appearance, domesticity, relationships with men, and feeling unconnected to other women. Structural equation modelling revealed latent variables crossing gender norms and Manosphere content regarding male power over women, appropriate gendered lifestyle, and emotionality.Conclusion: Manosphere agreement was higher among men and women who endorsed certain gender norms, who also had more restrictive identification with their own gender group. Impact: These findings underscore the need for digital interventions targeting misinformation and gender inequality assumptions, as well as educational programs aimed at developing positive masculine identity.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124170 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

Advancing Global Mental Health: Supporting Study Abroad Training and Advocacy Initiatives in Clinical Psychology

Main Presenting Author: Collins-Jones, Teresa L.
Co-Presenting Author: Garrison, Lance L.

Abstract: *This presentation highlights an innovative peer-training model designed to empower young adults in Botswana to provide culturally responsive support for adolescents living with HIV. Drawing on a mentorship framework, doctoral students in clinical psychology are guided to move beyond traditional direct intervention and assessment by developing leadership skills and sustainable community partnerships. Attendees will learn how to cultivate mentoring relationships that prepare doctoral students to design and implement peer-led programs, with a focus on reducing stigma, fostering resilience, and enhancing adherence to treatment among HIV-positive teens. Aligned with the conference theme of teaching and promoting advocacy in doctoral training, this session underscores how training emerging psychologists to collaborate with local communities can expand*

the impact of psychological science and promote equitable care in resource-limited settings. Participants will gain practical strategies for mentoring, program evaluation, and adapting evidence-based interventions to diverse cultural contexts.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126420 - Standard Workshop

Decoding the unwritten rules of academia: A workshop for current and prospective graduate students

Main Presenting Author: Monson, Eva

Additional Authors: Scheurich, Rebecca ; Genois, Rosalie; Bergeron, Alex-Anne; Lehmann, Katerine

Abstract: *Entering graduate studies often means stepping into research environments where expectations, norms, and pathways to success are not always clearly communicated. Many students - especially those new to research - struggle to understand how to join a research team, what supervisors are looking for, and how to navigate feedback, authorship, and lab dynamics. This workshop will explore the "untold" rules of academia that shape students' early research experiences, highlighting the factors that influence how newcomers integrate into research settings and develop confidence in their roles.Participants will reflect on and discuss the challenges that arise when joining a new research team, including understanding team culture, identifying the right fit, and building effective relationships with supervisors and peers. Discussion will also address strategies for becoming an asset within a research group, ways to cultivate professional networks, and tools that support enjoyable and productive research involvement. A series of applied examples and scenarios will guide learning and conversation throughout the session.*

Section: *Psychology Careers and Professionals*
Session ID: 123761 - Standard Workshop

The Culture Gap: Why Rapport Breaks and How to Repair It

Main Presenting Author: Adel, Adibba
Co-Presenting Authors: Radaei, Rashin; Sharafaddin-zadeh, Yekta

Abstract: *More than ever, culture sits with us in the clinical room, not only given Canada's multicultural mosaic, but also with the rise of immigrant and refugee communities. Yet many clinicians struggle to navigate cultural differences in healing, distress, and rapport. This workshop explores how collectivistic vs. individualistic worldviews shape pathways to healing, family dynamics, somatization, and expectations of care. Using clinical vignettes and multimedia examples, we examine when cultural practices risk being pathologized and when harmful norms may be overlooked in the name of cultural relativism. Through this workshop, we discuss acculturation challenges, culturally shaped expressions of distress and rapport building, and the use of standardized tools in clinical settings. Designed for clinicians, trainees, and students, the session aims to equip attendees with practical strategies for navigating cultural miscommunication, family hierarchy, stigma, and cultural identity conflict. We acknowledge the potential risks in engaging with cultural material, including unintentionally reinforcing stereotypes or causing emotional distress.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123437 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

"Managing" Diversity in Pluralistic Societies: Ideological perspectives toward intercultural relations in Canada

Moderator(s): Scott, Colin

Abstract: *Opinions and policies focused on managing intercultural relations are an important cleavage issue in culturally diverse societies. This symposium takes stock of the psychological research on intercultural ideologies in Canada and presents new approaches to examining well-known concepts such as multiculturalism and interculturalism. To situate the research, the symposium begins with an overview of the psychologically-informed scholarship on interethnic ideologies, discussing concepts of multiculturalism and assimilation alongside emerging and alternative frameworks and relating them to the Canadian context. The second study examines the concept of multicultural ideology among Canadian youth in more detail. Recent survey data is used to highlight the multidimensional nature of multiculturalism and its relationship to intercultural attitudes and policy preferences among young Canadians. In a final study, we turn to Quebec to examine public support for interculturalism as a pluralistic alternative to multiculturalism, and examine its relationship to different hierarchy-enhancing or hierarchy-attenuating ideologies, national identity, and secular values.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125784 - Symposium

Multicultural Ideology in Canada: Validation of the MCI-r and Its Relations with Intercultural Understanding

Main Presenting Author: Safdar, Saba

Additional Author: Mahali, Saghar Cahar

Abstract: *An international initiative was undertaken to examine the factorial structure of the revised Multicultural Ideology Scale (MCI-r) and validate it across diverse national contexts. As part of this effort, two Canadian samples, primarily undergraduate psychology students, were recruited: 485 participants (Mage = 20.28, SD = 3.22, range = 18-66) and 361 participants (Mage = 25.35, SD = 10.52, range = 18-74). Confirmatory factor analyses supported a four-factor structure comprising Cultural Maintenance, Equity/Inclusion, Social Interaction, and Consequences of Diversity. The study further examined the relationships between the MCI-r components and other constructs relevant to intercultural understanding, including Colour-Blind Racial Attitudes, Multicultural Policies and Practices, and components of the Normative Multiculturalism Scale (Contact, Ideology, Policies). Overall, the findings provide evidence for the reliability and validity of the MCI-r in Canadian contexts and highlight the multidimensional nature of multicultural ideology and its associations with intercultural attitudes and policies.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125823 - Paper within a symposium

Patterns of Support for Interculturalism, Multiculturalism, and Assimilation in Quebec: A Cluster Analytic Approach

Main Presenting Author: Mahali, Saghar Cahar

Additional Author: Safdar, Saba

Abstract: *Quebec manages diversity differently from the rest of Canada, adopting interculturalism instead of multiculturalism. Interculturalism asserts Quebec's prominence in politics and identity and rejects viewing Francophone Canadians as just one ethnic group among many-a critique often applied to multiculturalism. It is an integration approach that prioritizes Quebec's distinct national identity, within which secularism and the French language are key elements.Recently, we developed and validated a new scale to measure public support for interculturalism policy in Quebec. The scale comprises four components: Interactions and Shared Culture, Integration, Support for Accommodation of Cultural and Religious Requests, and the French Language. A community sample of 456 Quebec-born residents (Mage = 54.90, SD = 16.93; range = 19-90) was recruited through Leger Opinion. Support for interculturalism (and its four components), multiculturalism, assimilation, secularism, and Quebec identification were included in a cluster analysis to identify distinct profiles based on levels of endorsement.The findings will provide a clearer understanding of how interculturalism is perceived within the Quebec context and help clarify its role in promoting immigrant integration and strengthening intergroup relations in the province.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125825 - Paper within a symposium

Psychological Approaches to Interethnic Ideologies

Main Presenting Author: Berry, John W.

Abstract: *A fundamental question in all contemporary societies is how to understand and manage cultural and ethnic diversity in order to achieve positive mutual intercultural relations, personal wellbeing and the inclusion of all individuals and groups into the larger society. This issue has come to the fore in recent years, where policies devoted to promote the value of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in plural societies generally have been advanced in many countries. In many public institutions, particularly in universities, such policies have been proposed and advocated, but have also been attacked. In response to these attacks, DEI initiatives have been promoted and defended by psychologists, using conceptual analysis and empirical findings. This paper presents an overview of psychological research on many interethnic ideologies, such as: assimilation/ melting pot, integration/multiculturalism, separation/segregation, marginalisation/exclusion, colorblindness, polyculturalism, omniculturalism and interculturalism. It places current Canadian policies in this broad context.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125822 - Paper within a symposium

Attitudes, Discrimination, and Policy: Factors Shaping Ethnic Minority and Immigrant Experiences

Moderator(s): Gaikwad, Nikita

Abstract: *In this International and Cross-Cultural Psychology section symposium, three presenters will share their quantitative research on how individual factors, social contexts, and policy shape the experiences of immigrants and ethnic minorities. The first study examines how experiences of discrimination moderate the relationship between ethnic identity and psychological well-being among White and ethnic minority individuals in Canada and the United States. The second study uses network analysis with undergraduate students and community members to map the interrelationships among national identity, multicultural ideology, ethnic identity, heritage language, and acculturation attitudes in Canada. The third study analyzes a cross-national data set of 17 countries to investigate how inclusive national climates influence gender ideology and support for gender equality among newcomers, with particular attention to Muslim populations. Together, these presentations highlight the interplay of psychological, cultural, and structural factors in shaping immigrant and ethnic minority experiences, offering insights into acculturation research, intervention design, and policy development.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126202 - Symposium

Host Societies' Attitudes Towards Diversity: Implications for Gender Ideologies and Support for Gender Equality Among Muslim Migrants

Main Presenting Author: Soltan, Hajar

Additional Authors: Kosakowska-Berezecka, Natasza ; Sawicki, Artur; Safdar, Saba

Abstract: *Using data from 16,500 participants across 17 countries, this study examines whether more inclusive national climates are associated with more egalitarian gender ideologies and stronger support for gender equality. We also assess whether these associations vary by migration background and religious affiliation, with particular attention to Muslims, who are frequently centered in debates about gender norms and belonging. Inclusivity was measured using the Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX), which evaluates national policies across eight domains.Higher composite MIPEX scores were associated with lower endorsement of hostile and benevolent sexism. Among Muslims, greater inclusivity corresponded with sharper declines in hostile sexism and stronger support for gender equality relative to non-Muslims.At the domain level, more inclusive policies in political participation, healthcare access, family reunification, and pathways to permanent residency were tied to lower sexism and higher support for gender equality. Muslims and first-generation migrants showed the largest attitudinal shifts as MIPEX scores increased. Overall, the findings suggest that inclusive national policy frameworks shape migrants' gender-related beliefs, particularly for groups navigating both migration pressures and sustained public scrutiny.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126248 - Paper within a symposium

Identity Under Threat: How Discrimination Shapes Well-Being Among Ethnic Minoritiesand Majorities

Main Presenting Author: Hashem, Nouran

Additional Authors: Raitman, Michelle ; Nadkarni, Shruti; Safdar, Saba

Abstract: *In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, issues of identity, exclusion, and discriminationhave gained renewed urgency across North America. Building on prior research examiningimmigrant*

blaming during the pandemic, this secondary analysis examines how experiences ofdiscrimination moderate the relationship between ethnic identity and psychological well-beingacross ethnic majority and minority populations in Canada and the United States. Participants (N= 814; Mage = 43.48, SDage = 13.23) were categorized into four groups based on self-identifiedethnicity (White vs. racial minority) and country (Canada vs. USA). A series of moderationanalyses were conducted for each group to explore whether the strength of the ethnicidentity-well-being relationship differed depending on reported discrimination. This comparativedesign offers insight into how identity and perceived discrimination operate within differentnational frameworks. Findings have potential implications for cross-cultural psychologicalresearch and equity-focused interventions.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126235 - Paper within a symposium

Mapping acculturation: A network approach revealing the correlates of acculturation attitudes in newcomers

Main Presenting Author: Mosi, Julia M.

Additional Authors: Johnson, Nathaniel J.; Lou, Nigel Mantou; Kil, Hali

Abstract: *Acculturation attitudes are thought to play an important role in shaping the psychological and sociocultural outcomes of newcomers. However, no study to date has mapped the complex patterns and unique interrelationships among demographic, psychological, and contextual factors that may link to the acculturation attitudes in a simultaneous, parsimonious model. In this study, we used network analysis to address this gap. Canadian undergraduate students and adults from the community (N = 831; Mage = 22.71; SDage = 7.87; 64% female) answered questions from the Mutual Intercultural Relations In Plural Societies (MIRIPS) questionnaire. Network modelling showed that Canadian identity and multicultural ideology scores were most strongly associated with assimilation, followed by integration, while ethnic identity and heritage language ability scores were most strongly associated with separation. Contrary to expectations,psychological health and acculturation attitudes were weakly associated, suggesting that other well-being factors may be more central to the model. Our findings largely support Berry's acculturation model, showing that factors such as Canadian identity, ethnic identity, and language ability strongly relate to certain acculturation attitudes. However, some previously established correlates (e.g., income) warrant renewed examination.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126243 - Paper within a symposium

Coping, Connection, and Cultural Adaptation: Multilevel Perspectives on Intercultural Adjustment

Moderator(s): Stora, Lisa

Abstract: *In this International and Cross-Cultural Psychology section symposium, three presenters will share empirical research examining how people adapt to and navigate the challenges of new cultural environments. The first presentation examines coping processes among expatriates and repatriates in China, exploring how perceived stress and distinct coping strategies relate to psychological adaptation. The second presentation advances the Multidimensional Individual*

Difference Acculturation model by investigating the adjustment of Iranian and Syrian immigrants in Canada. This study tests how religious-spiritual orientation serves as a key cultural resource shaping the relationships between stress, psychosocial resources, and adaptation outcomes. The final presentation analyzes experiences of individuals in cross-cultural relationships, identifying themes about how they manage cultural differences and benefit from diverse interpersonal networks. Together, these presentations highlight multilevel pathways through which individual, cultural, and relational factors influence adaptation, coping, and meaningful connection in culturally diverse contexts.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123734 - Symposium

Living Within and Adapting to Culturally-Diverse Social Landscapes: A Qualitative Study of Experiences in Cross-Cultural Relationships

Main Presenting Author: Voloshyn, Anastasiya

Additional Authors: Segalowitz, Norman ; Ryder, Andrew G.

Abstract: *Relationships that bridge cultural, religious, and linguistic divides are increasingly common in countries with large proportions of migrants such as Canada. While relationships outside of one's own cultural community come with a host of advantages such as access to diverse sources of support, and exposure to novel ways of perceiving and interacting with the world, they can also represent a significant interpersonal challenge. This study aimed to describe interpersonal experiences within cross-cultural relationships, specifically the ways in which participants navigate these relationships and their impact on them as individuals. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 16 participants and a thematic analysis was performed. Five themes were identified: self-expansion, forming and maintaining bonds regardless of difference, cultural differences as a relationship stressor creating closeness or distance, the role of individual traits and values, and increased awareness of culture. Our results indicate that diverse social networks are sources of challenges and opportunities beyond what is observed in same-culture relationships, broadening our understanding of what cultural diversity means for the individuals who decide to engage with it, how their relationships are shaped by it, and how we can learn to navigate and benefit from our differences.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126097 - Paper within a symposium

Navigating New Horizons: A Multigroup MIDA Model Analysis of Religious-Spiritual Orientation in Immigrant Adaptation

Main Presenting Author: Raitman, Michelle

Additional Authors: Martey, Brianna ; Pour Iliaei, Sadaf; Shamim, Asma; Ferrari, Michel; Safdar, Saba

Abstract: *Between 2016 and 2019, more than 1.3 million immigrants arrived in Canada, highlighting the importance of understanding how newcomers adapt within unfamiliar cultural contexts. This study examines psychological and sociocultural adaptation among 200 Iranian immigrants (81 men, 119 women; Mage = 32.74) and 195 Syrian immigrants (92 men, 102 women; Mage = 36.76), extending the Multidimensional Individual Difference Acculturation (MIDA) model by incorporating religious-*

spiritual orientation (RSO) as a key factor in the adjustment process. Guided by prior literature, we hypothesize that RSO will positively mediate the association between hassles and psychological distress, functioning as a protective faith-based coping mechanism. In addition, we propose that RSO will moderate the relationship between psychological resources and sociocultural adaptation, such that higher RSO strengthens this effect at low-to-moderate levels but may attenuate it at higher levels. A multigroup framework will be used to assess whether these pathways operate similarly or differently across Iranian and Syrian participants. Collectively, this work aims to clarify how psychosocial resources, stressors, and religious-spiritual orientations jointly shape newcomer adjustment, offering implications for community-based interventions that foster integration, belonging, and well-being in Canada.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126082 - Paper within a symposium

Stress, Coping, and Psychological Adaptation Among Global Talents in China: A Three-Wave Longitudinal Study

Main Presenting Author: Ge, Yang (Nano)

Additional Authors: English, Alexander Scott; Safdar, Saba

Abstract: *As China continues to attract global talent, expatriates and repatriates face different challenges when adapting to work and life in the local environment. Using three-wave data from 100 expatriates and 110 repatriates, this study examined how perceived stress and coping strategies related to psychological adaptation. Coping strategies consisted of primary coping, which refers to efforts to directly change or manage stressful situations, and secondary coping, which involves adjusting oneself through acceptance or reframing. Across both groups, higher perceived stress was related to lower psychological adaptation. Primary coping showed a buffering pattern in the stress-adaptation relationship for both groups. However, secondary coping showed a different pattern, relating to better adaptation in repatriates but showing no significant association in expatriates. These findings highlight both shared and group-specific patterns of adaptation among global talents living in the same cultural setting. While expatriates and repatriates experienced stress in similar ways and showed the same buffering effect of primary coping, only repatriates benefited from secondary coping. These results offer a more detailed understanding of adaptation processes in China and point to the importance of considering group differences when supporting global talents.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126067 - Paper within a symposium

Cultural Pathways to Well-Being: Insights From Sexual Behavior, Gender Norms, and Parent-Child Communication

Moderator(s): Wei, Claire Zijiao

Abstract: *This symposium examines how culture shapes key pathways to well-being through sexual frequency, gender norms, and parent-child communication. Although culture is recognized as central to psychological functioning, empirical work often treats well-being processes as universal. Our three presentations offer novel evidence that everyday social behaviors are deeply culturally patterned and have distinct implications for psychological health. Using data from 20 countries, the first study applies multilevel modeling to identify culturally varying "optimal" sexual frequencies for well-being*

and shows gendered patterns across countries. The second presentation introduces cultural consensus methodology, demonstrating how emic, mixed-methods approaches reveal culturally shared and contested gender norms in Brasília and Montréal. The third study uses cross-cultural survey and mediation analyses to show that Chinese and Canadian parents differ in verbal and nonverbal apology practices, with consequences for forgiveness and relational closeness. Together, these papers highlight diverse methodological approaches and converge on the conclusion that culturally shaped norms and communication patterns play a critical role in well-being.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126056 - Symposium

Applying cultural consensus methodology to psychological questions: A demonstration from the study of gender norms and well-being in Brasília and Montréal

Main Presenting Author: Ryder, Andrew
Co-Presenting Author: Borges Da Fonseca, Mariana

Additional Author: Zanello, Valeska

Abstract: *There is a growing database in cultural-clinical psychology documenting how culture shapes well-being. Oftentimes, this shaping is driven by cultural group differences in consensually-held beliefs, yet the field lacks a widely-accepted method for studying these beliefs in an emic (bottom-up) manner. Cultural consensus methodology (CCM), developed by cognitive anthropologists, offers one solution through a mixed-methods approach that facilitates open-ended exploration of beliefs while also statistically evaluating degree of consensus. Here, we demonstrate CCM in a cross-cultural study of gender norms. In phase 1, we use free listing to study beliefs prevalent in the local cultural community reported by participant-informants in Brasília (n=35) and Montréal (n=39). Using a criterion of frequency > 10% and/or Smith's S > .05, we selected terms for phase 2, a pile-sorting task administered to new samples in the same two settings (n=20 per city), with results analyzed using multidimensional scaling and hierarchical cluster analysis. Participants were asked to 'think out loud' while sorting cards into piles; transcripts were studied with content analysis. These results were used to develop questionnaires for phase 3, administered in Brasília (n=50) and Montréal (n=50). Results were subjected to cultural consensus analysis, a factor-analytic method that rotates the matrix to focus on*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126294 - Paper within a symposium

From Words to Food - A Cross-Cultural Study of Parental Apologies and Forgiveness

Main Presenting Author: Wei, Claire Zijiao

Additional Authors: Robertson, Molly ; Geng, WeiCong; Ji, Li-Jun

Abstract: *Although apologies are widely recognized as a tool for repairing relationships, little is known about how parents apologize to their children, especially across cultural contexts. We examined whether and how Chinese and Canadian parents apologize to their children after a wrongdoing, focusing on verbal vs. nonverbal apologies. Across two studies involving children and parents, we found that Canadian parents overall offered verbal apologies more often than Chinese parents in real life. Consistently, Canadian children and parents anticipated a higher likelihood of*

verbal apologies in hypothetical situations requiring a parental apology, compared to their Chinese counterparts. In contrast, Chinese children anticipated more non-verbal apologies and no apology than Canadians. We also found that verbal apologies were associated with high forgiveness and increased closeness in both cultures, whereas non-verbal apologies produced greater forgiveness and larger gains in closeness among Chinese than among Canadians. Mediation analyses revealed that high-context communication and filial piety mediated Chinese children's greater forgiveness of non-verbal apologies. Our findings highlight the importance of cultural context on the meaning and impact of apologies in parent-child relationships and advance our understanding of communication and conflict resolution patterns on family well-being.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126322 - Paper within a symposium

Optimal Sexual Frequency Around the World: How Much Is Best for Well-Being, and Does It Vary by Country?

Main Presenting Author: Guo, YangYilin

Additional Authors: Dawson, Samantha ; Ou, Christine; Amarakoon, Anuki ; Heine, Steven J

Abstract: *It has been found that having sex more frequently is not always related to greater well-being among Americans, but is this phenomenon present across the globe? To address this gap, our study examined how sexual frequency was related to psychological well-being in a sample of 4933 adults (mean age = 39.42; 59.36% female), equally distributed across 20 countries and regions around the world. Our findings from quadratic multilevel modeling showed that, within nations, increased sexual frequency was positively correlated with well-being up to a specific point, after which benefits started decreasing. This turning point represents the optimal sexual frequency that is associated with the greatest well-being, and our results suggested that the optimal sexual frequency varied across cultures. Additionally, this pattern seemed to vary across genders, such that men's optimal sexual frequency was consistently higher than women's across the globe, and was absent among people who do not live with a romantic partner. Our findings highlight the important role of cultural influences on sexual well-being and advance our understanding of how sexual frequency can optimally contribute to psychological well-being across cultures.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126289 - Paper within a symposium

Did the students learn? Experiences of teaching and learning cross-cultural psychology in a field school in Japan

Abstract: *Positive outcomes of experiential learning are well documented (Burch et al. 2019). The purpose of this symposium is to share the positive experience of Japanese and Canadian instructors as well as their students when they participated in a field school to teach and learn cross-cultural psychology. In May 2025, Canadian instructors and students left Canada for Japan and met their Japanese counterparts of an instructor and students. The first presenter, a Canadian instructor, will describe the itinerary in Japan, and how each learning outcome (LO) was achieved. The second presenter, a Canadian student, will discuss her analysis of the results of the Canadian students' interviews with the Japanese students on various topics such as student life, culture, religions, marriage, work, and interpersonal stressors. The third presenter, a Japanese instructor, will present her account of facilitating a workshop on calligraphy to the participants. In addition, she will discuss*

different communication styles observed between the Japanese and Canadian students. Each paper will be discussed considering contemporary literature on college students' cross-cultural experience (e.g., Wickline, Wise, & Aggarwal, 2021). The symposium will end with some suggestions on how to improve our teaching and learning, should we have another chance to organize such an international field school.

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125378 - Symposium

Empowering families: How parents' autonomy support, gratitude, and responses to racial bullying are linked with flourishing in themselves and their children

Moderator(s): Johnson, Nathaniel J.

Abstract: *Parents are central to family flourishing. Parents' behaviours not only influence their own well-being, but also the well-being and optimal development of their children - the next generation of society. Everyone would like to be a perfect caregiver, and parents are inundated with mixed messaging about the best parenting practices. So, how can parents help their families, including themselves, flourish? This symposium will provide empirically-based insights into parents' autonomy support, gratitude, and responses to racial bullying, and explain how these behaviours may support both parents and their children. Our first presentation explores autonomy supportive parenting, suggesting that both heightened autonomy support and reduced controlling parenting may support children's autonomy and mental health. Our second presentation examines parents' feelings of daily gratitude and explains that being grateful might be particularly important on tough, emotionally taxing days. Our final presentation discusses Asian Canadian parents' perceptions of racial bullying in schools and its impact on their children's mental health, with recommendations for how parents can navigate these bullying situations.By highlighting our evidence-based results on parenting behaviours and perceptions, our symposium aims to help parents and children thrive, thereby building stronger and healthier families.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 122392 - Symposium

East Asian parents' perspectives on racial bullying in schools: A design thinking approach to developing a parent focused knowledge translation tool

Main Presenting Author: Ahn, Byunghoon (Tony)

Additional Authors: Balic, Adrianna ; Poisson, Marie; Do, Elisa; Lou, Nigel

Abstract: *East-Asian children in Canada frequently face racial bullying at school, which is linked to emotional distress and poorer mental health for students and families. Parents often feel unprepared to respond and to navigate school systems, which points to a need for accessible, culturally responsive learning resources. This project uses qualitative interviews with East Asian parents in British Columbia as the foundation for a design thinking approach to developing a parent focused knowledge translation tool on racial bullying in schools. Semi structured interviews with 11 parents were analyzed using a team-based qualitative approach to examine how they recognize racial bullying, understand its impacts on family well-being, and seek or avoid support from schools and communities. We then synthesized these accounts into empathy maps and parent personas that represent key constellations of needs, beliefs, and constraints, and developed narrative scenarios that describe both*

current challenges and desired forms of support. Finally, we interpreted these design artefacts in light of social cognitive models of racism related stress and work on racial microaggressions to identify priorities for the content, tone, and delivery of an educational tool intended to support Asian Canadian families' mental health in the context of school-based racial bullying.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 124665 - Paper within a symposium

Profiles of autonomy support and controlling parenting: Mixing the two predicts lower child-perceived autonomy support

Main Presenting Author: Ahn, Jiseul S.

Additional Authors: Kil, Hali ; Ratelle, Catherine F. ; Mageau, A. Geneviéve

Abstract: *Despite strong evidence that autonomy-supportive parenting fosters optimal development while controlling parenting undermines it, little is known about how parents combine these behaviours in real life. This study identified naturally occurring profiles of parenting behaviours among 3,843 Canadian parents (68% mothers; Mage=41), pooled from six datasets. A latent profile analysis revealed four subgroups: Autonomy-Supportive (17%), Overinvolved (24%), Average (38%), and Uninvolved (21%). Except for a small group (17%), showing predominance in autonomy support, most parents engaged in similar degrees of autonomy support and control. Children of autonomy-supportive parents perceived greater parental autonomy support, showed higher school grades and fewer externalizing problems. Higher-educated, higher-income, and less ego-involved parents were more likely to be autonomy-supportive, whereas those with a child-contingent self-worth tended to be more controlling. Notably, when controlling parenting is present, parents and children greatly differed in their assessments of autonomy support, with children perceiving less autonomy support than parents' self-reports. Findings highlight that mixing control with autonomy support undermines children's autonomy and suggest that parent interventions should simultaneously foster autonomy-supportive skills and reduce controlling practices.*

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123690 - Paper within a symposium

The conditional benefits of parental gratitude: Daily gratitude only predicts greater day-to-day family satisfaction on difficult days

Main Presenting Author: Johnson, Nathaniel J.

Additional Authors: Burik, Anastasiia ; Nelson-Coffey, Katherine; Kil, Hali

Abstract: *Promoting parents' well-being is essential, as adaptive parental functioning supports children's positive development and family cohesion. A parent's satisfaction with their family life is a crucial determinant of their well-being, and therefore, it is important to identify factors that may foster family satisfaction. Previous research suggests that parental gratitude may be one such factor. However, less is known about how daily gratitude is linked to family satisfaction amidst the emotional ups and downs of day-to-day family life. To address this gap, we employed a daily diary design with a community sample of Canadian parents (N = 176; Mage = 38.26 years, SD = 5.51; 83.5% mothers) to determine whether the link between daily gratitude was moderated by daily positive and negative*

emotions. Multilevel modeling addressed the nested structure of our data (i.e., days within individuals). We found that daily gratitude was only linked to greater family satisfaction on rough days, characterized by low positive emotions (b = 0.06, p = .008) and high negative emotions (b = 0.05, p = .020). Our findings highlight gratitude as a protective, context-sensitive resource that matters most when parents experience particularly negative emotions or low positive emotions. Thus, parenting programs may benefit from implementing gratitude practices during particularly difficult periods.

Section: *Family Psychology*
Session ID: 123692 - Paper within a symposium

Experiences of Jewish Canadians in the Aftermath of the Oct. 7th Attacks: A symposium

Moderator(s): Comeau, Thea

Abstract: *Collective trauma refers to harm, both psychological and emotional, which can arise for a group of individuals when impacted by a substantial, traumatic event. These harms can arise for members of the group, even if they were not directly impacted by the traumatic event. The Oct. 7th Attacks in Israel represented such an event for Jewish Canadians. In the aftermath of the attacks, Jewish Canadians have faced several stressors, not the least of which is increased antisemitism. The first paper on this panel will discuss the impacts of this increase in antisemitism on Jewish faculty members at Canadian Universities. Subsequently, two papers will explore the intersection between positive and negative outcomes reported by Jewish Canadians following the attacks. The first of these will explore the relationships between posttraumatic growth, posttraumatic depreciation, and personal values for Jewish Canadians in the time since the Attacks. The second paper will explore the impacts of the Attacks on Jewish Canadians' personal values, and related values-congruent behaviour. This panel will shed light on the suffering and growth of Jewish Canadians in the context of an extremely contentious period in time, and highlight how distant events can have direct effects in the Canadian context.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 126065 - Symposium

"It's [academia] rotten to the core": Mental Health Impacts of Campus Antisemitism on Canadian Faculty

Main Presenting Author: Strauss, Dana

Abstract: *Background: Growing antisemitism in Canadian universities following the October 7th, 2023 attack in Israel has fostered a hostile environment for Jewish and allied academics and illuminated nation-wide institutional failures to address campus antisemitism. Institutional betrayal is positively correlated with poor mental health outcomes, such as post-traumatic stress symptoms, depressive symptoms, and anxiety (e.g., Hannan et al., 2021; Lee et al., 2021). This research seeks to examine experiences with campus antisemitism and institutional betrayal among Canadian faculty and possible resulting mental health impacts. Methodology: Standardized semi-structured interviews assessing experiences with campus antisemitism were conducted for Jewish and non-Jewish faculty (N = 53) at Canadian universities. The data was analyzed using inductive thematic analysis. Results: Preliminary results from 14 interviews demonstrated the detrimental impact of campus antisemitism for both Jewish and non-Jewish faculty. Institutional betrayal was identified as a key theme*

contributing significantly to negative mental health outcomes. Full results will be presented at the conference. Conclusion/Impact: Antisemitism on Canadian campuses is serious problem. It is associated with negative mental health outcomes for faculty, and institutional betrayal plays a significant role in the harm caused.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 126073 - Paper within a symposium

Exploring the intersection between posttraumatic growth, depreciation, and personal values in the aftermath of the Oct. 7th Attacks

Main Presenting Author: Golsof, Shoshana
Co-Presenting Author: Comeau, Thea

Additional Authors: Taikh, Alexander ; Marjanovic, Zdravko

Abstract: *The attacks on October 7, 2023 in Israel were a collective trauma which impacted Jewish individuals worldwide. Jewish people outside Israel have reported negative mental health outcomes following this collective trauma. Given these traumatic outcomes, it is also possible that these individuals may experience posttraumatic growth. The current study explored the values endorsed by Jewish Canadians following the Oct. 7th attacks, their posttraumatic growth and depreciation, and the relationships between these phenomena. 91 participants completed the Posttraumatic Growth Inventory (PTGI-42) and the Schwartz Values Survey. Correlational and multiple regression analyses were completed. Results indicate that posttraumatic growth and posttraumatic depreciation were significantly positively correlated ($r(89) = .350$, $p = .001$). Results of regression analyses suggest that self-transcendent values significantly predicted posttraumatic growth ($b = 7.24$, $SE = 3.40$, $p = .037$) and self-enhancement values significantly predicted posttraumatic deprecation. ($b = 6.27$, $SE = 2.64$, $p = .021$). This suggests that the values which emerge after trauma may impact post-trauma trajectories. It may be important to directly explore and support adaptive values processes in individuals coping with the aftermath of collective trauma.*

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 126076 - Paper within a symposium

Values Change and Enactment in the Aftermath of the Oct. 7th Attacks: Hearing Jewish Canadian Voices

Main Presenting Author: Comeau, Thea

Additional Authors: Golsof, Shoshana ; Taikh, Alexander; Marjanovic, Zdravko

Abstract: *When individuals face collective trauma, such as the Oct. 7th, 2023 attacks in Israel, they report a multitude of impacts. While many report suffering after these attacks, some Jewish individuals may also report posttraumatic growth. Posttraumatic growth can manifest in multiple forms including changes in one's relationship to self, others, and their personal values. When individuals report positive changes in their personal values, these changes can impact their behaviour in various domains including political and altruistic behaviours. The current study employed thematic analysis to analyze the responses to an online, qualitative survey exploring the changes in values reported by Jewish Canadians following the Oct. 7th attacks in Israel. Participants were queried about the nature of values changes they experienced, which values were impacted by the attacks, changes in values*

congruent behaviour, changes in political values/actions, and changes in altruistic behaviour as a result of the attacks. 62 Jewish Canadians completed the qualitative survey. In initial analyses, participants reported increases in values such security, community, peace, and prosocial values. They described alienation and confusion in political spaces, and subsequent changes in political engagement. Participants described increased participation in activism and charitable giving. Analysis is on-going.

Section: *Traumatic Stress*
Session ID: 126080 - Paper within a symposium

Gendered Processes Online and Offline: Visibility, Reflection, and Feminist Perspectives

Moderator(s): Taylor, Kimberly

Abstract: *Social media platforms have become pivotal in rendering visible the often invisible gendered processes that structure daily life. This symposium explores how gendered experiences are reflected, amplified, and contested in digital spaces. Drawing from feminist perspectives and lived experiences, the presentations will examine the ways social media exposes and shapes gendered labor, maternal identities, and cognitive performance. Ava Buxton investigates the invisible emotional and domestic labour shouldered disproportionately by women. It highlights how social media can serve as a tool for visibility and feminist mobilization, challenging traditional gender roles and advocating for equitable distribution of care work. Kimberly Taylor explores mothers' experiences with online discussion boards. It analyzes how different motivations for engagement can actually increase confidence among new mothers, and how their information seeking motivation for using 'mommy boards' replicates patterns of information seeking IRL (in real life). Téa Schlegel addresses the cognitive consequences of self-objectification, a phenomenon exacerbated by social media. It discusses how constant exposure to objectifying content impacts women's performance in academic and professional settings, and the broader implications for gender equality.Together, these presentations offer a multifaceted view of how social media reflects and influences gendered processes, providing insights into both the challenges and opportunities for women in the digital age.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125246 - Symposium

AI and Human Influencers' Impact on Women's Self-Objectification and Cognitive Performance

Main Presenting Author: Schlegel, Téa

Abstract: *Body image research has long established that traditional media (i.e., magazine, television, and movies) presents a sexualized, idealized portrayal of the female body. Through experimental research, traditional media exposure has shown to result in deleterious behavioural and cognitive consequences, including: pathological eating, body dissatisfaction, cosmetic surgery consideration, and reduced cognitive performance. Self-objectification theory, a guiding feminist sociocultural framework, suggests that women are socialized to view themselves as an object to be viewed and evaluated by others, namely men. Through various socialization agents, women learn to adapt a third-person perspective of their bodies, thereby shifting attention from their internal states, to their observable characteristics. Self-objectification is understood as both a trait and a state, with most experimental research manipulating "in the moment" objectification, or state objectification. However, recent research has examined the compounding effects of objectification, with a focus on*

trait self-objectification, and how it acts as a moderator to objectifying circumstances. Social media and traditional media are uniquely dissimilar, with social media having a ubiquitous cultural presence, being easily-accessible, and user-generated. Highly visual social networking sites, namely Instagram, Snapchat, and TikT

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125815 - Paper within a symposium

Men's Portrayals of Emotion Work on TikTok: A Postfeminist Thematic Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Buxton, Ava

Abstract: *Emotion work, the often invisible labour of managing one's own or others' emotions, is a central yet underrecognized component of domestic life, disproportionately performed by women. While previous research has explored women's experiences, men's roles, perceptions, and contributions remain underexamined. This study examines how male-identifying TikTok content creators construct and represent emotion work within their households and romantic relationships. I am analyzing TikToks under hashtags such as #emotionallabour and #mentalload using a reflexive thematic analysis with a post-feminist sensibility. As this study is ongoing as part of my honours thesis, the research is still in progress, but it is expected to offer rich insights. TikTok provides a unique lens to capture authentic narratives about emotion work, offering insights that traditional methods like surveys or interviews may miss. This study contributes to understanding how emotion work is socially constructed and performed in contemporary digital spaces, highlighting the interplay between gender ideology and domestic labour. By concentrating on male perspectives, it addresses a critical gap in the literature and may suggest practical implications for interventions promoting equitable domestic responsibilities.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125758 - Paper within a symposium

Mommy on Board! Investigating Motivations for Use of Discussion Boards on Maternal Confidence

Main Presenting Author: Taylor, Kimberly

Abstract: *Social media is a feature of modern parenting, yet research on its use and effects among mothers remains limited, even as it is hotly debated in mainstream media. Online discussion boards for mothers are pejoratively labeled as 'mommy boards' and generally painted in a negative light as a space for mothers to bully each other and whine. Drawing on an expanded Uses and Gratifications framework this study investigates how two different motivations for engaging with these platforms, information seeking and emotional reassurance, relate to maternal confidence and satisfaction with the discussion board. An online survey was completed by 182 mothers with children under five. Hierarchical regressions revealed that information seeking predicted both satisfaction ($\beta = .324$, $p < .001$) and maternal confidence ($\beta = .471$, $p < .001$), while emotional reassurance showed a complex relationship, negatively predicting confidence ($\beta = -.231$, $p = .017$) on its own, but was statistically insignificant when information seeking was added. These findings suggest that mothers whose motivation for using discussion boards is information seeking experience greater satisfaction with them and report higher maternal confidence. However, mothers whose motivation is emotional reassurance may have more context-dependent effects. This study challenges the negative portrayals of 'mommy boards' and is in line with general findings on mothers' information seeking strategies in the transition to new motherhood. These information seeking strategies extend to online discussion boards, and these digital spaces support women's self-efficacy in the transition to motherhood.*

Section: *Section on Women and Psychology (SWAP)*
Session ID: 125258 - Paper within a symposium

Influences on First Impressions: Identifying Cues, Contexts, and Individual Characteristics that Impact Accuracy and Bias

Moderator(s): Human, Lauren J

Abstract: *First impressions can carry important implications for immediate and longer-term social outcomes, making it crucial to identify the factors that influence those impressions. This symposium sheds light on the cues, contextual factors, and individual characteristics that influence both the accuracy and bias of our impressions of others (Presentations 1 and 2) and our beliefs about others' impressions of us (meta-perceptions; Presentation 3), in a variety of first impression settings, including social media, in-person, and videoconferencing. The first presentation examines the degree of accuracy and bias in impressions of relationship quality based on strangers' Instagram profiles, exploring which cues enable accurate impressions. The second presentation examines impression context with an experimental study demonstrating that actively engaging vs. passively observing during in-person interactions influences the accuracy and positivity of personality impressions. The final presentation documents the individual characteristics that enable people to form more accurate and positive meta-perceptions of personality, in initial in-person and videoconferencing interactions. Together, this symposium identifies key factors that shape the accuracy and positivity of first impressions, which can be harnessed to promote positive social outcomes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123140 - Symposium

Instagram Profile Impressions: Is Your Offline Relationship Quality Showing?

Main Presenting Author: Law, Jillian D

Additional Authors: Holtzman, Susan ; Human, Lauren J

Abstract: *Social Media (SM) users often present idealized versions of their social lives on their profiles, raising the question of whether these snapshots represent the true quality of their relationships offline. The present study investigated the accuracy and bias of perceivers' (N = 316) judgments of targets' (N = 155) social relationship quality based on viewing targets' Instagram profiles. Using the Truth & Bias Model (West & Kenny, 2011), perceivers demonstrated significant accuracy in relationship quality judgments, agreeing with targets' own self-reports. This held controlling for the related and highly detectable trait of extraversion in targets, as well as their perceived attractiveness. At the same time, perceivers demonstrated a negative directional bias, on average rating targets lower in relationship quality than targets rated themselves. Thus, offline close relationship quality was detectable, but underestimated, on Instagram. Additional analyses will explore profile content cues that may contribute to the accuracy of relationship quality judgments, as well as the implications of such judgments for social outcomes, such as liking. Overall, this work sheds light on how relationship quality is expressed and perceived through image-based SM platforms like Instagram, enhancing our understanding of how to identify and support people struggling with social connection.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124687 - Paper within a symposium

The Perils of Passive Observation: How Active Engagement in Initial Interactions Impacts First Impressions

Main Presenting Author: MacPherson , Scarlett RC

Additional Authors: Biesanz, Jeremy C; Human, Lauren J

Abstract: *First impressions are a crucial element of social interactions and relationships, influencing decisions ranging from whom to befriend, date, and hire. However, it remains unclear how the degree to which a perceiver is actively engaged with someone, rather than passively observing them, impacts key components of first impressions, including positivity, distinctive accuracy, and normative accuracy. In this experimental, within-person, round-robin design, unacquainted participants (N= 66) came to the lab in groups of 5-11, had short interactions with each other, and rated each other's personalities. For each interaction, participants were split into groups of four, with two participants randomly assigned to actively engage in conversation with each other ("conversers") and the other two participants randomly assigned to passively observe the interaction ("observers"). Conversers formed impressions higher in positivity and lower in distinctive accuracy compared with observers; no significant differences were found for assumed similarity and normative accuracy between conditions. In sum, actively engaging with others during initial interactions promotes more positive but less accurate impressions of personality, which has important implications for those who wish to improve and increase the likelihood of establishing, maintaining, and enhancing different types of relationships.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124688 - Paper within a symposium

Who Forms Positive and Accurate Metaperceptions? Individual and Partner Predictors of Meta-Positivity and Meta-Accuracy

Main Presenting Author: Tissera, Hasagani

Additional Author: Human, Lauren J

Abstract: *Metaperception - beliefs we have about how we are seen by other people - inform our attitudes, behaviors and decisions in social contexts. Metaperceptions are especially relevant in first impression contexts, where interpersonal cues are limited and impression management is crucial. Yet little is known about which factors influence the positivity and accuracy of metaperceptions. Across two large round-robin studies consisting of unstructured getting-acquainted interactions (NStudy1 = 860, NStudy2 = 911), we applied the Social Accuracy Model (Biesanz, 2010) to identify individual differences that relate to meta-positivity and meta-accuracy. We found that people who are well-adjusted, both intrapersonally (e.g., satisfied with life) and interpersonally (e.g., likable) tend to display higher meta-positivity and meta-accuracy. Additionally, interacting with more likeable partners was related to greater meta-positivity, whereas interacting with more interpersonally warm partners (e.g., agreeable) was related to greater meta-accuracy. These findings clarify who forms more positive and accurate metaperceptions, and which partner characteristics facilitate them, offering actionable insight for research on first impressions, social functioning, and interventions aiming to improve meta-positivity and meta-accuracy in early interactions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124692 - Paper within a symposium

Interethnic romantic relationships, intimate racism, and multiethnic families: The role of support from partners, family and friends

Moderator(s): Yampolsky, Maya A.

Abstract: *Interethnic relationships in romantic, friendship and family circles are an integral part of our diverse Canadian societies. This symposium presents research at the forefront of the complex dynamics within interethnic couples and friendships, and multiethnic families. Sta-Ali and colleagues qualitatively examine how intimate racism from family and friends target racialized partners in interethnic couples. They find that friends and family engage in explicit and subtle racism, which strains participants' individual well-being, relationship quality and their relationships with friends and family. Yampolsky and colleagues qualitatively explore how racialized individuals in interethnic couples can be victims of racial fetishization from their partners; several themes provide a concrete and elaborate breakdown of the nature of racial fetishization and its harmful impact to racialized partners. In examining multiethnic families, Kil and colleagues' latent profile analysis demonstrates that children have more positive mental health and identity outcomes when interethnic parents are more autonomy supportive, less controlling, and provide ample ethnic socialization. These works dive deeper into the interplay between systemic and cultural factors and interpersonal connections that impact well-being in interethnic relationships and multiethnic families.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 123095 - Symposium

Love under watch: Intimate racism from family and friends against interethnic couples

Main Presenting Author: Sta-Ali, Iman A.

Additional Authors: Leanza, Yvan A.; Yampolsky, Maya

Abstract: *Using a systemic, intersectional, and decolonial framework, this study investigates (1) how racialized individuals in interethnic relationships experience intimate racism from families and friends, and (2) how these experiences shape emotional, relational, and identity dynamics in these couples. Seven focus groups were conducted (n = 34; ages 20-54) with women, men, and LGBTQIA2S+ racialized individuals who had been in interethnic relationships. Thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006; Marshall & Rossman, 2014) with inductive and deductive approaches revealed two categories of intimate racism: direct racism (insults, exclusion, explicit rejection) and microaggressions: fetishization, relational stereotypes, racial hierarchy, identity-targeting micro-insults, micro-invalidations, and support for oppressive systems. Participants described emotional impacts (fear, shame, anger, hypervigilance), relational consequences (conflict, avoidance, self-minimization, boundary-setting), and social repercussions (anticipation of racism, strained interactions with families). This research demonstrates how racism from close others intrudes upon interethnic couples and highlights the need for deeper recognition of intimate racism as a determinant of their relational and mental health. Implications for future examinations of culturally attuned psychosocial supports will be discussed.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125411 - Paper within a symposium

The differential combined roles of parental autonomy support and ethnic socialization for boosting multiethnic youths' mental health and identity integration: A latent profile approach

Main Presenting Author: Kil, Hali

Additional Authors: Burik , Anastasiia ; Zamma , Gabriel ; Mageau, A. Geneviève; de la Sablonnière, Roxane; Yampolsky, Maya A.

Abstract: *Multiethnic youth-youth belonging to two or more ethnic backgrounds-are thought to experience disproportionately elevated risk for mental health and identity difficulties. Fortunately, positive parenting factors often play a protective role. But do these parent factors act in isolation? The present study sought to identify whether autonomy supportive (rather than controlling) parenting and parental ethnic socialization may have additive positive implications for multiethnic youths' mental health and identity outcomes. Participants were 300 Canadian multiethnic youth (13-17 years of age; 67% boys) of diverse backgrounds, who provided self-report data. Using latent profile analysis, we identified four profiles of fathers' and mothers' autonomy support (and control), and ethnic socialization. We found that mental health was most protected among youth whose parents combined both low controlling parenting and high ethnic socialization. Meanwhile, identity integration was strongest among youth whose parents combined both high autonomy support and high ethnic socialization. Our findings point to the need for simultaneous general positive (and less negative) parenting as well as parental ethnic socialization for the positive development of multiethnic youth. Results are discussed with reference to provision of optimal support for multiethnic youth via their family relationships.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125447 - Paper within a symposium

The experience of racial fetishization in interethnic romantic relationships

Main Presenting Author: Yampolsky, Maya A.
Co-Presenting Author: Quadrio, Julie

Additional Authors: Hardan, Tareq ; Leanza, Yvan; Sta-Ali, Iman ; Pons-Dion, Renaud; Lydon, John; Zhou, Biru; Lalonde, Richard N

Abstract: *Interethnic romantic relationships are often represented as countering racism in and of themselves, however Yampolsky and colleagues' (2023) recent work on intimate racism showed that racism can exist within these relationships and it carries negative consequences for the relationship. The current study focused on racist sexual dynamics through a qualitative examination of racial fetishization in interethnic couples. Racial fetishization is the sexual objectification of and desire for racialized minorities based on stereotypes that reinforce the racial hierarchy (Bedi, 2015). While this phenomenon has received cross-discipline attention, there is a need for more empirical work examining how it manifests in romantic relationships. Eight focus groups were conducted with racialized individuals (n=35, M age= 31yrs). Several racial fetishization themes emerged from thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006; 2021), including stereotypes about sex drive, sexual promiscuity and genitals, racist fantasies and role play, and being sought out as a token experience based on racialization. These themes intersected with gender and were negatively experienced by participants for both their own well-being and their relationship quality. These findings concretely uncover how racism invades our sexual intimacy and showcases the potential consequences for interethnic relationships.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 125441 - Paper within a symposium

Living in Limbo: How Legal Status and Family Structure Shape Immigrant Adaptation

Moderator(s): Raitman, Michelle R

Abstract: *In this International and Cross-Cultural Psychology section symposium, three presenters will share research examining how immigration status, legal precarity, and cultural contexts shape the acculturation process. The first presentation explores the experiences of Chinese "astronaut household" mothers raising young children in Montreal while navigating separation from spouses abroad. Through seven semi-structured interviews, the study highlights challenges related to postpartum care, language barriers, intergenerational dynamics, and concerns about children's adjustment. The second presentation investigates how immigration status functions as a structural determinant of mental health among Iranian and Syrian newcomers in Canada. Drawing on the Multidimensional Individual Difference Acculturation model, the study tests how status categories moderate the links between psychosocial resources, daily hassles, and psychological distress. The final presentation analyzes the lived experiences of undocumented Afghan women in Iran during the 2025 forced-return crisis, revealing how legal insecurity and shifting public sentiment influence everyday survival. Together, this research underscores how cultural, legal, and structural stressors shape migrant adaptation and highlight the need for policies that address these complexities.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126102 - Symposium

Astronaut Households: The Lived Experience of Pseudo-Single Chinese Immigrant Mothers with Pregnancy and Childcare in Canada

Main Presenting Author: Yu, Yinan

Additional Author: Ruiz-Casares, Monica

Abstract: *Chinese immigrants coined the term taikongren jiating, or "astronaut household," to describe families in which the wife and children relocate overseas while the husband stays in China. So, astronaut household mothers adapt to a de facto lifestyle and a pseudo-single parenting style. Seven in-depth semi-structured interviews were conducted to gather narratives from these mothers about pregnancy, "sitting the month" (or the traditional month-long postpartum care rituals), and childcare practices in Montreal, Canada. Both inductive and deductive thematic analyses were adopted to identify common themes, which include struggles with visa and residency applications, postpartum depression-like symptoms, language barriers, especially with medical terminologies, difficulties following the postpartum rituals immediately after childbirth in Canadian hospitals and later at home. In particular, the parents of the mothers serve as a critical source of support. Meanwhile, support and intergenerational conflicts often come in a package. On top of the everyday challenges, these mothers are also concerned about the influence this arrangement might have on their children. New immigrants with young children are only one type of the "astronaut household" setting, and I hope to inform policymakers, service providers, and people considering immigration about this complex situation.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126123 - Paper within a symposium

Emotions under Deportability in the 2025 Forced Return Crisis: Narratives of Undocumented Afghan Immigrant Women in Iran

Main Presenting Author: Golmohammad, Roxaneh

Additional Authors: Ebrahimi, Minoo ; Yadollahi, Sara; Safdar, Saba

Abstract: *This qualitative study explores the lived experiences of undocumented Afghan women in Iran during the 2025 forced-return crisis, marked by widespread deportations. Although Iran is diverse, it lacks multicultural policy and legal protection for migrants. Drawing on Berry's model of acculturation, debates on multiculturalism, and Sara Ahmed's theory of emotion, the study explores how insecure legal status and shifting feeling rules in the host society shape everyday life. Ten in-depth interviews were conducted by a local researcher through an NGO in Iran in mid-2025, and the first author later carried out a reflexive thematic analysis with the team. Findings suggest that refugees' initial feelings of cultural and religious closeness to Iran created a sense of ease, but in the absence of structural support this quickly turns into conditional acceptance. Women describe a calculation "between the bad and the worse" when comparing life in Iran with return to Afghanistan, a shift in public sentiment from empathy to suspicion, and deportability as a background condition organising movement and access to work and care. Overall, the study shows that undocumented migration in Iran is shaped by legal structures and affective dynamics between citizens and migrants, and frames deportability as a structural-affective condition that shapes how people live and make sense of survival.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126196 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding Newcomer Adaptation: Immigration Status as a Moderator of Psychosocial Resources and Daily Hassles

Main Presenting Author: Martey, Brianna

Additional Authors: Raitman, Michelle ; Pour Iliaei, Sadaf; Shamim, Asma; Ferrari, Michel; Safdar, Saba

Abstract: *Immigration status is a key social determinant of newcomer mental health in Canada. Evidence shows that temporary or precarious status heightens stress, reduces perceived control, and limits service access, increasing vulnerability to distress. This study examines how immigration status moderates two adaptation pathways. By incorporating status security as a factor influencing psychosocial resources, exposure to daily stressors, and the broader context of adaptation, this work refines the Multidimensional Individual Difference Acculturation (MIDA) model. We hypothesize that immigration status will moderate the relationship between psychosocial resources and psychological distress, such that the protective effect of psychosocial resources differs across status categories (H1). Furthermore, immigration status will moderate the link between hassles and psychological distress, such that the strength of this association varies by status (H2). The sample includes 203 Iranian immigrants (82 male, 121 female; Mean age = 32.84 years) and 201 Syrian immigrants (94 male, 106 female; Mean age = 36.43 years). Identifying how immigration status shapes key mechanisms in adaptation highlights the need to integrate structural determinants into mental-health research and informs efforts to improve access, reduce stress exposure, and support newcomers navigating insecure migration pathways.*

Section: *International and Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Session ID: 126164 - Paper within a symposium

Philosophical, societal and clinical issues in extremism and terrorism

Moderator(s): Nussbaum, David

Abstract: *Despite the globally acknowledged seriousness of the effects of Extremism and Terrorism, its psychology remains understudied in comparison to other important aspects of behaviour. This Section Symposium is part of an ongoing attempt by this CPA Section to shed more light on the psychological processes that result in extremist ideologies, in turn motivating extreme violence for disparate, but most commonly, ideological reasons. Dr. David Nussbaum will present four philosophical definitions of truth and demonstrate how the different definitions employed by extremists and scientists guide their decisions to engage in destructive or constructive ends respectively. Dr. Brian Bigelow will discuss how AI and other aspects of information processing are utilized on the internet to persuade large numbers of people about what is and is not true, and who is good and who is evil. Dr, Wagdy Loza will discuss the ability of mental health professionals without in-depth knowledge of the cultural, historical, religious, and social backgrounds of the terrorists that they assess for issues such as risk of terrorist recidivism. The goal of the symposium is to enhance the participants' appreciation for theoretical, societal, and clinical aspects of the psychology of extremism and terrorism.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 126497 - Symposium

Contrasting Truths: Extremism vs. Science

Main Presenting Author: Nussbaum, David

Abstract: *Context: Definitions of truth include. Consensus, Pragmatic, Correspondence, and Coherence. (Chin, 2023.) Selecting a truth definition by extremists optimizes the goal of the group (Berger, 2025; Morson, 2019.) Rationale: Extremist systems, favor cognitive simplicity and rigidity, not complexity and flexibility (e.g., Sarakibi, Ilardi, Smith, Spaaij, & Iqbal, 2025; Suedfeld & Coren 1992; Zmigrod, Rentfrow, & Robbins, 2019.) Simplicity implicitly focuses on partial subsets of factors driving complex systems. Yet, extremist ideologies' repeated failures don't invalidate their foundational dogma or limit attractiveness to adherents. For science, empirical disconfirmation extinguishes a theory. Reliance on the Consensus definition of truth affords extremism ideologies survival and continuity, rather than correction or abandonment after failures. Method: Literature review, & conceptual analysis. Summary: The distinction between Consensus theory utilized by extremist ideologies and Coherence plus Correspondence theories employed by science. Conclusions: Consensus theory facilitates ongoing system failures while the interplay between Coherence and Correspondence theories drive scientific advancement. Overview of actions, expected impacts: Counter-extremism efforts can benefit by moving from Consensus theory to Coherence and Correspondence theories of truth.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 126499 - Paper within a symposium

The New Toxic Internet

Main Presenting Author: Bigelow, Brian

Abstract: *Theoretical Context: The dangerous use of social media and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in destroying truth.Rational: Our clients' and our own mental health are threatened by inappropriate use of AI (Hopfield & Hinton, 2024). Leon Festiger (1957) and social comparison theory viewed consensual validation as a method of identifying truth. Corrupted AI invalidates this basic process.Method: Review of the literature.Summary: Psychotherapy, science, law and democracy itself is now under assail by an unpoliced internet.Impact: If we have learned anything from the masters of brainwash (The Nazi, Josef Goebbels, 1941-45), its that we must counter brainwash.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 126498 - Paper within a symposium

Theoretical and Practical Difficulties in Cross-Cultural Risk Assessments of Terrorists

Main Presenting Author: Loza, Wagdy

Additional Authors: Nussbaum, David ; Hesselink, Ann-Mari

Abstract: *Context: Law Enforcement/Security services routinely assess individuals for risk of committing violence for extremist ideologies. Several violent terrorist risk assessments (TRIs) were developed for this purpose claiming suitability for use akin to violent risk assessment instruments (VRAIs) developed for typical criminals since the 1970s. Rational: Crucial differences exist between constructing TRIs as if they are VRAIs: availability of valid personal psycho-social histories, appreciation by assessors for the specific language, history, religion, and culture that resonate to motivate individuals to ideology-based violence. Method: A review of two leading TRIs (Vera-2 and the ERG 22+) their methodologies and validity data will be compared with VRAI data. Summary: Does available TRI validity data justify their clinical use? Replicating the methodology in classical VRAIs is unlikely for developing TRIs. Results & Conclusions: Test construction issues, cultural, religious, historical, and ideologies of distinct terrorist groups, and a lack robust and reliable validity evidence, strongly suggest that existing TRIs are not appropriate. Future TRIs be developed using different, more contextually relevant information and replicated validation studies.*

Section: *Extremism and Terrorism*
Session ID: 126500 - Paper within a symposium

The Field Validity of the STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007 Dynamic Risk Instruments in British Columbia

Moderator(s): Hanson, R Karl

Abstract: *Recidivism risk tools are routinely used in community corrections to inform case management and supervision decisions. This symposium examines the field validity of the STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007 as measures of dynamic risk factors for sexual recidivism. For a risk factor to be dynamic, it should a) be related to recidivism and b) demonstrate change over time. A further condition is that change in the risk factor should indicate change in recidivism risk. Using administrative data from a sample of approximately 4000 men supervised for a sexual offense in the Province of British Columbia between 2004 and 2019, the first presentation examines the predictive accuracy of the STABLE-2007 based on a 15 year follow-up (discrimination and calibration). The second presentation examines the factor structure and measurement invariance of STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007 in this same sample. Given that measurement invariance was found, the third*

presentation examines patterns of change over time in STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007. Overall, the results support the applied use of STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007.

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123886 - Symposium

Field Validity of Static-99R and STABLE-2007: A 15-year Follow-Up Study of 4,511 Men Sentenced for Sexual Offences in British Columbia

Main Presenting Author: Morrison, Joel

Additional Authors: Hanson, R Karl ; Villeneuve, Audrey M.; Babchishin, M. Kelly

Abstract: *Effective correctional practice requires doing different things with different people based on their likelihood of recidivism. This requires validated risk tools. Not only must risk tools work in research studies, they must also work in routine practice. This study examined the field validity of the Static-99R and STABLE-2007 sexual recidivism risk tools as used by British Columbia Corrections between December, 2004, and July, 2019, with the follow-up end date being December 31, 2023. Previously, Helmus and colleagues (2021) found moderate predictive accuracy (discrimination) for these risk tools in this sample of approximately 4,000 men convicted of a sexual offence in BC; however, they did not examine calibration because of limited follow-up. Using updated records that extended the average follow-up time from 4.5 (SD = 2.5) to 15 (SD = 2.6) years, we similarly found that both Static-99R and STABLE-2007 were able to discriminate recidivists from non-recidivists with moderate accuracy as indicated by logistic regression and Cox regression coefficients. In terms of calibration, the observed recidivism rates were lower than expected based on published norms. The overestimation of sexual recidivism could be attributed to limitations in the criminal history records or to unique features of BC Corrections during this time period.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123888 - Paper within a symposium

Measurement Invariance Over Time in Dynamic Risk Assessment Tools: Evidence from STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007

Main Presenting Author: Lee, Seung Chan

Additional Authors: Hanson, R Karl ; Babchishin, Kelly M.

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Dynamic risk assessment tools such as STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007 are designed for repeated use to monitor changes in risk. To ensure valid interpretation, it is critical that these tools measure the same underlying structure over time-a concept known as measurement invariance.Methods: Using longitudinal data (STABLE-2007: two time points, n = 669; ACUTE-2007: three time points, n = 2,289), we applied Exploratory Structural Equation Modeling (ESEM) and longitudinal EFA to examine factor structures across multiple time points. Confirmatory factor analysis tested configural, metric, and scalar invariance.Results: Measurement invariance was supported for both tools, indicating that changes in scores reflect true changes in dynamic risk rather than measurement artifacts.Conclusions: These findings confirm the structural stability of STABLE-2007 and ACUTE-2007, reinforcing their use for ongoing risk monitoring. Action/Impact: This supports evidence-informed correctional practices and enhances confidence in decisions based on dynamic risk reassessments.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123889 - Paper within a symposium

Patterns and Predictors of ACUTE-2007 and STABLE-2007 Change Variation

Main Presenting Author: Babchishin, Kelly M.

Additional Authors: Hanson, R Karl ; Lee, Seung Chan

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Effective management of justice-involved individuals assumes that dynamic risk factors fluctuate over time. However, few studies have examined individual trajectories and predictors of change in ACUTE-2007 and STABLE-2007 scores.Methods: We analyzed longitudinal data from 4,221 men adjudicated for sexual offences in Canada using Hierarchical Linear Modelling (HLM) to assess variability in change and identify predictors, including baseline risk (Static-99R) and supervisory influences.Results: Significant variability in change trajectories was observed. Although many individuals showed improvement during community supervision, some remained stable or worsened. Higher baseline risk was associated with slower improvement, and supervisory factors also influenced patterns of change.Conclusions: Dynamic risk factors are meaningfully changeable, but change is not uniform across individuals. Individual and contextual factors, including baseline risk and supervision, shape these trajectories.Action/Impact: Findings underscore the importance of ongoing reassessment and tailored interventions in community supervision to optimize risk management.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 123891 - Paper within a symposium

Understanding Nuances in Intimate Partner Violent Behaviour: Personality, Gender, and Police Response

Moderator(s): Campbell, Mary Ann

Abstract: *Intimate partner violence (IPV) has been declared an epidemic in several Canadian jurisdictions (e.g., New Brunswick and Nova Scotia) as legal and social systems struggle to reduce the occurrence of this harmful behaviour. A greater understanding of the nuances of the individuals who engage in IPV is necessary to shape frontline risk mitigation and downstream intervention. To inform research-supported best practices in risk mitigation and intervention, the current symposium will focus on IPV research conducted by the Centre for Policing and Criminal Justice Research. The first paper investigates the connection between the risk factor of borderline personality traits and its dimensions with IPV behaviours, and tests whether psychopathic traits moderate this connection in a non-forensic sample of individuals collected via online survey methods. The second and third papers will move into frontline policing contexts that both use archival record research coding methods. The second paper will provide much-needed insight into women who commit IPV, how police respond to their risk of harm, and the degree to which these responses produce reduced risk outcomes. Using a different sample than paper 2, the final paper will focus primarily on men who perpetrate IPV by examining the degree to which police responses align with IPV risk assessment information in accordance with the Risk principle of the Risk-Need-Responsivity model (Bonta & Andrews, 2023) and tests whether these strategies positively impact time to recidivism as intended. Collectively, these papers will highlight viable intervention targets for reducing IPV risk and call for reconsideration of police practices that disregard risk level when enacting risk mitigation plans.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125139 - Symposium

Borderline personality and intimate partner violence: Moderating influence of psychopathic traits

Main Presenting Author: Dalzell, Karlene

Additional Authors: Doyle, Jessie ; Campbell, Mary Ann

Abstract: *Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a significant public health concern, with personality pathology recognized as a central contributor to criminal risk. The current study investigated whether psychopathic traits moderate the relationship between borderline personality disorder (BPD) facets and IPV perpetration. Participants (N = 451) from Canadian and American community samples completed measures of BPD facets (BPQ), psychopathy traits (SD3), and IPV behaviours (CTS2) via an online survey. Notably, the overall sample deviated from typical community patterns with 51.3% (n = 232) falling above average in psychopathic traits and 11.3% (n = 51) scoring above average on BPD traits. Moderation analyses used Hayes' PROCESS Macro Model 1. Psychopathic traits emerged as a significant independent predictor of IPV. However, moderation effects were generally nonsignificant across BPD facets. A consistent exception was chronic emptiness, for which higher psychopathic traits significantly strengthened its association with psychological, physical, and sexual forms of IPV. Findings suggest that the interaction between chronic emptiness and elevated psychopathic traits represents a distinct risk profile for IPV perpetration, highlighting the need for more nuanced risk assessment, tailored intervention strategies, and strengthened policy responses to IPV.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125290 - Paper within a symposium

Police Strategies in Intimate Partner Violence Calls: A Lack of Evidence for Prevention

Main Presenting Author: Gelineau, Marc

Additional Authors: Widmer, Denika ; Campbell, Mary Ann

Abstract: *The strategies employed by police responding to intimate partner violence (IPV) should work to prevent subsequent IPV offending by enforcing legal and nonlegal actions. The number and intensity of such strategies should be informed by the risk level of the offending party (Bonta & Andrews, 2023). The ODARA is a frontline risk assessment tool for use by police responding to IPV calls, and scores on the ODARA can inform the strategies enacted by police. In a sample of IPV cases (n = 186), moderation analyses were conducted to determine whether ODARA scores were predictive of time to reoffence, and whether the strategies used by police contributed to the prevention of reoffending. Analyses revealed that higher ODARA scores predicted shorter time to reoffending, but the number of strategies employed by police had no significant direct or interaction effects. Moreover, only two strategies were correlated to non-offending: Issuing a condition to the offender to possess no weapons and referring the victim to community services. These results suggest that the use of strategies by police officers is not being informed by the ODARA level of risk, leading to strategies that are not effective in preventing reoffending over time. Future research should look at ways to better integrate risk assessments in frontline practice so that the strategies employed by police officers can effectively mitigate reoffending.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125316 - Paper within a symposium

What do police do during IPV calls with women suspects?

Main Presenting Author: Gryshchuk, Lena

Additional Author: Campbell, Mary Ann

Abstract: *Women who engage in intimate partner violence (IPV) are understudied, especially when it comes to how police respond to women abusers. The current study examined both official (e.g., arrest) and unofficial (e.g., separating parties) police actions during IPV calls with 151 adult women IPV suspects (Mage=33; SD=10.89) using New Brunswick police files. This research assessed the association between IPV risk, as measured by police-scored Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) tool, and the number of police actions and whether these actions predicted IPV non-recidivism. Results showed that officers used an average of 4 official (M=3.6; SD=2.9) and 2 unofficial actions (M=2.4; SD=1.9) during IPV calls with women suspects. ODARA total scores were associated with use of a higher number of official actions, r=.47, p=.011; however, there was no significant correlation between risk and unofficial police actions, r=.19, p=.32. Moreover, a logistic regression analysis indicated that neither official nor unofficial police actions predicted IPV non-recidivism. Overall, these results show that the police actions as a whole had little to no impact on recidivism for women IPV suspects. Further research is needed to develop more effective police risk mitigation strategies to reduce recidivism in women who abuse their intimate partners.*

Section: *Criminal Justice Psychology*
Session ID: 125304 - Paper within a symposium

When does Identification with a Minoritized Group Worsen Well-Being? The Roles of Group Participation and High-Status Identification

Moderator(s): Doherty, Jane

Abstract: *A plethora of research shows that group membership promotes well-being when it is part of one's self-concept (i.e. social identification), in line with the Social Identity Approach to Health. However, for minority group members, social identification can entail worse well-being. The presentations in this symposium examine whether i) group participation, and ii) high and low-status group identification explain when minoritized group identification relates to higher/lower well-being. The 1st presentation, an experimental study (N = 297), tests whether online mental health group salience and identification predict higher well-being and self-efficacy among those who participate in their online group. The 2nd presentation, a correlational study (N=387), examines how identification with union (low-status) and organizational (high-status) groups are associated with identity conflict and well-being at work (job satisfaction). The 3rd presentation, a correlational design (N = 757), examines whether immigrants' political participation relates to well-being as a function of identification with x country of origin (low-status) and receiving country (high-status) groups. Altogether, this symposium demonstrates the complexities of minoritized group membership and the need to consider identity processes to understand their well-being.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124520 - Symposium

Immigrants' online and offline political participation relates to worse well-being depending on their identification with receiving country.

Main Presenting Author: Floulou, Ilham

Additional Author: Cárdenas, Diana

Abstract: *People who engage in political participation (PP) can experience worse well-being. Both PP and well-being depend on social identification, referring to the process of defining oneself as a member of a group. Immigrants can identify with both the receiving country (high-status) and the country of origin (low-status), which can protect their well-being in the context of PP. We hypothesized that greater online and offline PP will be related with worse well-being, and this relation will be attenuated when immigrants identify strongly with either of their countries. Participants (N = 757) responded to validated scales measuring identification with receiving country and country of origin, PP (online, offline) and negative well-being (anxiety, depression). Hierarchical regression showed that online and offline PP is related to more negative well-being but only receiving country identification moderated this relationship. Receiving country identification weakened the link between online PP and well-being but made the relation between offline PP and well-being stronger. Thus, online and offline PP operate similarly on well-being, but not when considering receiving country identification. These findings may inform receiving countries on strategies to politically integrate immigrant communities while promoting their well-being.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126135 - Paper within a symposium

Social media support groups for mental health: How does social identification influence well-being, self-efficacy and stigma endorsement?

Main Presenting Author: De Siqueira, Adriana Ugolini Benatti

Additional Authors: Montiel, Corentin ; Doré, Isabelle ; Cárdenas, Diana

Abstract: *Social media groups have become key resources for members of minoritized groups, such as people facing mental health challenges. This study tested the identity processes through which they affect members' psychological outcomes. We hypothesized that social identification mediates the relationship between identity salience (i.e. thinking of group membership) and well-being, self-efficacy (i.e. confidence to manage challenges) and stigma endorsement, and that perceived participation in the group moderates the association between identity salience and social identification. A total of 297 Facebook and Reddit group members were recruited and assigned to one of three salience conditions (mental health group identity, personal identity or other group identity), before completing validated measures of all variables. Results showed that mental health group identity salience (versus personal identity salience) increased social identification, which in turn predicted higher well-being and self-efficacy. For stigma endorsement, however, social identification was not a mediator but was positively associated with greater stigma endorsement. Moreover, perceived participation did not moderate the identity salience-social identification association. Overall, findings suggest that social identification with social media groups can have a meaningful impact on some psychological outcomes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126124 - Paper within a symposium

Working Together: Influence of union and organisational identification on job satisfaction

Main Presenting Author: Doherty, Jane

Additional Author: Hétu, Sébastien

Abstract: *The research on union membership and job satisfaction has found a contradiction: while unions improve working conditions, they lead to lower job satisfaction. This literature, often sociological in focus, is often considered a binary category, overlooking psychological mechanisms, namely union identification (UI) and organizational identification (OI), in shaping job satisfaction. As members of a union (low-status) and organizations (high-status), we hypothesized that UI is associated with lower job satisfaction (H1) while OI is associated with higher job satisfaction (H2). This dual-group membership to groups with competing interests may cause identity conflict (i.e., having two social identities with conflicting norms, values and goals) which relates to lower job satisfaction (H3). Path analysis conducted on cross-sectional data (N = 387 unionized Canadian employees) partially confirmed H1 and H2 as OI (but not UI) was related to higher job satisfaction. However, UI and OI were negatively related to identity conflict (opposite to H3), which in turn was negatively associated with job satisfaction (in line with H3). Our results provide insights on how union identification along with organizational identification can improve job satisfaction, serving as a first step towards a psychological framework of union identity.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 126134 - Paper within a symposium

THEME: UNDERSTANDING THE MIND AND THE BRAIN

Understanding what contributes to how the mind and brain works - or doesn't work

12-Minute Talk

Challenging Conventional Views on Rumination Using an Avoidance Learning Framework

Main Presenting Author: Altman, Maxwell S

Additional Authors: Aucoin, Courtney D; Thind, Anmol K; Andrews, W Paul

Abstract: *Depressive rumination's past-oriented focus and internally directed, self-blaming character are thought to interfere with solving current problems and are considered together as evidence of psychopathology. We argue this view is incomplete and that these features may be better understood within an adaptive avoidance-learning framework. We report five studies (total N = 780) using a social rejection paradigm to experimentally trigger rumination and other depressive symptoms in non-clinical undergraduates. Part of the paradigm required participants to engage in an expressive writing task that allowed us to assess their thoughts and feelings. Across all studies, exclusion reliably increased sad mood, anhedonia, self-blame, low self-esteem, and other features of rumination. Using qualitative-coding software, blind raters scored participants' writings on avoidance-learning variables, and sequential analyses examined the order in which these elements emerged. Our results suggest that depressive rumination is an involuntary response to aversive events involving complex problems with uncertain causes. Allocating cognitive resources to analyzing the causes of past problems may represent a beneficial trade-off when the goal is to avoid similar negative outcomes in the future.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 126187 - 12-Minute Talk

Clarifying the Relationship between Adverse Childhood Experiences and Error-Related Brain Activity: Investigating the Roles of Trauma Type, Timing, Duration, and Subjective Appraisal Across Sensory Modalities

Main Presenting Author: Haggett, Sarah M.

Additional Author: Lackner, Christine L.

Abstract: *Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) alter neural systems supporting the development of attention and self-regulation. The error-related negativity (ERN), an event-related potential related to error commission, is inconsistently related to ACEs. This study will investigate whether ACE dimensions of type, timing, extent, and subjective appraisal predict ERN responses across four Go/NoGo (GNG) tasks varying in emotional salience (neutral, salient) and sensory modality (auditory, visual). Power analysis (d=0.31) indicated N=82. To account for attrition, 133 adults reported ACE histories via validated questionnaires and completed GNG tasks while 128-channel*

EEG data were recorded. We hypothesize that greater ACE extent and higher subjective ratings will predict more negative ERNs, timing effects will vary by age at exposure, and type effects will depend on task salience and modality. Linear mixed-effects models will test within-subject (salience, modality) and between-subject (ACE dimensions) effects on ERN amplitude. Data collection is complete. EEG processing is underway; preliminary results are pending. Analyses will conclude March 2026. By examining multiple ACE dimensions, this study will clarify how childhood trauma shapes neural processes underlying self-regulation and error awareness, informing early detection and intervention strategies for ACE-related mental health risks.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125126 - 12-Minute Talk

Cortical Thickness and Subcortical Volume Correlates of Bilingual Language Experience in Young Adults

Main Presenting Author: Saleemi, Somayya

Additional Author: Kousaie , Shanna

Abstract: *Bilingualism has been associated with experience-dependent neuroplasticity in cortical and subcortical regions involved in language control and executive function. However, findings are inconsistent, and there is a need to clarify the specific language experience factors that underlie these neural adaptations. The present study examines bilingual language experience and cortical thickness and subcortical volumes in a young adult French-English bilingual sample. Structural MRI data were processed using FreeSurfer, and cortical thickness and subcortical volumes were extracted from regions implicated in language control and executive function more generally (e.g., the inferior frontal gyrus, anterior cingulate cortex, caudate, and putamen). Language experience variables include proficiency, age of acquisition, and patterns of language use. Linear models will test associations between language factors and brain structure, controlling for Age and Education. Higher proficiency and more balanced dual-language use is expected to be associated with decreased cortical thickness and increased volumes in subcortical structures supporting cognitive and language control. These findings would support accounts of experience-dependent structural adaptation in bilinguals and contribute to clarifying the underlying language factors that are implicated.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124112 - 12-Minute Talk

Emotion Dysregulation, Experiential Avoidance, and ADHD: A Multisubstance Mediation Study

Main Presenting Author: Soleimankhan, Arshia Ali

Additional Authors: Kim, Andrew Hyounsoo; Ruskowski, Arthur; Rodrigo, Achala; Dawson, Samantha; Hodgins, David Carson; Tabri, Nassim ; Shead, Will ; Allami, Youssef; Keough, Matthew

Abstract: *Alcohol, cannabis, and electronic nicotine products are among the most widely used substances among Canadians, and individuals with elevated ADHD symptoms are at heightened risk for related harms. Yet the mechanisms explaining this vulnerability remain unclear. This study is the first in a large Canadian sample to simultaneously test emotion dysregulation and experiential*

avoidance-two transdiagnostic processes-as mediators of ADHD-related substance harms. Participants were Canadian adults and students from seven universities (M age = 22.2, SD = 7.3) who completed an online survey including the ASRS, DERS, EARS, and the Screener for Substance and Behavioral Addictions (SSBA). Three parallel mediation models were conducted with alcohol-, cannabis-, and e-cigarette-related harms as outcomes. Across models, ADHD symptoms significantly predicted greater harms. Experiential avoidance emerged as a consistent and robust mediator, whereas emotion dysregulation alone did not, though it contributed indirectly via increased avoidance. These findings identify experiential avoidance as a novel, central mechanism linking ADHD symptoms to addictive behaviours. Conclusions highlight the importance of targeting avoidance-based coping in prevention and treatment.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125292 - 12-Minute Talk

From Judgment to Action: A Three-Year Study of Moral Judgments and Academic Cheating in Childhood

Main Presenting Author: Batool, Kanza

Additional Authors: Lee, Kang ; Cameron, Catherine Ann

Abstract: *Academic cheating is a significant concern across all levels of education. In this three-year longitudinal study, we investigated the relationship between moral judgments and cheating behaviors in children aged 4-12. We recruited 535 children from Canada and the U.S. in Wave 1, with 375 returning for Wave 2 and 275 returning for Wave 3. Children rated vignettes about cheating behaviors as "good," "bad," or "not good/not bad." Cheating was measured using six rule-based activities where participants were left alone during an impossible final task while a concealed camera recorded their behavior.Using Structural Equation Modelling controlling for age, gender, and ethnicity, Year 1 results showed moral judgment scores on non-cheating stories significantly and negatively predicted children's cheating behaviours ($R = -.14$, $p < .01$), replicated in Year 2 ($R = -.13$, $p < .01$). Longitudinally, Year 1 moral judgments predicted Year 2 cheating ($R = -.12$, $p < .05$). No relationship was found for cheating story judgments.Year 3 data collection is complete; analyses are underway. We hypothesize these findings will replicate in Year 3, with moral judgments on non-cheating stories continuing to predict cheating behaviors and examining whether effects persist across two-year lags.Strategies targeting understanding of rule following and morally good behavior may decrease academic cheating.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 126402 - 12-Minute Talk

How Gambling Impacts Decision-making in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder? An Event-Related Potential Based Study

Main Presenting Author: Kar, Debjani

Additional Authors: Tarafder, Sreemoyee ; Goyal, Nishant

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Impulsivity has emerged to be a key factor in various psychological disorders. The Impulsivity v/s Compulsivity model theorizes Impulsivity & compulsivity as a*

reciprocal pair rather than separate phenomena. The model also proposes separate, but yoked, neural pathways for impulsivity and compulsivity. In this study, we attempted to find out how impulsivity impacts decision-making & response inhibition in highly compulsive individuals through the lens of electrical activities in the brain.Introduction: Event-related potential (ERP) is one of the most precise methods to reliably understand activities in the frontal (dominantly left) parts of the brain related to decision-making and response inhibition activities related to a particular task in real-time for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). The objectives of the study were to investigate differences in amplitude and latency in early (200-500 ms) and late (600-900 ms) waves due to impulsivity between individuals with OCD and their healthy counterparts. Method: 39 dominantly right-handed patients aged between 18 to 30 yrs. diagnosed (F42 diagnostic criteria as per ICD 10) with OCD (10F, 29M) and 37 healthy controls (9F, 28M). Participants with OCD were selected from the Outpatient department (OPD) and inpatient wards of the Central Institute of Psychiatry (CIP, Ranchi), India. The healthy controls were randomly selected matching the exclusion and inclusion criteria from the CIP campus and the accompanying persons of the patients visiting OPD. All the participants gave written consent for participation and semi-structured socio-demographic datasheet were filled up by all. Age and handedness were measured and matched between the OCD & HC groups. Participants with OCD were assessed with Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale (Y-BOCS) & symptom checklist, Barratt Impulsivity Scale (BIS-11), and the HCs were screened with General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12). ERP components were measured by using IGT on E-prime 3.0. Result: The OCD group showed significantly higher impulsiveness in the areas of attention I (p= 0.002) & II (p= 0.001), planning II (p= 0.020), and total impulsivity (p= 0.001). Also, they showed significantly higher amplitude in both advantageous and disadvantageous choices of decks in IGT. Despite the higher activity both early (between 200-500 milliseconds after the onset of stimulus) and late waves (between 500-900 milliseconds after the onset of stimulus) in the left frontal region of the brain among OCD, the percentage of choice of the advantageous deck is higher among HCs. No significant difference was found in the choice of disadvantageous decks between OCD and HCs.Discussion: The OCD group showed higher self-reported impulsivity in the areas of attention and planning according to BIS-11 scores. Also, to elicit a similar outcome from a task that requires response inhibition due to high impulsivity, as elicited from IGT, (especially in attention & planning) for decision-making, people with OCD required higher cognitive effort, reflected in heightened cortical activities even till much later; i.e., in late waves around 700 ms after the onset of stimulus than their healthy counterparts. Conclusion: It can be said that this phenomenon can explain the cognitive delay in the decision-making process in people with OCD. People with OCD require putting in extra cognitive effort for a longer duration to generate similar output to their healthy counterparts. Thus, to achieve a better outcome or a nearly perfect outcome, which they strive to achieve, requires extraordinary cognitive effort. This might result in repetitive thoughts and behaviours, which are depicted as obsession and compulsion.Action/Impact: Despite having limitations, our study sheds light on the process of decision-making & response inhibition in real time for people with OCD. This can direct future research to develop more effective strategies to alleviate symptoms of OCD in a non-invasive way. Based on our findings, future research can focus on treatments like relaxation methods (such as Alpha biofeedback, mindfulness-based relaxation) can be suggested to help individuals with OCD learn how to reduce the 'chaos'.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 122956 - 12-Minute Talk

Mind wandering and probabilistic learning: the beginning of a beautiful friendship

Main Presenting Author: Simor, Peter

Abstract: *Mind wandering (MW) is a mental state in which attention shifts from the present environment or current task to internally driven, self-referent mental content. MW appeared to compromise behavioral performance in a wide variety of tasks requiring sustained attention, inhibition, or executive functions. Nonetheless, MW might not always be harmful. Rather, we propose that, despite the evident costs, MW might be beneficial under cognitively less demanding task conditions, or when the goals and rules of the task are not clear. Recently, we proposed that, as a transient off-line state, MW may be associated with the processing of previously encoded information at the expense of sensorimotor control. In two behavioral studies (N = 152 and N = 317) investigating implicit, probabilistic learning, we showed that MW during the task was positively associated with the successful (but non-conscious) extraction of hidden regularities from the visual stream of inputs. Moreover, our findings highlighted a functional trade-off between implicit, automatic, and controlled cognitive processes. More specifically, we showed that the magnitude of the learning enhancement during MW was quantitatively modulated by the efficacy of response inhibition. Our findings could have promising implications for future research on the advantages of MW in various learning domains and educational contexts.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125955 - 12-Minute Talk

Not Just Noise: Greater Day-to-Day Variability in Cognition and Mood Predict Lower Mean Cognitive Function in Young Adults

Main Presenting Author: Butt, Melanie A.

Additional Author: Handy, Todd C.

Abstract: *In older adults, greater day-to-day variability in cognitive function is associated with higher rates of cognitive decline, suggesting these fluctuations are vital indicators of cognitive health rather than measurement noise. Here, we examined whether similar dynamics inform on cognitive wellness in young adults. Using experience sampling, 215 healthy young adults self-reported their cognitive and mood states three times a day for 14 days. After controlling for baseline cognition (metacognition, executive function, cognitive failure propensity, memory failures) and mood (depression, state and trait anxiety, loneliness), subjective cognition showed substantial daily variability, and greater variability predicted lower mean cognitive function across the 14 days. Daily cognitive variability also correlated with daily negative and positive mood, though individuals differed in their resilience to mood-related impacts on cognition. Preliminary analyses of a second young adult sample confirm these findings and will be presented alongside further analyses testing how sleep duration and quality and exercise frequency and intensity affect these dynamics. These results suggest that daily variability in cognition and mood may be key predictors of cognitive wellness in young adults, highlighting the need to further explore these dynamics to support long-term cognitive health and resilience.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125454 - 12-Minute Talk

Perception of facing social groups is sensitive to group gender composition

Main Presenting Author: Yan, Luowei

Additional Authors: Colombatto, Clara ; Ristic, Jelena

Abstract: *Efficient perception of social groups is key for social behavior. Indeed, research in visual perception shows that social groups are found faster when group members face toward (vs. away) from each other. Here we examined if this 'facing advantage' was affected by gender characteristics of the social group and the observers. Based on social identity theory we expected larger facing advantages for ingroups, with men observers finding male groups faster and women observers finding female groups faster. Participants (half men/women) viewed displays of two, four, or eight groups of three males or females, with all groups either facing or non-facing. They reported the presence or absence of a female group (among male distractors) or a male group (among female distractors). Responses were faster for facing (vs. non-facing) displays, target-present (vs. target-absent) displays, male (vs. female) groups, and displays with fewer groups. Importantly, the facing advantage was modulated by group gender, such that it emerged for female groups on target-present trials and for male groups on target-absent trials with no interactions with observer gender. This suggests that facing female groups are particularly socially salient as both targets and as distractors and highlights the sensitivity of the human perceptual system to complex social variables like gender.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123786 - 12-Minute Talk

The Bone-Brain Axis: The Relationship Between Estradiol, Uncarboxylated Osteocalcin, and Episodic Memory and Executive Control Post-Menopause

Main Presenting Author: Cunha, Vanessa C

Additional Authors: Mendizabal, Tamara ; Imbeault, Pascal; Davidson, S.R. Patrick

Abstract: *Background: Postmenopausal females experience marked declines in estradiol, a hormone that supports bone and brain health. As the bone-brain axis posits crosstalk between skeletal and neural systems, this may help us to further understand the subjective and objective cognitive decline experienced post-menopause. One key bone-brain axis element is uncarboxylated osteocalcin (ucOC), a bone-derived hormone that declines in midlife and may affect cognition. Estradiol levels potentially influence circulating ucOC, yet this relationship has often been overlooked. Methods: To help us understand the relationship between estradiol, ucOC, and cognition, post-menopausal females (N = 72) provided serum and anthropometric measures, and completed a cognitive battery and supplementary surveys. Results: We are assessing how circulating levels of estradiol and ucOC relate to episodic memory and executive control performance. We will also explore whether factors such as lifetime estrogen exposure, anthropometric health measures, mood, and diet are associated with ucOC and cognition. Conclusions/Impact: Our results will help contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of estradiol's potential influence on ucOC and provide a clearer picture of the relationship between ucOC and cognition post-menopause.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126165 - 12-Minute Talk

When Mind Is Missing: Reduced Perspective Taking Toward Robots

Main Presenting Author: Mayrand, Florence

Additional Authors: Savoie, Jessica ; Liu, Yuxi; Ristic, Jelena

Abstract: *While it is well established that humans can adopt the mental perspective of others, it remains unknown if this behavior is specific to human agents. Here, we tested this idea using a real-life interactive perspective-taking task, in which one group completed the task with a human confederate and another one with a humanoid robot. The participant sat at a square table with either the confederate or the robot, who were positioned either next to the participant ("Shared" mental perspective) or across the table ("Non-shared" mental perspective). On each trial, a response target with multiple possible spatial representations (M, W, E, 3) was projected onto the tabletop. Participant responded by identifying the target from either their own (i.e., Self) or the confederate/robot's (i.e., Other) mental perspective. Overall, participants were slower to respond when asked to take the perspective of the other in both groups. However, when taking their own perspective, participants were slower to identify the targets only when paired with the human confederate, and not with the robot. These findings provide novel insight into the role of social agency in mental perspective taking and show that our ability to represent others' mental states requires the representation of minds of our partners.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124802 - 12-Minute Talk

When Stigma Shifts: Dynamic Links Between Internalized Stigma and Symptom Chance in Therapy for Anxiety and Related Disorders

Main Presenting Author: Metcalfe, Spencer
Co-Presenting Author: Joshi, Yash

Additional Authors: Milosevic, Irena ; LeMoult, Joelle; Rowa, Karen

Abstract: *Anxiety disorders are among the most prevalent and burdensome mental health conditions. Internalized stigma (IS), the internalization of negative beliefs about mental illness, is common in anxiety disorders, yet little is known about how IS changes with therapy and how it interacts with symptoms. This study examined changes in IS throughout anxiety treatment, exploring the influence of symptom severity and demographic variables in adults (n = 653; mean age =37.6; women = 70%) completing group Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. IS was measured using the Internalized Stigma of Mental Illness 10-item Scale (ISMI-10) and symptom severity was assessed using transdiagnostic measures. A strict-invariance bivariate Latent Change Score model showed good fit (CFI = .95, RMSEA = .095). IS operated as a state-like, malleable construct (β = -.03, p = .74), while symptoms showed significant stability (β = .19, p = .008). Higher baseline IS predicted less symptom improvement over time (β = .54, p < .001), and modest correlations (r = .17, p = .008) show that changes in IS are coupled with changes in symptom severity. Females reported lower baseline IS (β = -.21, p = .026) and slightly greater reductions in stigma over time (β = -.21, p = .048). Findings suggest IS is modifiable in CBT, highlighting the value of routinely assessing and directly targeting IS to reduce risk of mutual escalation.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125413 - 12-Minute Talk

Panel Discussion

Integrating Social determinants of health framework in Neuroimaging Research across the Lifespan: Reflections and Insights

Moderator(s): Hai, Tasmia

Panelists: Naish, Marlo; Hai, Tasmia; MacKinnon, Anna; Cipriani, Enzo

Abstract: *Understanding brain health and development across the lifespan requires attention to factors such as socioeconomic status, education, housing, and systemic inequities, commonly known as social determinants of health (SDoH). This panel brings together experts working with diverse healthy and clinical populations to explore how social, cultural, and economic contexts influence neuroscience research. We will discuss why integrating SDoH measures into neuroimaging projects is critical for advancing equity and scientific rigour and share practical strategies for doing so. Panellists will share findings from scoping reviews on relevant SDoH factors. They will also highlight emerging approaches, including the development of an SDoH index grounded in Pierre Bourdieu's theory of social space, which conceptualizes social position through multiple forms of capital. Drawing on examples from a perinatal cohort, childhood ADHD study, people with epilepsy and adult mental health research, the discussion will address methodological challenges, opportunities for harmonization, and implications for interpretation. The session would also include an interactive feedback opportunity to identify barriers and facilitators. Attendees will gain insights into tools and frameworks that support context-sensitive neuroscience research and foster interdisciplinary collaboration.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125354 - Panel Discussion

Printed Poster

A Person-Centered Approach into Cognitive Styles

Main Presenting Author: Quinlan, Tara

Additional Authors: Daljeet, Kabir N.; Grenier, Simon; Feeney, R. Justin

Abstract: *Researchers have long been interested in the ways in which people approach problems and think their way through different situations. Empirical research has identified that this is a reflection of individual differences in thinking, or cognitive, styles. Recently a measure was developed to examine four different types of cognitive styles: Actively Open-minded Thinking (AOT), Closed-minded Thinking (CMT), Preference for Intuitive Thinking (PIT), Preference for Effortful Thinking (PET). These different thinking styles have been shown to differentially relate to cognitive abilities and moral thought patterns (Newton et al., 2023). Critically, these different cognitive styles have only been studied using a variable centered approach, that is, the relationship between each cognitive style and relevant outcomes are assumed to be homogenous for the population. Using a sample of N = 2091 participants, we relaxed this assumption and took a person-centered approach to study how cognitive styles form stable patterns (i.e., profiles) within persons. Using factor scores generated from a well-fitting CFA model ($\chi(246)=1401.262$, CFI =.95, TLI = .94, RMSEA = 0.047, SRMR = 0.05) as input for Latent Profile Analysis, we examined the results of 2-7 profile solutions. Subsequently we*

determined that a 5-profile solution fit our data best. The interpretation of the profiles in light of relevant theory as well as the limitations and practical implications of these findings will be discussed.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123711 - Printed Poster

A Dimensional Transdiagnostic Approach to Reward Processing in Mood Disorders: Individual and Combined Effects of Anhedonia and Anxious Arousal

Main Presenting Author: Wong, Sarah

Additional Authors: Rowe, Jessica ; Harkness, Kate

Abstract: *Deficits in reinforcement learning such as reduced reward learning are central to mood and anxiety psychopathology. However, most studies focus solely on initial contingency learning, overlooking reversal learning, which captures flexibility in updating associations when contingencies change. Prior reversal-learning findings in mood disorders are mixed, likely due to diagnostic grouping that obscures opposing effects of anhedonia (AHN) and anxious arousal (AA). The current study aims to clarify these inconsistencies by evaluating the independent and combined effects of AHN and AA on reward acquisition and reversal learning in a heterogeneous sample (N = 245). AHN and AA were assessed with MASQ-D30 while reward and punishment learning was assessed using a two-phase Probabilistic Reversal Learning Task (PRLT) with an acquisition phase to establish a reward bias, followed by a reversal phase. We will estimate two linear regression models with AHN, AA, and their interaction serving as predictors. Model 1 will predict acquisition learning parameters in the full sample and model 2 will predict reversal learning parameters among participants who demonstrate adequate learning in the initial acquisition phase, thus isolating reversal-specific effects. Identifying symptom-specific learning patterns may guide personalized treatments that address distinct cognitive rigidity profiles.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123923 - Printed Poster

A new look at New Look : le rôle de la passion dans la perception de l'environnement

Main Presenting Author: Zineddine, Niama

Additional Author: Vallerand, Robert J.

Abstract: *Le courant du New-Look initié par Jerome Bruner (1957) définit la perception de l'environnement comme un processus actif et subjectif influencé par des processus internes. Parmi ceux-ci, les processus motivationnels sont reconnus pour moduler la perception que les gens se font d'images ambiguës (e.g., Balcetis & Dunning, 2006). Le Modèle dualiste de la passion (Vallerand, 2015) conceptualise la passion comme un processus motivationnel puissant qui peut se manifester selon deux qualités distinctes (passion harmonieuse et obsessive). Aucune étude n'a exploré jusqu'ici le rôle de la passion dans la perception d'une image ambigüe. Ceci représentait le but de la présente étude. Un échantillon de 65 participants a complété l'échelle de passion (Vallerand et al., 2003) ainsi qu'une tâche de perception d'une image ambiguë contenant une note de musique cachée dans un*

environnement naturel. Dans cette étude, 64 % musiciens passionnés pour la musique ont vu la note de musique alors que c'était le cas pour seulement 46 % des non-musiciens (aucune différence entre la passion harmonieuse et obsessive). Ces résultats procurent un nouvel éclairage sur la passion comme déterminant de la perception de l'environnement.

Section: *Students in Psychology*
Session ID: 125298 - Printed Poster

A smartphone-based digital reminiscence intervention improves autobiographical episodic memory, quality of life, and sense of self in an older adult with early-stage dementia

Main Presenting Author: Chang, Miranda

Additional Authors: Hong, Bryan ; Barense, Morgan D.

Abstract: *In memory disorders such as Alzheimer's disease, the inability to remember the past reduces quality of life and sense of self. Traditional reminiscence therapy targets remote memories, yet memory for recent events is uniquely vulnerable in early-stage dementia. HippoCamera, a neuroscience-informed smartphone application, helps users capture and review multimodal cues from everyday events. We previously showed that HippoCamera enhanced episodic recollection and positive sentiment in older adults.GF, a 79-year-old man recently diagnosed with early-stage dementia, completed an 11-week digital reminiscence intervention using HippoCamera daily. Events that GF reviewed with HippoCamera were recalled with greater episodic detail than those recorded but not reviewed. Post-intervention, GF reported improved quality of life, life satisfaction, self-concept, and episodic and spatial memory abilities, along with reduced depressive symptoms. Qualitative feedback indicated that the intervention helped GF regain confidence, re-engage socially, and feel more optimistic about the future.Our findings highlight the promise of HippoCamera as an accessible tool to improve episodic recall and psychosocial outcomes in neurodegenerative memory impairment. This work informs the design of interventions that leverage memory for recent events to mitigate social and emotional changes in early dementia.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 126273 - Printed Poster

Adult Attachment and Performance on a Measure of Inhibition

Main Presenting Author: McWilliams, Lachlan A

Additional Authors: Vaillancourt, Denis ; Prime, Steve L.; Sinclair, J Amanda

Abstract: *BACKGROUND/RATIONALE: Attachment avoidance (i.e., an individual difference variable characterized by discomfort with closeness and trust) is positively associated with the ability to shift attention away from attachment-related stimuli. Gillath et al. (2009) investigated whether attachment avoidance is related to a more general ability to inhibit attention. They found a positive association between avoidance and the ability to inhibit prepotent responses as assessed with Erikson's flanker task. The current study aimed to replicate this finding. METHODS: The study was conducted online with participants (N = 121) from an online recruitment service (viz., Prolific). They completed a flanker task and a week later completed the anxiety and avoidance scales of the Experiences in Close*

Relationships Questionnaire. RESULTS: Correlations between the attachment variables and performance on the flanker task were not statistically significant. CONCLUSIONS: This study failed to replicate those of Gillath et al. Thus, it calls into question the idea that attachment insecurity can be characterized by enhanced executive functioning. ACTION/IMPACT: More rigorous examination of attachment and executive functioning is warranted. This could include assessing other components of executive functioning and the use of cognitive tasks with established psychometric properties.

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125427 - Printed Poster

Adult Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD): Do IQ and Impairments in the Cognition/Intellectual Domain Predict Impairments in Other Neurodevelopmental Domains?

Main Presenting Author: Oinonen, Kirsten A.

Additional Authors: Nagar, Ritwik ; Chafe, Kristen; Unsworth, Kathy; Cook, Jocelynn

Abstract: *Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is understudied in adults. Little is known about how intelligence/IQ relates to areas of impairment. The Canadian FASD diagnostic guidelines recommend assessing functioning across ten neurodevelopmental domains: cognition/IQ, adaptive behaviour, motor skills, neuroanatomy, language, academic achievement, memory, attention, executive function, and affect regulation. This study investigated the following in adults with FASD: (a) Are both IQ and cognition domain impairments (based on Canadian guidelines) associated with impairments in the other nine domains? (b) Which domain impairment best predicts a cognition domain impairment? Data on 610 adult Canadians diagnosed with FASD were obtained from the Canada FASD Research Network's (CanFASD) National Database in 2022. Adults with a cognition domain impairment had impairment in more domains than those without. Both cognition domain impairments and IQ were associated with impairment in all domains except neuroanatomy, attention, and motor skills, but low IQ appeared protective against an affect regulation impairment. Impaired academic achievement was the strongest predictor of a cognition impairment, and attention impairment was least predictive. Findings may have implications for diagnostic guidelines, assessment practices, interventions, and understanding alcohol's prenatal cognitive effects.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 122864 - Printed Poster

An investigation of "We" agency through the sensitivity of our own agency to co-actor's actions and intentions

Main Presenting Author: Sgro, Delaney

Additional Authors: Obhi, Sukhvinder ; Jenkins, Michael

Abstract: *The way individuals interpret control during joint action depends not only on their own behaviour but also on the performance of those they act with. This study examined whether a co-actor's reduced control shapes an individual's implicit sense of agency during joint action. Sixty-four participants completed independent and joint movement tasks and judged the perceived delay in time*

between their action and its outcome, a common measure of implicit agency. To reduce control, turbulent motion was applied to either the participant's line or their partner's line. In the independent task, participants showed longer perceived delays when their own movement became turbulent compared to when only their partner's movement was affected (t(63)=3.10, p=.003, d=.387), indicating reduced agency when their action was disrupted. In contrast, during the joint task, delays were similarly influenced by self-turbulence and partner-turbulence (t(63) =.308, p>.76, d=.039), suggesting sensitivity to instability in either person's movements. Participants also reported longer delays in time overall in the joint condition, suggesting weaker agency when acting together. These findings highlight how cooperative action shapes individuals' interpretations of control and show that a co-actor's performance directly influences one's implicit sense of agency, contributing to a shared sense of agency.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126357 - Printed Poster

An Updated Exploration and Validation of the State Brain Power Questionnaire

Main Presenting Author: Wagner, Danika

Additional Authors: Ueberholz, Rhiannon ; Eastwood, John D.

Abstract: *Engaging in difficult tasks requiring mental effort is vital for individual and collective growth, but reliable measures of the in-the-moment experience of mental effort are scarce. This study advances research on an in-the-moment measure of mental effort, the State Brain Power Questionnaire (SBPQ), which differentiates between task-elicited and volitional effort. Prior work has established its factor structure and task dependence, yet how the experience of mental effort changes over time during demanding tasks, such as the Continuous Performance Task (CPT), remains unclear. It is hypothesized that ratings of task-elicited effort would remain stable under constant demands, whereas ratings of volitionally exerted effort would increase over time. In this study, 100 participants rated their experience of mental effort using the SBPQ at three CPT points. A repeated-measures ANOVA showed that perceptions of volitional effort increased over time, while task-elicited effort remained consistent. This design confirms the task-elicited subscale's sensitivity and stability, while volitional effort reflects dynamic attention perception influenced by psychological factors. These findings inform future SBPQ research and understanding of mental effort.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123949 - Printed Poster

Association between Parent and Child Attention Skills in a Community-Based Sample

Main Presenting Author: Jolin, Amy

Additional Author: Hai, Tasmia

Abstract: *Background: Due to the high heritability of attention problems, children of parents who display attention difficulties are at a heightened risk of similar problems. However, few studies have used a community-based sample to examine links between parent and child attention, using behavioural measures and parent reports. Methods: 32 youth aged 8-16 years old were recruited from the Greater Montreal Area. Attention was assessed in children using the Conner's Continuous*

Performance Test (CPT-3) and Child Behaviour Checklist (CBCL), and in parents using the Adult ADHD Rating Scale (ASRS). Preliminary Results: Multiple linear regressions were conducted between ASRS scores, CPT-3 scores, and CBCL scores, while controlling for age. Results showed there were no significant associations between ASRS and the CBCL (β = 1.54, SE = 1.25, p =0.23, or CPT-3 (omission errors: β = .402, SE = 1.0, p =0.69; HRT SD: β = -.467, SE = .835, p = 0.58) results. Conclusion: Preliminary findings show that parent attention scores did not predict child attention skills on both objective and subjective measures. Impact: Findings suggest investigation of additonal factors to better understand development of child attention skills.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125885 - Printed Poster

Associations Between Hearing and Default-Mode Network Connectivity in Older Adults With or At Risk for Dementia

Main Presenting Author: Grant, Nicole

Additional Author: Phillips, Natalie

Abstract: *Background/rationale: Hearing loss (HL) in older adults is associated with increased dementia risk, possibly through altered brain function. The default-mode network (DMN) is a brain network that shows decreased connectivity in individuals with Alzheimer's disease (AD), with alterations also seen in at-risk groups. We examined if HL was related to DMN connectivity in individuals with or at risk for dementia. Methods: Participants were 300 older adults from the COMPASS-ND study, including cognitively unimpaired (n=54, mean age=73), subjective cognitive decline (n=64, mean age=72), mild cognitive impairment (n=128, mean age=74) and AD (n=54, mean age=71) groups. Participants were classified as normal hearing (NH; a pure-tone threshold < 25 dB hearing level at 2000 Hz) or HL. Within each diagnostic group, region-of-interest analyses assessed if DMN connectivity differed between NH and HL participants.Results: In each diagnostic group, DMN connectivity did not differ between NH and HL participants (p>0.05). Conclusions: DMN connectivity alterations in individuals with or at risk for dementia are independent of hearing status, at least when HL is assessed via brief screening.Action/impact: Future studies using comprehensive hearing assessments are needed to clarify if HL is related to DMN disruption in dementia and its risk states, which may inform early interventions.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125783 - Printed Poster

Associations Between SURPS Personality Traits and Psilocybin Use in Adults

Main Presenting Author: Smith, Aidan

Additional Authors: Keller, Krista ; Morris, Vanessa

Abstract: *Background: This study aimed to examine which of the four personality traits measured by the Substance Use Risk Profile Scale (SURPS; hopelessness, anxiety sensitivity, impulsivity, sensation seeking) were most prevalent among individuals who have used psilocybin consistently in the past 12 months. Methodology: Adult participants who had and had not consistently used psilocybin in the past year were recruited for the study. Participants attended a laboratory session and completed a structured interview, a battery of questionnaires, and neurocognitive assessments. SURPS scores were*

subsequently analyzed in relation to participants' patterns of psilocybin use.Results: A one-way MANOVA was conducted to examine the effect of psilocybin use in the past 12 months on the four SURPS traits. The multivariate effect was significant (p = .001, partial eta squared = .369). Follow-up univariate ANOVAs showed that psilocybin use had significant effects on anxiety sensitivity (p = .015, partial eta squared = .111), and sensation seeking (p = .001, partial eta squared = .253), with medium and large effect sizes, respectively, while the other two traits (hopelessness and impulsivity) did not differ significantly between the groups.Conclusions: Studying this topic is important as it clarifies the relationship between personality traits and psilocybin use, with implications for targeted prevention and intervention strategies. Impact: Understanding these associations can inform more effective, personalized approaches to substance use management and mental health support.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125704 - Printed Poster

Behavioural and Postauricular Reflex Response during the Food-Effort Expenditure for Rewards Task Modified in Women with and without Binge Eating

Main Presenting Author: Franco, Victoria F.

Additional Author: Racine, Sarah E.

Abstract: *Aberrant reward processing is one mechanism underlying binge eating. The Food-Effort Expenditure for Rewards Task (F-EEfRT) measures willingness to expend effort for food rewards by choosing between an easy task (1 portion of food) and a hard task (2-5 food portions), with probability of receiving the reward varying by trial. The postauricular reflex (PAR), a muscle reflex behind the ear, is a psychophysiological index of reward relevant to binge eating. In women with (n = 106) and without (n = 50) binge eating, we examined whether binge eating was related to behavioural choices and PAR during the F-EEfRT performance. Reward probability, magnitude, and their interaction significantly predicted the probability of choosing the hard versus the easy task. PAR was greater for during all hard tasks (2-5 food portions) versus the easy task choices. Greater binge eating was associated with greater hard versus easy task choices, but binge eating did not interact with reward magnitude nor probability to predict behavioural choices or PAR. Results suggest that behavioural and psychophysiological markers of reward scale with reward magnitude. Future studies should compare effort expenditure across different reward domains and examine comorbidities such as depression.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123732 - Printed Poster

Cannabis Routes of Administration and Psychological Symptoms in Emerging Adults

Main Presenting Author: Freiman, Leeor

Additional Authors: Courtice, Erin L.; Peyvandi, Rose; Farrelly, N. Kyra; Wardell, Jeffrey D.

Abstract: *Cannabis routes of administration (ROAs; e.g., smoking, vaping, oral) differ in onset and intensity of psychoactive effects and may be differentially associated with mental health symptoms.*

However, little is known about how preferred ROAs relate to depression, anxiety, and stress in emerging adults. This study examined associations between preferred ROAs and psychological symptoms among emerging adult cannabis users.Participants (N = 151; Mage = 24.41, SD = 3.91; 52% female) completed validated measures of cannabis use, preferred ROAs, and symptoms of depression, anxiety, and stress. One-way ANOVAs examined differences in depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms across smoked (n = 69), vaped (n = 48), and oral (n = 34) ROA groups.A significant group difference was observed for depression, F(2,148) = 3.30, p = .040. Post-hoc analyses indicated that participants who primarily used oral ROAs reported higher depression scores than those who mainly smoked cannabis. However, this difference did not reach conventional significance levels (p = .052). No group differences were found for anxiety or stress.Our findings suggest that preferred cannabis ROAs may be differentially associated with depressive symptoms in emerging adults and highlight the potential value of ROA screening in research and clinical settings.

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 125377 - Printed Poster

Characteristics of Involuntary Autobiographical Memories Cued by Emotional Videos

Main Presenting Author: Bosyj, Catherine

Additional Author: Biss, Renée

Abstract: *Background: Involuntary autobiographical memories (IAMs) are thought to support a coherent sense of self across time through spontaneous reminders of one's life story. To understand how IAMs support this function, it is crucial to understand how the phenomenological properties of IAMs relate to the cues that elicit them. Therefore, this study compared the properties of IAMs elicited by positive, neutral, and negative videos.Methods: 68 undergraduate students described and rated properties of IAMs retrieved while watching brief (3 to 13.5s) emotional video clips. IAM properties included recollection, vividness, coherence, importance, rehearsal, and specificity. Results: Positive and negative-video cues elicited IAMs that were more important and specific than neutrally-cued IAMs. Negatively-cued IAMs were also more important than positively-cued IAMs. There were no other differences in properties across cue valence. Conclusions: Cue emotionality biases the content of retrieved IAMs. Emotional material cues specific IAMs that are important to one's life narrative, with negative cues eliciting the most important IAMs. Impact: These findings illuminate the range of subjective experience of IAM retrieval. In emotional situations, people may benefit from retrieving specific, personally important memories that strengthen connection to personal identity.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124566 - Printed Poster

Cloze probability norms for a bilingual speech in noise task

Main Presenting Author: Unal, Duru

Additional Authors: Klein , Denise ; Kousaie , Shanna

Abstract: *Speech perception in noise (SPIN) is necessary for successful communication given that most environments are noisy. In bilinguals, SPIN is required in their two languages. Well-normed sentence stimuli exist for studying SPIN in English, but not in French. The goal of this study is to*

create a normed set of French/English sentence stimuli to study SPIN in the two languages of bilinguals. Cloze probability norms were collected from a sample of native French (n=244) and/or English (n=356) participants aged 18-35 years old who completed an online survey that required them to complete a series of sentences with the first word that came to mind. Preliminary analyses show that responses vary based on whether the sentences provide high or low context. High context sentences lead to similar responses across participants (high cloze probability), while low context sentences lead to significant variability in responses (low cloze probability). Sentences with greater than 75% and less that 25% concordance in responses will be included in the high and low cloze probability lists, respectively. French/English bilingual SPIN stimuli will be created with sentences matched across high and low cloze lists and across languages in terms of sentence characteristics and the lexical properties of high cloze sentence final words. The stimuli will be made available for use by other researchers.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124919 - Printed Poster

Comparing visual search for face identity, expression, sex and ethnicity.

Main Presenting Author: Kaur, Navdeep
Co-Presenting Author: Hooge, Isabella

Additional Author: Albonico, Andrea

Abstract: *Face recognition is a key ability that allows people to make social judgments by determining who the person is and interpreting other features of a face, such as expression, age, and ethnicity. Existing models of face processing propose that identity and other facial attributes are handled by partly separate systems in the brain. This study investigates the independence of such systems by examining and comparing the efficiency with which various facial characteristics are processed during a visual search task. Participants viewed arrays of two, four, or six faces and indicated whether one face differed from the others. Four separate tasks were designed to assess identity, expression, ethnicity, and sex. Results showed that search times were significantly longer for identity and notably shorter for ethnicity. Significant correlations emerged across nearly all tests and outcome measures. Comparisons of target-present and target-absent trials revealed that none of the tasks aligned with a serial-search-terminating model. Overall, the findings indicate that different facial characteristics share early-stage processing but diverge into more specialized recognition mechanisms at later stages.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124928 - Printed Poster

Cortisol reactivity and recovery during the Trier Social Stress Test following a single bout of aerobic exercise at different ventilatory-demarcated intensities

Main Presenting Author: McHegg, Leo

Additional Authors: Puterman, Eli ; Hicks, Hana; Hives, Benjamin; Hadwen, Brook; Abercrombie, Max; Zieff, Gabriel; Beauchamp, Mark; Chen, Frances

Abstract: *Chronic stress is a major predictor of ill health, operating partly via prolonged activation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis. Studies have mostly, yet inconsistently, shown that a*

bout of aerobic exercise attenuates subsequent HPA axis reactivity to a stressor. We propose that inconsistent results are likely due to the operationalization of intensity as percent of estimated maximal heart rate rather than physiologically relevant thresholds, such as the first and second ventilatory thresholds (VT1, VT2). Cortisol is released when VT1 is surpassed, instigating negative feedback of the HPA axis. Here, we examined how a 30-min bout of aerobic exercise at light (2.7 km/hr), moderate (10% below VT1), or vigorous (midway between VT1 and VT2) intensity affected cortisol levels during a subsequent psychosocial stressor in 84 healthy adults aged 18-35. Multilevel growth curve analyses revealed that, following vigorous exercise, increases in cortisol during stress exposure were blunted compared with moderate (β = -1.78, $p < .001$) and light (β = -1.87, $p < .001$) exercise, as were rates of decline (ps < .001). No differences were observed between moderate and light exercise. Results indicate that exercise above VT1 dampens subsequent neuroendocrine stress reactivity. Future research should examine effects of acute exercise on psychological and autonomic stress reactivity.

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 124083 - Printed Poster

Decoding the Sleeper Effect: An ERP Investigation into the Unconscious and Conscious Processes of False Fame Recognition

Main Presenting Author: Bucci, Grace

Additional Authors: Newman, Randy ; Bleile, Karmen

Abstract: *The dual process model proposes that true-source recollection and familiarity are independent yet cohesive processes. True-source recollection involves vivid awareness of specific details and context, whereas familiarity is a vague sense of memory based on prior experience that can lead to misattributions. Jacoby et al. (1989) found that prior exposure to nonfamous names led participants to mistakenly identifying them as famous. The present study aimed to extend this work by using ERPs to assess neural components associated with recollection and familiarity, namely the Late Positive Component (LPC) and the FN400. Eleven participants were presented with a list of nonfamous names, and after 24 hours judged the fame of previously presented names, new nonfamous names, and famous names. The behavioural data showed a trend consistent with Jacoby et al.'s findings: old nonfamous names were more often judged as famous than new ones. An FN400 was visible; however, too few false-fame trials prevented full analysis. An LPC was visually larger for famous names but not statistically significant. Overall, the results were promising, showing the potential to apply ERPs to the false fame effect to better understand the neural signatures of familiarity and recollection. These findings highlight the role of the dual process model in the acceptance of misinformation.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125537 - Printed Poster

Decreased Sound Tolerance in Children and Young Adults: Investigating Characteristics of Misophonia and Hyperacusis

Main Presenting Author: Wortley, Lily D

Additional Authors: Carson, Tana B; Fournier, Philippe; Norena, Arnaud; Scheerer, Nichole E

Abstract: *Decreased Sound Tolerance (DST) is a sensory experience characterized by unusually strong negative reactions to everyday sounds that do not bother most people. DST occurs in children with normal hearing thresholds; thus, it is not a difference in hearing, but rather it reflects differences in how the brain processes and responds to sound. Crucially, DST greatly impacts the ways in which an individual interacts with the world around them. DST in childhood remains largely understudied, with most existing work being adult centered. As a result, we are still lacking descriptive data on how DST subtypes present in children and how common these presentations are. Here, fifty-one children (Mage=7.8,SDAge=1.9) participated in a two-part study. For the first part, both the children and their parents completed a questionnaire related to the child's experiences with sound. The children then took part in a Core Discriminant Sounds (CDS) task, in which they were exposed to potential auditory trigger sounds and asked to rate the subjective pleasantness and loudness of the sounds. Results of this study will provide insight into the prevalence and characteristics of DST in children. Given children function in auditory rich environments, this study may inform the development of interventions to help support children as they navigate noisy environments.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126236 - Printed Poster

Default Mode Network Connectivity Alterations and Symptom Trajectories in Psychiatric Disorders: A Transdiagnostic and Longitudinal Study

Main Presenting Author: Calmels, Samuel

Additional Authors: Almey, Anne ; Blais-Michaud, Sophie; Ducharme, Simon

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: The default mode network (DMN) is central to self-referential and emotional processes, and its dysregulation is reported across psychiatric disorders. Identifying neural markers linked to symptom severity and clinical improvement may inform transdiagnostic assessment.Methods: Seventy-eight patients with affective, psychotic, anxiety, or personality disorders completed resting-state fMRI; fifty-nine were reassessed six months later. Connectivity among four DMN regions (left/right angular gyrus, precuneus, medial frontal cortex) was tested. Clinical severity (CGI-S) and improvement (CGI-I) were correlated with intra-DMN connectivity using general linear models with TFCE-based correction.Results: Greater baseline severity was associated with higher precuneus-MedFC connectivity. Poorer six-month improvement was linked to stronger AG-L-precuneus connectivity, and poor improvers showed globally higher intra-DMN coupling.Conclusions: Elevated DMN connectivity reflects greater symptom burden and poorer recovery across diagnoses.Action/Impact: Findings support the DMN as a transdiagnostic neural marker with potential utility for prognosis and personalized intervention strategies.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 124405 - Printed Poster

Does Money Really Matter? On the Matter of Cognition, Emotion and Resultant Functioning in Patients with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury During and After Litigation Settlement in a Medico-Legal Context

Main Presenting Author: Mascarenhas, Melanie
Co-Presenting Author: Abrar, Kaynaat

Additional Authors: Anchekova, Liliana ; Ramani, Sanghamithra; Bougadis, Joshua; Zakzanis, Konstantine

Abstract: *While most individuals recover from mild traumatic brain injuries (mTBI) within the acute phase, a minority of individuals experience persistent cognitive, psychological, and somatic symptoms with consequent functional impairments beyond the acute phase. Litigation has been identified as a significant predictor of persisting symptoms and functional impairment after mTBI, however the mechanisms by which it does have yet to be elucidated. Using a longitudinal within-groups design, this pilot study sought to examine cognitive, psychological, and functional outcomes in patients with mTBI during litigation and after settlement. 10 patients who sustained a mTBI who previously completed comprehensive neuropsychological examinations whilst in litigation were recruited. Patients completed a second neuropsychological examination after litigation settlement. Changes between the two examinations were analyzed at the individual and group level. Improvements in anxiety ($W = 35$, $p = 0.021$, $r = 0.55$) and depression ($t(8) = 4.83$, $p = 0.001$, Cohen's $d = 0.78$) were observed. Exploratory correlational analyses suggested that motivation played a key role in the improvement of functioning. These findings challenge the traditional "money matters" narrative, demonstrating that financial compensation and settlement alone are not enough to attenuate symptoms and functional disability.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 122321 - Printed Poster

Effects of Redundancy on Response Time, Accuracy, and Workload Capacity in Simple Decision Making

Main Presenting Author: Choong, Yi Ling

Additional Author: Cousineau, Denis

Abstract: *Redundant attribute detection tasks have been widely studied with various stimuli, but research specifically focusing on letters and workload capacity is rare. This study examines the influence of redundant attributes on response time, accuracy, and workload capacity using a redundant attribute detection (RAD) task. Experiment 1 used a RAD task with stimuli of varying numbers of letters (1-4) and font styles (Identity, Italic, or both). Data from twenty-four participants were analyzed to assess redundancy effects on response time and accuracy. Results showed a strong redundancy gain, supporting coactivation and ruling out parallel processing, Improved response time also suggests coactivation, highlighting the importance of stimulus features in cognitive processing and simple decision-making. Experiment 2 replicated Experiment 1, using only the Identity condition. Data from twenty-five participants were analyzed to assess redundancy effects on response time and workload capacity. Results confirmed the coactivation observed in Experiment 1, with strong coactivation in three redundant attributes, indicating significant increase in cognitive processing. Redundant attributes also lead to supercapacity, thus enhancing information-processing efficiency. Both experiments provide strong evidence of redundancy's powerful role in enhancing cognitive and information processing efficiency.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124762 - Printed Poster

Evaluating Waves of Change: A Pre-Post Study of Bystander Intervention Training

Main Presenting Author: Noonan, Dayna

Additional Authors: Prusaczyk, Elvira ; Stewart, Emilia; Lambe, Laura ; Blackburn, Heather

Abstract: *Sexual violence remains a significant concern on Canadian post-secondary campuses, underscoring the need for evidence-based prevention programs. Many Atlantic universities, including St. Francis Xavier University, have adopted Waves of Change (WoC), a bystander-intervention program designed to increase first-year students' knowledge of sexual violence and their willingness to intervene when witnessing sexual violence. Yet despite its growing use and visibility, WoC has yet to be formally evaluated with a pre-post design--an essential approach for measuring within-person change to determine whether the program genuinely improves students' knowledge, readiness to act, and bystander behaviour. This study provides a two-wave longitudinal evaluation of WoC at StFX. Students (N = 65) completed two surveys approximately six weeks apart, assessing campus safety perceptions, sexual-violence knowledge, and bystander intervention preparedness and behaviour. It is predicted that, relative to their baselines, students will show increased knowledge and greater bystander preparedness and intervention behaviour after completing WoC. Data collection is complete, and analyses will occur in January 2026. Findings will offer much-needed evidence of the program's impact and guide refinements to sexual-violence prevention efforts at StFX and across Nova Scotia.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125800 - Printed Poster

Examining bilingual language experience, cognitive function, and brain connectivity in aging

Main Presenting Author: Lee, Jasmine G

Additional Author: Kousaie, Shanna

Abstract: *Growing evidence shows that cognitively demanding tasks, such as speaking multiple languages, may be a source of cognitive reserve (i.e., spared cognitive function despite age-related neuropathology). The current study examines whether different bilingual language experience factors (e.g., age of second language acquisition; AoA) are linked to cognitive or brain function in aging. Healthy older bilingual adults (ages 65+) completed a language history questionnaire, the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA), Cognitive Reserve Index questionnaire (CRIq), and a resting state functional magnetic resonance imaging (rs-fMRI) scan. Preliminary rs-fMRI analyses computed the average connectivity within brain networks of interest (i.e., language, frontoparietal, default mode and salience networks). Backward stepwise linear regressions related bilingual language use to cognitive and rs-fMRI measures. AoA was significantly positively linked to CRIq scores (i.e., cognitive reserve) but not MoCA scores (i.e., cognitive function). Relative language use was significantly related to decreased connectivity within the frontoparietal network. Preliminary findings link bilingual language experience to increased cognitive reserve and reduced brain connectivity. More research is needed to determine the mechanisms by which language experience may support cognitive reserve and brain function in aging.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124005 - Printed Poster

Examining the Interplay between Stress, Cognition, and Sexual Minority Status in Middle-aged and Older Adults: Findings from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging

Main Presenting Author: Marshall, Max J.

Additional Author: Fiocco, Alexandra J.

Abstract: *The negative effects of chronic stress on cognitive health are well-documented; however, there is a paucity of research examining this association in sexual and gender minority (SGM) older adults. Examining the relationship between stress and cognition in this sample is of particular importance given that SGM older adults report elevated levels of both psychological distress and biological indices of stress (i.e., allostatic load; AL). The current study examined the association between self-reported and biological stress and cognition to determine whether sexual minority status (SMS) moderates this relationship. It was hypothesized that greater psychological distress and AL respectively would predict poorer cognitive function at baseline and over time, and that this relationship would be more prominent for SGM participants. Using data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging, (Mage= 67, 50.1% female, 98.1% heterosexual), linear mixed-effects models revealed a main effect of distress on global cognition (ß= -.52, p= .04) and executive function (ß= -.60, p= .02), and a main effect of AL on executive function (ß= -1.37, p= .04). There was no effect of distress or AL on cognition over time and SMS did not moderate any relationship at baseline or over time (ß-range= -.43 to .21, p= .223 to .828). Future directions for more representative sampling will be discussed.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 125893 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Role of Personality Traits and Conspiracy Beliefs in Statistical Anxiety and Cognitive Flexibility

Main Presenting Author: O'Hara, Meaghan F

Additional Author: Cousineau, Denis

Abstract: *Reasons for adhering to conspiracy theories are an emerging topic of research that needs to be studied in relation to other concepts. This research explored associations between tendency to hold conspiracy beliefs, personality traits, and views regarding statistics. It also included tests that measure a person's ability to incorporate new information and to solve simple questions. A self-reported online questionnaire with measures on conspiracy beliefs, spontaneity, statistics anxiety, attitudes towards statistics, math and general anxiety, as well as the Wisconsin card sorting test, and the cognitive reflection test was administered. Correlations between conspiracy beliefs and certain statistics anxiety subscales as well as attitudes towards statistics were observed. The outcome of the Wisconsin task showed negative correlations between the number of correct answers a participant had and math anxiety as well as spontaneity measures and anxiety to interpret statistics. Cluster analyses were run to identify a profile of those with high and low conspiracy beliefs to examine the relationship between Wisconsin task measures of conceptual responses and perseverative errors. A profile of those*

high in conspiracy belief with higher perseverative errors and statistics anxiety were identified. Future research on a more varied populations is discussed.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123698 - Printed Poster

Exploring the Voice of OCD

Main Presenting Author: Bowman, Erin

Additional Authors: Eschenwecker, Tyler ; Rowa, Karen; Purdon, Christine

Abstract: *Preliminary research in our lab (Chiang & Purdon, 2023) found that participants with OCD experienced obsessive doubt as a neutral dominant voice, narrative, or dialogue, delivered by one part of the self to the other. This study replicated and extended these preliminary findings by exploring the phenomenology of an obsessional voice in OCD. Adults with a past diagnosis of OCD (N=20) were administered a semi-structured interview asking about their experience of the OCD voice during obsessive-compulsive episodes in which they performed versus resisted a compulsion. All participants reported experiencing their OCD as a voice, often separate from the self (n=11), and most engaged with the voice in an internal dialogue (n=17). In episodes in which the compulsion was performed, the OCD voice tended to subside after the compulsion (n=15), whereas in episodes in which the compulsion was resisted, about half reported the voice subsided once dismissed as irrelevant (n=10). Finally, there was greater conflict between the self and the OCD voice when obsessions led to a compulsion, and the OCD voice was more persistent before the compulsion. These preliminary findings emphasize the merit of further studying intrapersonal dynamics between the OCD voice and other parts of the self, and the potential therapeutic value of identifying and addressing people's relationship with their OCD voice.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124800 - Printed Poster

Eye Movements and the Perceptual Span in Native English and Korean-English Bilingual Readers

Main Presenting Author: Guedea , Erika

Additional Authors: Nah, Kyoungsil ; Swiderski, Natasha ; Cornwell, Sarah; Joanisse, Marc F; Rafat, Yasaman; Whitford, Veronica

Abstract: *Background: The perceptual span (breadth of parafoveal processing during reading) is a key contributor to reading fluency (Schotter et al., 2012). However, limited research has focused on bilingual readers, especially those with different writing systems. Thus, we examined first language (L1) and second language (L2) perceptual span in Korean-English bilinguals (who have syllabic-block and alphabetic scripts, respectively) relative to L1 perceptual span in native English speakers. Methods: Participants (21 native English speakers, 26 Korean-English bilinguals; aged 18-37) silently read 75 sentences while being eye-tracked. The sentences were presented using a gaze-contingent moving window paradigm, which manipulated rightward parafoveal visibility, providing indices of reading fluency and perceptual span. Results: Linear mixed-effects models revealed reduced L1 reading fluency (more fixations, slower reading rates) and reduced L1 perceptual span in bilinguals vs. native English speakers. Additionally, bilinguals exhibited a larger L2 (English) vs. L1*

(Korean) perceptual span. Impact: Our findings suggest that orthographic structure modulates reading behaviour and perceptual span. Korean, a syllabic-block script that clusters phonemes into syllable blocks, affords more limited parafoveal processing than English, an alphabetic script that maps graphemes onto individual phonemes.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125429 - Printed Poster

From Neglect to Inattention: Executive Functioning as a Mediator of Adverse Childhood Experiences in Emerging Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: Hohn, Lillea

Additional Authors: Gaudry, Mitchell ; Cooper, Tara; Viczko, Jeremy; Chim, Louise; Smart, Colette

Abstract: *Background: Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), particularly neglect, are linked to long-term attention difficulties. Early neglect may impact the development of executive functioning skills by disrupting experience-dependent maturation of the frontoparietal network, contributing to later attention problems. The mechanisms linking early neglect to attention problems in emerging adulthood remain unclear. Methods: Data from 249 undergraduate students (aged 18-25) were analyzed. Participants completed self-report measures of ACEs, executive functioning, and inattention. Mediation analysis tested whether executive functioning behaviours explained the association between neglect ACEs and attention problems.Results: Neglect-related ACEs significantly predicted attention problems (total effect: $b = 3.12$, $SE = .68$, 95% CI [1.79, 4.45], $p < .001$). This association was partially mediated by executive functioning, as indicated by a significant indirect effect ($b = 0.84$, $SE = .35$, CI [0.15, 1.53], $p < .001$). The model explained 30% of the variance in attention problems ($R^2 = .30$).Conclusions: Results suggest that early neglect contributes to later attention difficulties in part through their impact on executive functioning. Impact: Interventions targeting executive functioning skills may help reduce attention problems in emerging adults with a history of childhood neglect.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123284 - Printed Poster

Frontal Alpha Asymmetry Across Graded Sensory Challenge: Investigating Regulatory Demands During Standing Balance

Main Presenting Author: Cluett, Rachel G

Additional Authors: Ghalibaf, Erfan ; Pagiatakis, Catherine; Vanlian, Nicholas ; Jack, Nathalie ; Ralston, John ; Khundrakpam, Budhachandra ; Bertone, Armando

Abstract: *Background: Frontal alpha asymmetry (FAA), an inter-hemispheric differences in alpha wave power, has been linked to task demands and sensory states. Its relationship to real-time sensory reweighting during postural control remains unexplored. This pilot establishes methodological feasibility and generates preliminary effects to guide powered future studies. Method: Four neurotypical adults completed four 1-minute graded sensory conditions (eyes open/closed × stable/foam surface) while 13-channel EEG and physiological vibration acceleration (phybrata) sensing were recorded, resulting in concurrent EEG and biomechanical capture to cortical dynamics*

during balance maintenance. Results: A gradient of FAA modulation (lnF4 -lnF3) related to increasing sensory challenge is expected, where FAA is most right-lateralized when visual and proprioceptive input are challenged. Changes in FAA are also expected to correspond to increased vestibular band power, reflecting sensory reweighting when sensory cues are unavailable.Conclusion: The present work establishes a passive method for assessing whether frontal regulatory processes track graded increases in postural control demands.Proof of concept impact: Demonstrating FAA sensitivity to graded sensory demands establishes a biomarker for defining the development of sensory-motor integration in both neurotypical and neurodivergent persons.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124604 - Printed Poster

Grey area thinking: Cognitive processes to differentiate GAD and OCD

Main Presenting Author: Parkinson, Sydney A

Additional Authors: McCabe, Randi E; Rice , Danielle ; Frey, N Benicio; Rowa , Karen

Abstract: *Clinicians struggle to differentiate OCD and GAD due to overlapping features between worry and obsessions and shared behavioural symptoms. When clients present in this "grey area", considering the shared and unique cognitive mechanisms associated with each disorder may be helpful. This narrative review highlights the role of cognitive mechanisms in explaining differences and similarities in OCD and GAD. Results suggest that importance and control of one's thought, cognitive self-consciousness, and attentional control are relevant to distinguishing OCD and GAD. Greater attention is directed towards monitoring thoughts in OCD vs. GAD and appraisal of thoughts as being harmful inflates beliefs that thoughts are important and should be controlled. Deficits in shifting attention are more pronounced in GAD and may cause difficulty disengaging from worry. Intolerance of uncertainty, perfectionism, thought-action fusion, and responsibility are likely transdiagnostic factors and less useful in distinguishing unclear presentations. The contribution of negative problem orientation and specific metacognitive beliefs remains largely unclear. Findings have important implications for assessment, as paying attention to these mechanisms may help clinicians improve diagnostic clarity, facilitating effective treatment planning and appropriate care pathways for clients living with OCD and GAD.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123124 - Printed Poster

How do adult readers' comprehension goals impact eye-movement measures of reading? A scoping review

Main Presenting Author: Semenova, Elena

Additional Authors: Titone, Debra ; Gosselin, Leah

Abstract: *A wealth of psycholinguistic research has examined the ways in which adults encode and comprehend written material. However, much of this work has overlooked how readers' comprehension goals (e.g., reading for studying) impact moment-by-moment word encoding processes. Here, we present a knowledge synthesis study that reviews the effects of comprehension goals on eye movements during reading in adults. While existing studies on the effect of comprehension goals have mainly been conducted using behavioral measures (Latini et al., 2019),*

eye-tracking methodologies have only just begun to inform research on reading goals (Yeari et al., 2015). Thus, it is essential to synthesize existing knowledge to inform future studies before continuing research into how comprehension goals impact online reading behavior. We address the following questions: (1) How do adult readers' comprehension goals impact their comprehension outcomes? (2) How do adult readers' comprehension goals impact eye-movement patterns reflective of text encoding? (3) How do individual differences (e.g., language background, reading experiences, etc.) modulate comprehension outcomes and eye-movement patterns? Collectively, this review advances our understanding of the ways in which external phenomena (e.g., experimentally manipulated comprehension goals) modulate internal processes (e.g., eye movements) during reading.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123705 - Printed Poster

How Visual Attention Plays Favourites: Exploring Attentional Bias across Neurodivergence and Sensory Environments

Main Presenting Author: Molenaar, Adrianna M

Additional Authors: Bhutta, Taha Z; Saunders, Soraiya O; Scheerer, E Nichole

Abstract: *Attentional biases, such as the tendency to allocate more attention to emotional stimuli compared to neutral stimuli, are often exaggerated in neurodivergent (e.g., Autism, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; ADHD) people. This can manifest as positive and negative biases and can vary by stimulus type. Neurodivergent people often also show differences in sensory processing, viewing high sensory environments as more overwhelming than their neurotypical peers. It is currently unknown if attentional biases differ across sensory environments, and if this possible difference is related to neurodiversity. Thirty-six children (Mage=8.35,SDage=1.70); six autistic, five ADHD, and twenty-five neurotypical, completed a dot-probe task in which they viewed pairs of positive & neutral, and negative & neutral images, in virtual reality, in either a busy cityscape (high sensory) or an empty (low sensory) environment. Preliminary results found a main effect of bias type, (F(1,29)=7.10,p=.013), and interactions between bias and sensory environment (F(2,29)=5.29,p=.029), and bias type, sensory environment and diagnosis (F(2,29)=3.50,p=.044). Additional analyses will assess differences across image types (faces, scenes, etc.). Overall, this research helps to lay the groundwork for understanding how attention bias differs across individuals as we interact with a sensory-rich world*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125179 - Printed Poster

Improving Noise-Robust Recall in Spiking Recurrent Associative Memory Using Bursting

Main Presenting Author: Ramkaran, Chohinishta Boodhoo
Co-Presenting Author: Chartier, Sylvain

Abstract: *Explaining how the brain stores and retrieves patterns under partial information remains challenging. Formal models based on spiking recurrent associative memory, relying on Hebbian-type learning, struggle to store distributed, correlated patterns because they emit single binary events*

instead of real-output values as in non- spiking models. This study tested whether spike bursts can improve robustness. Bursts offer rapid, repeated signalling that may strengthen weak inputs during noisy recall. A bidirectional spiking associative network was trained with Hebbian and anti-Hebbian rules on 10 correlated lowercase-uppercase letter pairs encoded as 7×7 binary grids and converted into spike trains (about 20% memory load). Spikes drove synaptic currents and membrane voltages in a cubic integrate-and-fire neuron model. The network was tested with up to 30% pixel-flip noise while varying burst size (1-5 spikes). Recall declined with noise in all cases, but bursting improved performance by about 20%. These results show that biologically plausible bursting dynamics enhance noise-robust associative recall, better capture neuronal temporal processing and can also help bridge the gap between cognitive and neural processes.Keywords: Artificial neural networks, neurodynamics, cognition

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124465 - Printed Poster

Individual Differences in Executive Functions and Retrieval-Induced Forgetting: A Scoping Review

Main Presenting Author: Zhang, Liyoumei

Additional Authors: Briere, Jennifer L.; Marche, Tammy A.

Abstract: *Retrieval-induced forgetting (RIF) occurs when retrieving a subset of information from memory impairs later recall of related but non-retrieved information. Decades of research view RIF as inhibition-driven, where retrieving the target activates and suppresses competing items. In contrast, the competition/interference account argues that suppression is unnecessary and that competition alone produces RIF. However, the extent to which each mechanism operates likely varies across individuals and has received little research attention. Individual differences in executive functions (EFs) do exist and may influence individuals' ability to demonstrate RIF, yet how specific EF components contribute to RIF remains unclear, with many researchers assuming their involvement without direct empirical evidence. Using Joanna Briggs Institute methodology, this scoping review mapped how RIF studies assessed EF-related individual differences and interpreted the associated RIF findings, revealing that EFs were typically measured only indirectly, few studies directly assessed specific EF components, and many assumed inhibition as the primary mechanism without distinguishing it from competition/interference processes. Overall, this review underscores the need to explicitly integrate EFs into RIF research and empirically examine individual differences to clarify EF-RIF relationships across contexts.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125912 - Printed Poster

Intentionality shapes how observers perceive eye gaze: Evidence from webcam eye-tracking

Main Presenting Author: Yi, Siqi

Additional Authors: Mayrand, Florence ; Savoie, Jessica; Ristic, Jelena

Abstract: *Background : While humans can perceive mental states from others' eyes, the mechanisms underlying this behaviour remain unknown. To address this question, here we measured observers' responses and eye movements using webcam tracking while they completed a gaze-prediction task. Methods: Participants viewed videos of a gazer looking either left or right, however before the eye movement occurred they were asked to report on the anticipated direction of the saccade. Unknown to the participants, on half the trials, the gazer chose where to look (intentional gaze) and on the other half they were instructed where to look (instructed gaze). Results: Consistent with our prior work, preliminary results show that participants overall responded faster when eye gaze was intentional. Eye-tracking results further revealed that intentionality in gaze movements also related to participants' eye movements. That is, when the gaze was intentional, participants' eye movements more reliably aligned with their eventual choice, whereas instructed trials showed weaker or counter-aligned patterns. Conclusions and impact: These findings suggest that intentionality information perceived in gaze may also shape attentional anticipation of looking behaviour in observers, possibly suggesting a mirroring mechanism for shared attention in gaze communication.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126223 - Printed Poster

Intentionality Shapes Perception of Eye Gaze Signals

Main Presenting Author: Savoie, Jessica

Additional Authors: Ristic, Jelena ; Mayrand, Florence; Yi, Siqi

Abstract: *Although humans can 'read' each other's eyes, research remains scarce on the specific properties of eye gaze movements that signal this information. To study this behaviour, we asked four gazers to look to the right or to the left. Critically, on some trials, the gazers chose where to look, and on the other trials they were instructed where to look, thereby creating intentional and instructed eye movements. The gazing clips were shown to a group of naïve observers in a random and unlabeled sequence. They were asked to rate the perceived speed and confidence of each eye movement using a 0/low-100/high scale. Intentional eye movements were rated as significantly slower and with lower confidence than instructed eye movements. This supports the notion that humans are sensitive to mental state information within eye gaze signals.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126356 - Printed Poster

Intuitive Theories of Attention: How Observed Behaviour Informs Perceptions of Others' Attention

Main Presenting Author: huang, yuanze

Additional Author: Colombatto, Clara

Abstract: *When we look at other people, we can perceive a wide range of information about them, from demographic attributes to personality traits. Social interactions however also require that we perceive others' cognitive states, such as whether they are attentive or distracted. Here we examine how people infer others' attentional states from their responses to external stimuli. We hypothesized that judgments of attentiveness would depend on agents' response times, but also whether they had*

been cued to attend to the correct location ('valid' cues) or opposite directions ('invalid' cues). Participants viewed video clips of agents completing a spatial cueing task and rated their attentiveness after each trial. Judgments of attentiveness overall declined as response time increased; but critically, this effect was modulated by cue condition: the actors were perceived as less attentive when they responded slowly, especially following valid (vs. invalid) cues. These works suggest that observers integrate environmental properties (e.g., cue validity) and observed behaviour (e.g., response times) when forming impressions of others' attentional states. More broadly, these findings begin to uncover people's expectations about how attention should be influenced by external signals, and how it manifests in overt behaviour- the study of intuitive theories of attention.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126090 - Printed Poster

Later Bedtimes, Shorter Sleep, and Pre-Sleep Arousal Are Linked to Poorer Attention in Adolescents

Main Presenting Author: Smith, Fiona N
Co-Presenting Author: Denault, Jaslie

Additional Authors: Saha, Sujata ; Somerville, Gail; Gruber, Reut

Abstract: *Adolescence involves changes in sleep and cognition. Biological shifts in circadian rhythms, along with academic and social demands, contribute to later sleep timing, shorter sleep, and increased stress, which are linked to heightened pre-bedtime arousal that may delay sleep onset. Adequate sleep supports attention essential for learning, yet most research focuses on sleep duration rather than how multiple sleep dimensions relate to attention.Objective: To examine associations between sleep timing, duration, pre-sleep arousal, and attentional functioning in typically developing adolescents.Hypothesis: Later sleep timing, shorter sleep, and higher pre-sleep cognitive arousal will be associated with poorer attention.Methods: Forty-nine adolescents (M = 13.38, SD = 1.30) completed four school nights of wrist actigraphy and sleep logs. Pre-sleep arousal was measured with the Pre-Sleep Arousal Scale, and cognitive performance with the Stroop Test and Shifting Attention Test.Results: Higher pre-sleep cognitive arousal and later bedtimes were associated with poorer attention and shifting abilities ($r(49) = .31$, $p < .05$; $r(49) = .29$, $p < .05$). Longer sleep duration was associated with better performance ($r(49) = -.34$, $p < .05$; $r(44) = -.38$, $p < .01$).Conclusion: Variations in sleep patterns and pre-sleep arousal are linked to attentional processes, warranting further investigation.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125907 - Printed Poster

Le rôle de la contraception orale dans le développement de la régulation émotionnelle à l'adolescence

Main Presenting Author: Leblanc, Roxanne

Additional Author: Marin, Marie-France

Abstract: *Introduction. La régulation émotionnelle implicite (RÉI) renvoie aux processus automatiques modulant les émotions. Ses altérations sont liées à divers troubles, dont la dépression,*

plus fréquente chez les filles dès la puberté, suggérant un rôle des hormones sexuelles. Chez les utilisatrices de contraceptifs oraux (CO), les fluctuations des hormones sexuelles sont inhibées. Les études suggèrent un lien négatif entre CO et RÉI, mais les études transversales chez des adultes limitent la compréhension de cet effet et ignorent l'aspect développemental. Objectif. Examiner l'effet de l'initiation des CO sur le développement de la RÉI à l'adolescence comparativement à des non-utilisatrices et à des garçons. Méthode. Les données proviennent de trois temps de mesure de l'ABCD Study (11 880 enfants): T1 (10-11 ans), T2 (12-13 ans) et T3 (14-15 ans). L'échantillon inclura que des non-utilisatrices à T1 et des garçons. À chaque temps, les participants ont rapporté s'ils utilisaient ou non des CO (UCO) et ont complété une tâche de Stroop émotionnel mesurant la RÉI. Les réponses au UCO à T3 permettront de former trois groupes : non-utilisatrices, utilisatrices actuelles et garçons. Des modèles linéaires mixtes modéliseront l'évolution de la RÉI selon l'initiation des CO. Conclusion. Cette étude précisera les effets des CO et aidera les adolescentes à faire un choix de contraception éclairé.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123018 - Printed Poster

Linguistic and Non-Linguistic Oculomotor Control in Relapse-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis

Main Presenting Author: Stacey, Courtney

Additional Authors: MacGregor, Kate ; Smith, Adam; Whitford, Veronica

Abstract: *Background: Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an autoimmune neurological disorder involving inflammation, demyelination, and neurodegeneration within the central nervous system. Although physical symptoms, sensory disturbances, and visual impairments are well-documented, cognitive dysfunction has received comparatively less attention. Deficits in executive functioning (e.g., inhibition, working memory) and language (e.g., verbal fluency) have been reported; however, reading (an ability that relies on both cognitive and linguistic systems) has yet to be investigated. Here, we employed eye-tracking to investigate naturalistic reading and reading-related executive performance in MS. Methods: A total of 25 native English-speaking adults (11 with relapse-remitting MS, 14 controls) silently read texts (4 x ~200 words) for comprehension and completed an antisaccade task while being eye-tracked. Results: Linear mixed-effects models revealed poorer antisaccade performance (more errors) in the MS group, reflecting reduced executive functioning. As well, the MS group exhibited more effortful eye movement reading behaviour (e.g., shorter saccades) and lower reading comprehension scores.Impact: Although preliminary, our findings suggest that both linguistic (reading) and non-linguistic (executive) oculomotor control are disrupted in MS, and may serve as sensitive markers of cognitive change.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125597 - Printed Poster

Links between Cognitive Aging, Executive Functioning, and Schizotypal Traits

Main Presenting Author: Byers, Narissa

Additional Authors: Pellerin , Korina ; Stacey, Courtney; Whitford, Veronica

Abstract: *Background: Schizotypal traits are milder neurocognitive and interpersonal abnormalities tied to schizophrenia-spectrum disorders. In healthy young adults, such traits are associated with reduced executive functioning (EF) (Sarajehlou et al., 2023); however, scant research has focused on older adults (Bora & Baysan Arabaci, 2009). Here, we examined the relationship between schizotypal traits and EF in older adults experiencing healthy cognitive aging and probable mild cognitive impairment (MCI). Methods: English monolingual older adults (n = 44; Mage = 69.30 years; 28 healthy; 16 probable MCI based on Montreal Cognitive Assessment scores; Nasreddine et al., 2005) completed the Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire-Brief (Raine & Benishay, 1995) and a backwards digit span (BDS) task assessing working memory. Results: Linear regressions revealed that among healthy older adults, greater interpersonal schizotypal traits were associated with poorer working memory performance. Older adults with probable MCI showed the opposite pattern. Impact: Although preliminary, our findings for the healthy aging group mirror those reported for younger adults: a negative relationship between schizotypal traits and EF. In contrast, our findings for the probable MCI group may reflect greater awareness of cognitive decline among those with stronger EF, potentially contributing to social withdrawal.*

Section: *Aging & Geropsychology*
Session ID: 124826 - Printed Poster

Mechanistic Outcome Factors Following Litigation Settlement in Patients with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury

Main Presenting Author: Mascarenhas, Melanie
Co-Presenting Author: Abrar, Kaynaat

Additional Authors: Bougadis, Joshua ; Ramani, Sanghamithra; Zakzanis, Konstantine

Abstract: *Prior studies have linked litigation to prolonged symptom persistence in mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), however the underlying mechanistic factors remain underexplored. Using qualitative methods, this study investigates how litigation influences psychological, cognitive, and functional outcomes post-settlement among mTBI patients. Ten adults with previously litigated mTBIs who reached legal settlement were recruited through an independent medical examination referral source. Semi-structured interviews explored litigation experiences, post-settlement cognitive and emotional recovery, and satisfaction with compensation outcomes. Interviews were transcribed verbatim and analyzed using inductive coding and thematic analysis. Five key themes emerged: the burden of litigation, legitimization of symptoms, does money matter, social support, and loss of identity. Litigation was described as emotionally taxing, with prolonged legal procedures exacerbating psychological distress and delaying recovery. Financial settlements offered limited relief and were often perceived as insufficient. Strong familial and legal support emerged as protective factors, while skepticism about symptom validity intensified emotional distress. Findings highlight modifiable post-settlement factors that could inform patient-centred interventions to reduce litigation-related distress and improve recovery.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 122322 - Printed Poster

Microplastics and Systemic Inflammation: Connecting Environmental Exposures to ADHD

Main Presenting Author: Dani, Djellza
Co-Presenting Author: Chavoshi, Saeid

Additional Author: Riddell, Julia

Abstract: *Objective: Environmental toxicants, including microplastics, are emerging risk factors for ADHD. Microplastics are pervasive in air, water, and food, and trigger systemic inflammation and oxidative stress in human and animal models. The objectives of this review are to synthesize evidence linking microplastic exposures to ADHD-related outcomes, and to examine systemic inflammation as a key pathway underlying ADHD risk.Methods: A systematic literature scan was conducted using Covidence software to identify experimental, developmental, and toxicological studies that explore associations linking microplastic to ADHD-relevant outcomes. Results: Evidence indicates that microplastic exposure disrupts dopaminergic signaling, activates NF-κB inflammatory cascades, compromises blood-brain barrier integrity, and induces hyperactive, ADHD-like behaviors in experimental models. Toxicity pathways include chronic inflammation, mitochondrial stress, and neurotransmitter dysregulation.Conclusion: Systemic inflammation is a core pathway through which pollutants may impair neurodevelopment. The review calls for integration of environmental exposures and neuroinflammatory mechanisms into ADHD risk models and mental health research frameworks.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126378 - Printed Poster

Mindfulness-Based Interventions and Neuroplasticity: A Review of Network Connectivity in Healthy and Clinical Samples

Main Presenting Author: Babiy, Zoryana

Additional Authors: Frey, Benicio N; Bieling, Peter J; McCabe, E Randi; Green, Sheryl M

Abstract: *Background/Rationale: Mindfulness-based interventions (MBIs) are widely used to support mental health, yet the neural mechanisms underlying their effects remain unclear. This review examined how MBIs affect large-scale brain networks involved in emotion regulation, interoception, and cognitive functioning. Methods: Web of Science and PsycINFO were searched for studies reporting functional connectivity changes following MBIs in healthy individuals and those with mood or anxiety and related disorders, from inception to June 2024. Results: Across 31 studies, MBIs were linked to neuroplasticity within the default mode, salience, and central executive networks, reflected in changes in resting-state and task-based functional connectivity. These alterations often corresponded with improvements in self-reported emotion regulation, bodily awareness, attentional control, and executive functioning. Conclusions: MBIs influence networks supporting cognitive control, affect regulation, and self-awareness; however, further methodologically rigorous studies are needed to clarify the precise neurobiological mechanisms. Impact: As the first review to examine brain changes associated with MBIs across healthy and clinical samples, findings suggest MBIs show promise as evidence-informed interventions and highlight neural targets that may guide future treatment development and refinement.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125672 - Printed Poster

Neurodiversity and Substance Use in Emerging Adulthood

Main Presenting Author: St. Denis, Aaliyah

Additional Authors: Stevenson, Ryan Andrew; Lyons, Kathleen Michelle; Rosen, Laura

Abstract: *BACKGROUND: Predictors of substance use are well-established among adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) but remain unclear among adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and co-occurring ASD and ADHD (AuDHD). Research suggests that specific traits such as insistence on sameness may buffer against substance use risk, whereas impulsivity and novelty-seeking may exacerbate it. METHODS: Two complementary studies examined how Autistic and ADHD traits, sensory processing, and repetitive behaviours predict hazardous alcohol, cannabis, and nicotine use among emerging adults aged 18-24 using validated questionnaires. Study one compared hazardous use and age of onset across ASD, ADHD, AuDHD, and Typically Developing groups. Study two tested these same predictors dimensionally in a broad undergraduate sample. Analyses included ANOVAs and hierarchical regressions. RESULTS: Preliminary patterns suggest ADHD and AuDHD groups demonstrate elevated hazardous use, Autistic traits predict later onset, and sensory-seeking and repetitive behaviours predict greater risk across substances. CONCLUSIONS: This research clarifies how specific neurodiverse traits shape substance use beyond diagnostic labels. IMPACT: Identifying trait-level predictors of substance use can guide tailored harm-reduction efforts and inform future intervention development for neurodiverse young adults.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124129 - Printed Poster

Nondiagnostic Variability and Early Face Learning: A New Exploration of Children's Face Learning Abilities

Main Presenting Author: Damaso, Kaitlyn L.

Additional Author: Mondloch, Catherine J

Abstract: *Children make more errors than adults when matching identity in unfamiliar faces, but by 6 years of age, they recognize familiar faces with ease. We examined how children learn new faces. Natural variability in facial appearance supports children's learning, a finding that has been attributed to such variability being informative. We examined whether two other sources of variability-contextual variability and visual noise-also benefit children, despite not being informative. Such noisy variability benefits learning in other domains (Raviv et al., 2022), but does not benefit adults' face learning (Truong et al., under review). Children aged 6-9 years (n=34) learned three faces via a storybook. Throughout the storybook, they saw six different images of each face. One face appeared on variable backgrounds; one face had various filters overlaid; one had no added manipulations. In the recognition phase, participants sorted novel images of the studied faces based on identity. A repeated-measured Bayesian ANOVAs revealed no difference in sorting accuracy across conditions. This suggests that variability in facial appearance promotes learning because it is informative. These findings have implications for face learning and for theories of variability.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123062 - Printed Poster

On the Attribution of Criminality from the Rapid Presentation of Faces

Main Presenting Author: Phonchareon, Jason P

Additional Authors: Carter-Rogers, Katelynn ; Jollie, Ashley; Smith, Steven; Ivanoff, Jason

Abstract: *There is growing interest in whether socio-evaluative traits (e.g., trustworthiness, competence, and criminality) can be accurately derived from faces. The present study assessed whether criminality could be correctly ascertained from a small sample of incarcerated and non-incarcerated individuals. Specifically, it examined whether a potential criminal detection ability exists (i.e., accuracy in indicating if someone is a criminal) when judging another human's face. Across two studies, 49 participants completed a task indicating criminality following the rapid presentation of a neutral face (i.e., belonging to a criminal or innocent person). A signal detection model and an ERP analysis of the of interest face sensitive N170 tested both the behavioural and neural responses when making a decision. Across two experiments, incarceration judgements were poor and not significantly different from chance. However, a larger N170 (an event-related potential component well-known to be sensitive to face processing) was observed for incarcerated individuals. This effect did not replicate in a second experiment. Our findings suggest that the accurate attribution of criminality from pictures is very unlikely, and are instead based on inaccurate implicit biases.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125375 - Printed Poster

Psilocybin Use and Delay Discounting: Evidence From the Monetary Choice Questionnaire

Main Presenting Author: Morris, Vanessa

Additional Author: Keller, Krista

Abstract: *Background: The Monetary Choice Questionnaire (MCQ) is widely used in substance-use research to assess the external validity of delay-discounting rates as indicators of real-world impulsiveness. Although MCQ performance has been examined extensively among users of alcohol, cannabis, and nicotine, relatively little work has investigated response patterns among individuals who use psychedelic substances.Methods: Participants completed a laboratory session that included a structured interview, cognitive assessments, and a questionnaire battery featuring the MCQ. Participants were categorized based on whether they had engaged in consistent psilocybin use within the past year.Results: After controlling for demographic characteristics and use of other substances, a mixed ANOVA comparing discounting rates for small, medium, and large reward magnitudes across groups revealed no significant differences. Additional analyses examining the preference for smaller immediate rewards likewise showed no group differences.Conclusions: These findings suggest that psilocybin use is not associated with altered delay discounting or impulsive choice. Impact: Clarifying how psychedelic use relates to discounting behaviour may hold clinical relevance, particularly given the growing interest in psychedelic-assisted therapies for addiction and mental health conditions.*

Section: *Addiction Psychology*
Session ID: 124977 - Printed Poster

Pupil Diameter Variance as an Objective Metric for Emotional Valence in Body Size Estimation

Main Presenting Author: Gilliland, Sadie P

Additional Authors: Peel, Hayden ; Diaz-Fong, Joel; Quian, Jessica; Karsan, Sameena; Feusner, Jamie D

Abstract: *Background: Body dysmorphic disorder (BDD) is marked by distress arising from distorted perceptions of one's appearance. Body size estimation (BSE) can evoke emotional responses that might bias judgment. Assessing whether pupil diameter variance (PDV) reflects emotional valence (EV) during BSE could help establish its utility as a marker of emotion and links to body image disturbance. We hypothesize that greater PDV will be associated with a) greater EV variance and b) reduced BSE accuracy. Methods: In a preliminary sample, 31 participants (15 healthy controls, 11 BDD, 5 subclinical BDD) used Somatomap 3D to adjust 23 body parts to reflect their perceived body shape. EV was extracted using FaceReader 8. Pupil data was collected using EyeLink.Results: PDV was associated with EV variance (β=.19, p<.001). EV variance predicted larger BSE errors for body part girths (β=.39, p=.015). There were no associations of PDV with dysmorphic concerns and body satisfaction (ps>.13).Conclusion: EV and PDV covary during BSE; however, only greater EV variance was associated with reduced BSE accuracy. These findings suggest that PDV may serve as an objective marker for emotion, which might impact body size estimation.Impact: This study examines relationships between emotion, pupil dilation, and self-perception, with implications that may inform interventions to improve body image disturbance.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125913 - Printed Poster

Recognition and Classification of AI-generated and Human Faces

Main Presenting Author: van Hunenstijn, Alexis
Co-Presenting Author: Sulimani, Nicole

Additional Author: Albonico, Andrea

Abstract: *Artificial intelligence (AI) is changing society in major ways. AI content can be both helpful and entertaining, but it can also be misleading. One part of this change is the ability to produce human-like AI content, including voices and faces. In psychology, AI-generated faces have started to be used to study face perception-thanks to their flexibility and convenience. This choice appears to be supported by recent evidence indicating that AI-generated faces are indistinguishable from human faces. However, other findings suggest that AI- or computer-generated faces may be evaluated differently than real faces, with AI-generated faces even leading to hyperrealism. To address this, we conducted a study investigating whether human and AI-faces are recognized similarly in a memory task, and whether their recognition is related to our evaluation of these faces. Results show that recognition accuracy was significantly higher than chance for both real and AI-generated faces, with the accuracy of AI faces higher than that of real faces. Critically, classification accuracy was better than chance level for both real and AI-generated faces. Lastly, AI-generated faces were rated significantly more attractive than human faces.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125419 - Printed Poster

Relationship between beat perception, phonological processing and motor coordination among autistic children.

Main Presenting Author: Quintin, Eve-Marie

Additional Authors: Wong, Samantha Tze Sum ; Hosein, Anthony ; Jack, Nathalie; Servant, Alexa; Kaedbey, Mira; Lippé, Sarah; Knoth, Inga

Abstract: *Background: Rhythm-based music programs are popular with autistic children, who often show differences in motor coordination and phonological processing-skills linked to beat perception. In the general population, motor regions support rhythm and speech perception, and emerging evidence suggests beat perception relates to phonological skills among autistic children. Objectives: We examined how beat perception relates to phonological processing and motor coordination among autistic children, and assessed EEG markers of beat processing to clarify developmental and clinical implications. Methods: Twenty-six autistic children (8-13 years) completed measures of beat perception (Beat Alignment Test), phonological processing (NEPSY-II), motor coordination (BOT-2), and nonverbal IQ. Fourteen also completed EEG oddball tasks measuring MMN and P3a responses to beat and pitch deviations. Results: Age and nonverbal IQ predicted phonological processing and coordination. Beat perception did not predict phonological processing but strongly predicted bilateral coordination beyond age and IQ. Beat perception accuracy correlated with MMN amplitude at FC1 (pitch) and Cz (beat). Conclusion: Beat perception is closely tied to motor coordination and neural responses to temporal and spectral deviations in autistic children, but not to phonological processing. Findings refine theories of rhythm processing and inform rhythm-based interventions.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125025 - Printed Poster

Relationship Between Phonological Processing and Reading Behaviour in Monolingual and Bilingual Children and Adults: An Eye-Tracking Investigation

Main Presenting Author: Boucher, Isabelle A.

Additional Authors: Guedea, Erika ; Levasseur, Gabrielle; Joanisse, F. Marc; Whitford, Veronica

Abstract: *Background. Reading skills are central to academic achievement, with phonological processing (i.e., knowledge of a language's sound structure) playing a key role. However, its influence on online reading performance remains poorly understood, particularly for developing readers and bilinguals. Here, we used eye-tracking to examine how L1 and L2 phonological processing influence L1 and L2 reading behaviour in children and young adults from monolingual and bilingual backgrounds. Methods. Participants were 34 English monolingual and 33 English-French bilingual children (aged 7-12), and 30 English monolingual and 30 English-French bilingual adults (aged 18-21). They completed English and French versions of the Comprehensive Test of Phonological Processing (CTOPP), as well as a silent text reading task (4 x ~100-words each) while being eye-tracked. Results. Linear mixed-effects models revealed that during L1 reading, L1 phonological processing had a stronger facilitatory influence on bilinguals' vs. monolinguals' reading behaviour, with largely age-invariant effects. Within bilinguals, L1 and, more strongly, L2 phonological processing facilitated L2 reading, particularly among adults. Impact. Our findings suggest that phonological processing supports online reading differently across linguistic backgrounds and languages, with more robust influences on bilingual reading development.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125329 - Printed Poster

Returning to driving following mTBI: Evaluating emotional and contextual factors

Main Presenting Author: Avitzur, Carmel

Additional Author: Ornstein, Tisha J.

Abstract: *Background: Many mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) cases result from motor vehicle accidents (MVAs). MTBI is linked to high levels of emotional distress (i.e., symptoms of anxiety, depression, and fear of driving) that peak in the first year following injury. Returning to driving (RTD) is critical for recovery, typically achieved in the first year following injury. Methods: This study uses retrospective data to examine whether time since injury (TSI) is associated with emotional distress and RTD in individuals with mTBIs following MVAs (n=139). Clinical interview data measured levels of anxiety, depression, and fear of driving symptoms, RTD status, and accident involvement (i.e., a driver, passenger, or pedestrian). Results: Logistic regressions show that fear of driving is associated with RTD (p<.01), whereas anxiety, depression, and TSI are not. Furthermore, moderation models show that emotional distress does not moderate TSI and RTD. Exploratory findings also show that in comparison to drivers, being a passenger (p<.01) or pedestrian (p<.01) is negatively associated with RTD. Conclusions/Impact: These findings provide insight into the barriers to RTD following mTBI, and highlight the importance of addressing emotional and contextual factors in treatment to support recovery.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 124197 - Printed Poster

Sensory Over-Responsivity in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Case Control Evidence

Main Presenting Author: Hysuick-Weik, Braeden

Abstract: *Background: Sensory over-responsivity (SOR) refers to distress experienced in response to ordinary sights, sounds, smells, and textures. This SOR has been found to be elevated in OCD. The current systematic review and meta-analysis assessed whether participants with OCD report higher SOR than healthy controls.Method:Systematic searches were conducted in PsycINFO, PubMed, and Embase. A random-effects meta-analysis was conducted using Hedges' g to estimate pooled effect sizes. Study heterogeneity was assessed using Cochran's Q and quantified with the I^2 statistic. To evaluate the potential influence of unpublished or missing studies, Egger's regression was applied.Results:A total of k = 6 studies (N = 376 OCD; N = 713 controls) met inclusion criteria. Participants with OCD exhibited significantly higher SOR than healthy controls (Hedges' g = 1.73; 95% CI [1.22, 2.24], Z = 6.62, ; p < .001; I^2 = 76.2%). An examination of the results for bias found no indication of missing studies that might have influenced the findings. Risk of bias ratings showed the studies were of moderate to high quality.Discussion: Results suggest that SOR may be relevant to OCD. Considerable heterogeneity, coupled with the small number of studies raise uncertainty about the generalizability. Clinicians might consider SOR in case formulation. Further research is needed to understand SOR in OCD.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 124146 - Printed Poster

Shared Book Reading Across Languages in Bilingual Dyads

Main Presenting Author: Sangha, Amreen

Additional Authors: Reid, Katherine ; Gottardo, Alexandra

Abstract: *A bedtime staple for many families is reading stories together. Research has found that shared book reading helps to enhance child language development (Dowdall et al., 2019). Interactions between parents and children are influential in child language development (Levickis et al., 2020). The number, length, and quality of interactions are factors necessary to consider when a child is developing language (Daniels et al., 2021). This research explores whether reading in one language is linked to parent-child shared picture book reading in other languages and its benefits for language development. Parents (N = 553) in Ontario and Quebec answered questions pertaining to home reading. Their children completed standardized tests on word reading and receptive vocabulary. Correlational analyses found that parental reading to children in English was highly correlated reading in French (r=1.00; p<.001) and different languages (r=1.00; p=<.001). Increased reading in English was negatively associated with child letter naming (r=-.300; p=<.001) and reading (r=-.161; p=.002) whereas this association was positive for French measures (r=.243; p=<.001) (r=.230; p=<.001), respectively. These findings provide insight into bilingual shared book reading with reading in one language being associated with reading in other languages. Reading from an early language is related to language skills.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125073 - Printed Poster

Sleep Matters: Differential Associations Between Sleep Dimensions, Pre-Sleep Arousal, and Executive Function in Adolescents

Main Presenting Author: John Nelson, Jaiden A.
Co-Presenting Author: Crawford, Sarah M.

Additional Authors: Saha, Sujata ; Somerville, Gail; Gruber, Reut

Abstract: *Adolescence is a critical period for developing executive functions. However, the relationships between cognition, sleep, and stress-related arousal remain unclear, a gap relevant for academic and daily functioning. This study examines the interplay between sleep duration and timing, pre-sleep arousal, and executive function, specifically cognitive flexibility and processing speeds, in adolescents. We hypothesised later and shorter sleep and higher pre-sleep arousal are associated with slower processing speed and reduced cognitive flexibility in adolescents. Sleep was measured in 45 adolescents (M= 13.4 years, SD= 1.30) across four school nights using actigraphy and daily logs. Pre-sleep arousal was measured using the Pre-Sleep Arousal Scale. Cognitive performance was assessed with CNS Vital Signs subtests for Cognitive Flexibility and Processing Speed; higher scores indicate greater impairment. High levels of pre-sleep cognitive arousal and later bedtimes were associated with poorer cognitive flexibility (r(45)= .32, p< .05; r(45)= .34, p< .05), while longer sleep duration was associated with better cognitive flexibility (r (44)= -.40, p< .01) and processing speed (r(44)= -.32, p< .05). Findings reveal different associations among sleep dimensions, arousal, and executive functioning, underscoring the impact of sleep-cognition interplay in adolescent cognitive development.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 125884 - Printed Poster

Task Matters: Effort and the Challenges of Measuring Ego-Depletion

Main Presenting Author: Stone, Carolyn

Additional Author: Reynolds, Michael G.

Abstract: *There is substantial debate about the replicability of the ego-depletion phenomenon. Ego-depletion is examined by having people perform two sequential tasks, and is typically tested by varying the effort required at Time One (T1) and then assessing performance at Time Two (T2) using a second task (Baumeister et al., 1998). One assumption of this research and Baumeister et al.'s Limited Strength Model (2007) is that the tasks used in the sequential task paradigm to study ego-depletion all utilize the same limited-capacity self-control resource. Here we examine the plausibility of this assumption by assessing whether the tasks used to manipulate self-control are doing so by manipulating the same types of effort and assessing whether all types of effort produce ego-depletion. Two experiments are reported which are identical, except for the task used at T1 (emotion suppression and letter cancellation). Results indicate that the two induction tasks elicit distinct effort dimensions and yield different ego-depletion outcomes. These findings suggest that differences in how self-control tasks recruit effort may help explain inconsistent evidence for ego-depletion.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 123594 - Printed Poster

The Architecture of the Phonological Loop: A Replication of Foundational Findings

Main Presenting Author: Couture, Camille

Abstract: *This study sought to replicate Longoni et al.'s (1993) investigation into the multiple subsystems within the phonological loop, originally proposed by Baddeley et al. (1984). To address thereplicability crisis in scientific research, this replication maintains similar methodologies but alsofeatures a more diverse sample, characterized solely by advanced French proficiency and increasedparticipant numbers. In addition, this study examined various characteristics of the phonologicalloop, including the phonemic similarity effect, word length effect, presentation conditions, articulatory suppression effect, and irrelevant sounds. However, the articulatory suppression effect,word length effect, presentation speed effect, and delay effect did not replicate. Notably, an interaction emerged between word length and phonemic similarity, indicating a multiplicative relationship rather than an additive one. The present study emphasizes the importance of further exploration into the factors that influence the non-replicated effects, including the discriminant validity of the variables. Future studies could leverage insights from the phonological loop's characteristics to enhance understanding of the working memory system.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124301 - Printed Poster

The Influence of Chronotype on Intentional Forgetting

Main Presenting Author: Roberts, Jayden

Additional Authors: Rogers, Olivia ; Taylor, Jacob; Stevanovski, Biljana

Abstract: *Intentional forgetting refers to the active process of memory suppression; sleep has shown to be important for this ability. The current work sought to investigate how chronotype influences one's ability to actively suppress unwanted information. Intentional forgetting has not been examined in the context of the "synchrony effect," by which superior performance is observed when task completion time aligns with chronotype (e.g., morning type tested in the morning). Participants first completed the Morning-Eveningness Questionnaire to determine chronotype; those classified as morning or evening types then completed a Think/No-Think (TNT) task. In the TNT task, word pairs are learned and then some items are recalled whereas others are suppressed, which leads to enhancement or forgetting of those words, respectively. Participants completed the TNT task in either their optimal or suboptimal arousal period of the day. Of interest is how chronotype and testing time relate to memory suppression, as indexed by poorer intentional forgetting for those tested in their suboptimal arousal periods (e.g., a morning type tested in the evening). Results are discussed in terms of the impact of synchrony effects for undergraduate students, and their implications for inhibition and intentional forgetting.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126267 - Printed Poster

The Influence of Ethnicity on mTBI: The Mediating Effect of Pain Catastrophizing and Anxiety

Main Presenting Author: Ornstein, Tisha J

Abstract: *Background: The persistence of functional disability following a mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) has been influenced by many factors, including anxiety and pain catastrophizing. Ethnicity has been found to influence anxiety, pain catastrophizing, and functional disability outcomes in TBI-affected individuals. Studies in pain disorder populations suggested that pain catastrophizing mediates the effect of ethnicity on functional disability outcomes. The current study examined de-identified archival data from 109 individuals who sustained a mTBI and subsequently developed chronic pain. The participants included 43 White, 29 Black, and 37 Asian individuals. Of primary interest was whether individuals' ethnic backgrounds influenced their level of anxiety, pain catastrophizing, and functional disability. Additionally, the study examined whether anxiety and pain catastrophizing were mediators of ethnicity and functional disability outcomes. The results indicated that there was no significant difference between the ethnic groups regarding anxiety and functional disability. However, there was a significant difference concerning pain catastrophizing. Pain catastrophizing only was found to be a significant mediator between ethnicity and functional disability, and in particular, for Asian individuals. The present study highlights the importance of considering ethnicity when evaluating mTBI-affected individuals' functional outcomes.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125626 - Printed Poster

The Role of Trait Mindfulness on Discomfort and Mental Effort During Sustained Attention: A Latent Growth Curve Analysis

Main Presenting Author: Hou, Grayson

Additional Authors: Ueberholz, Rhiannon ; Eastwood, John

Abstract: *The mental effort required to sustain attention over long periods is associated with discomfort, which can lead to performance decrements. Lapses in sustained attention can hold catastrophic consequences when considering professions such as air traffic controllers, surgeons and long-haul truck drivers. Individual differences may buffer against this discomfort, supporting greater ability to sustain attention. Trait mindfulness may be one such trait. This study examined how discomfort and volitionally exerted mental effort change across a continuous performance task (CPT) and whether trait mindfulness predicts these patterns. Participants (N=100) completed a trait mindfulness measure, then three CPT blocks, rating discomfort and effort after each block. Latent growth curve models estimated changes over time and tested trait mindfulness as a predictor. Effort increased over time, and was positively correlated with discomfort. Greater trait mindfulness was associated with lower initial discomfort and effort, but did not predict the growth trajectory of either. These findings clarify how discomfort and mental effort covary during sustained attention and highlight the potential role of trait mindfulness. Sustained attention is considered to be aversive but necessary: these results may inform approaches aimed at reducing discomfort during mentally effortful tasks.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123009 - Printed Poster

The Tombaugh Test of Memory Malingering (TOMM) and Dot Counting: The effect of different validity cut-off values on intercorrelations between validity tests and neuropsychological tests.

Main Presenting Author: Ladowsky-Brooks, Ricki L.

Abstract: *Background: It is to be expected that intercorrelations between validity tests and neuropsychological tests will reflect shared variance due to motivational issues, but stricter cut-off values may uncover shared variation attributable to genuine ability level. Method: Three correlational analyses using different validity criteria were carried out with de-identified data from 56 neuropsychological examinees. Results: When examinees were selected using conventional cut-off criteria for the TOMM, 7 of 8 cognitive measures examined (Similarities, LMI, LMII, VRI, Coding, FAS, Semantic fluency, and the PASAT # correct) were significantly, negatively correlated with number of errors across 3 trials of the TOMM, with correlations of r = -.25 to r = -.38. When stricter validity criteria were applied (n = 38), only one significant correlation remained. For Dot Counting, 6 of 8 correlations were significant under standard TOMM criteria, decreasing to 4 significant correlations under the strict TOMM validity criteria, and to 3 significant correlations (FAS, r = -.37, p = .04; Animals, r = -.54, p = .0003; and PASAT completion time, r = .43, p = .01) when even stricter validity conditions were applied (n = 33). Conclusion: Removing variance due to compromised validity reveals clinically important correlations between Dot Counting and tests of initiation and speeded processing.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 126374 - Printed Poster

To Explore or to Exploit? The Development of an Artificial Neural Network for Reinforcement Learning

Main Presenting Author: Meyerovich, Erika

Additional Author: Chartier , Sylvain

Abstract: *Imagine that you are stuck in traffic and have the choice between taking a known congested main road or a potentially faster unknown side street, which would you choose? This question illustrates the Exploration-Exploitation (E-E) dilemma, a key component of Reinforcement Learning (RL) and a question humans grapple with daily. Although most of the literature has focused on creating separate neural implementations of both exploration and exploitation, this study introduces a network that can model the E-E trade-off in a simple maze task. To accomplish this a new decision parameter, the ε-greedy, was implemented, forcing the network to randomly explore a certain percentage of the time even when the correct answer is stored in its long-term memory. This allows for the discovery of alternative paths that could potentially yield higher rewards than the one that is currently known. Results showed that the ε-greedy allowed the network to learn and store multiple paths in its memory, as well as switch from a less to most optimal route depending on the reward level received. This illustrates the network's ability to adapt to a changing environment, an important aspect of human behaviour and a fundamental step in bridging the gap between mechanistic and biologically plausible representations of the E-E dilemma.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125000 - Printed Poster

Transdiagnostic Cognitive Functioning in Precision Psychiatry

Main Presenting Author: Richer, Florence

Additional Authors: Vu, Brandon ; Blais-Michaud, Sophie; Almey, Anne; Ducharme, Simon

Abstract: *Background. Cognitive deficits are well documented in psychiatric disorders. This study aims to characterize cognition in psychiatric patients and examine links with symptom severity and functioning in a transdiagnostic model. Methods. Data was obtained from the CPPQ Spark biobank including 190 psychiatric patients with psychotic, anxiety, mood or personality disorders. They completed the TMB Visual Paired Associates, Digit Symbol Matching and Matrix Reasoning tests, as well as symptom severity and functioning validated scales. Correlations, t-tests, and ANOVAs were used to compare normative and diagnostic groups. Results. Processing speed and episodic memory were impaired compared to normative samples, while reasoning was above average. No diagnostic group differences emerged. Reasoning was consistently positively associated with psychiatric severity measures. Processing speed was the most impaired domain, with minimal associations to severity or functioning. Conclusion. Processing speed impairment, regardless of symptom severity, suggests a possible trait-like deficit. Positive associations between reasoning and symptom severity may reflect cognitive styles associated with rumination and introspection. Impact. The results underscore the importance of routinely assessing cognition, as deficits may persist independently of current symptoms or functioning.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 124593 - Printed Poster

Trapped in My Mind: The Role of Intrusive and Deliberate Rumination in the Psychological Aftermath of Bullying

Main Presenting Author: Mcpherson, Kaelan J. L.

Additional Authors: Sarraf, Lisa ; Sharp, Rachel; Daniels, Tina

Abstract: *Background/Rationale:Bullying victimization is associated with persistent negative thinking patterns, including intrusive and deliberate forms of rumination. These cognitive processes may contribute to psychological difficulties, yet few studies have explored their distinct roles in the link between past bullying and current mental health outcomes. The present study aimed to examine whether intrusive and deliberate rumination mediate the association between high school bullying experiences and depressive symptoms in early adulthood.Methods:Undergraduate students from a large Canadian university (N = 485; Mage = 19.08) completed an online questionnaire assessing high school bullying victimization, intrusive and deliberate event-related rumination, and current depression.Results:Both intrusive and deliberate rumination partially mediated the relation between high school bullying victimization and depressive symptoms. Greater victimization was associated with higher levels of rumination, which in turn predicted more elevated depression scores.Conclusions:The results suggest that rumination, whether intrusive or deliberate, is a cognitive process through which earlier bullying experiences might be linked to poorer mental health outcomes.Action/Impact:Interventions that target repetitive negative thinking, such as mindfulness-based or cognitive-behavioural strategies, may help reduce depression risk among individuals who have experienced bullying.*

Section: *Developmental Psychology*
Session ID: 124595 - Printed Poster

What We Do, Not What We Say: Measuring Cognitive Avoidance through a Performance-Based Task

Main Presenting Author: Mascarenhas, Melanie A
Co-Presenting Author: Abrar, Kaynaat

Additional Authors: Matic, Olivera ; Ramani, Sanghamithra; Segal, V Zindel; Zakzanis, Konstantine K

Abstract: *Background. Avoidance of cognitively effortful activities due to fears of worsening symptoms (i.e., cogniphobia) contributes to disability in clinical populations. Cogniphobia co-occurs with broader withdrawal, yet assessment relies mainly on self-report, which may be distorted by insight or cognitive biases. Performance-based methods are needed to capture real-time cognitive disengagement. Further, while low mood may worsen avoidance, experimental evidence is limited. Method. Healthy adults (n=60) were randomized to a sad mood induction or neutral control, then completed a computerized cognitive avoidance task with four effortful components, each offering choice regarding engagement and termination. Outcomes included engagement duration and task-termination frequency. Self-reported avoidance, symptoms, cognition, and functioning were assessed. Results. Preliminary data suggest meaningful variability in behavioural avoidance despite*

comparable baselines. Analyses underway will assess the effect of mood, convergence with self-report, and associations with functioning and cognition. Conclusions. Performance-based avoidance measurement shows reliable behavioural variance in healthy adults. Impact. Although piloted in healthy adults, this behavioural task shows promise for identifying avoidance that contributes to disability and augmenting self-report assessment in neuropsychology.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125904 - Printed Poster

When Stigma Shifts: Dynamic Links Between Internalized Stigma and Symptom Change in Therapy for Anxiety and Related Disorders

Main Presenting Author: Metcalfe, Spencer H.

Additional Authors: Joshi, Yash ; Milosevic, Irena; Lemoult, Joelle; Rowa, Karen

Abstract: *Anxiety disorders are among the most prevalent and burdensome mental health conditions. Internalized stigma (IS), the internalization of negative beliefs about mental illness, is common in anxiety disorders, yet little is known about how IS changes with therapy and how it interacts with symptoms. This study examined changes in IS throughout anxiety treatment, exploring the influence of symptom severity and demographic variables in adults (n = 653; mean age =37.6; women = 70%) completing group Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. IS was measured using the Internalized Stigma of Mental Illness 10-item Scale (ISMI-10) and symptom severity was assessed using transdiagnostic measures. A strict-invariance bivariate Latent Change Score model showed good fit (CFI = .95, RMSEA = .095). IS operated as a state-like, malleable construct (β = -.03, p = .74), while symptoms showed significant stability (β = .19, p = .008). Higher baseline IS predicted less symptom improvement over time (β = .54, p < .001), and modest correlations (r = .17, p = .008) show that changes in IS are coupled with changes in symptom severity. Females reported lower baseline IS (β = -.21, p = .026) and slightly greater reductions in stigma over time (β = -.21, p = .048). Findings suggest IS is modifiable in CBT, highlighting the value of routinely assessing and directly targeting IS to reduce risk of mutual escalation.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125282 - Printed Poster

Virtual Poster

How does brain injury influence neurocognitive outcomes in a sample of clinically high risk for psychosis youth? A secondary analysis using the NAPLS-3 dataset

Main Presenting Author: Wakif, Zahra

Additional Author: Deng, Wisteria

Abstract: *Previous research has explored how brain injury affects neurocognitive outcomes, however there exists a lack of consensus on how these concepts connect with one another in a clinically high risk for psychosis (CHR-p) youth sample, ages 12-30. Using the North American Prodrome Longitudinal Study 3 (NAPLS 3), the authors aim to bridge current research gaps. Data collection has been completed, and regression and moderation analyses will be conducted from a large sample of*

nearly 800 participants. This will explore how age of first concussive brain injury (CBI), total number of CBIs, and CBI severity is associated with WRAT reading scores, WASI vocabulary scores, Matrix Reasoning, Current IQ Estimate scores, the HVLT, and Raven's Progressive Matrices. It is expected that a younger age at first CBI, higher CBI severity, and higher total number of CBIs will be associated with poorer neurocognitive outcomes in a CHR-p youth sample, comparable to non-CHRp youth. This work can inform how therapists understand the complex associations between brain injury and neurocognition for CHR-p youth, with implications for how therapists and medical professionals develop and cater interventions for youth at risk for psychosis.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125811 - Virtual Poster

Review Session

Agency as a Shield: How Personal Task Choice Buffers Affective Influences on Effort

Main Presenting Author: Gendolla, Guido H.E.

Abstract: *Based on a recent action-shielding model (Gendolla et al., 2021), this talk makes a case for a hardly studied effect of personal control: Action-shielding against affective influences. In a series of published experiments, effort intensity was assessed physiologically as sympathetic beta-adrenergic impact on the heart. Replicating previous research, individuals to whom tasks were externally assigned-which is the usual procedure in psychological experiments-were receptive for different forms of affective stimulation. This yielded systematic effects on resource mobilization by influencing the level of subjective demand. Importantly, the personal choice of tasks or task characteristics immunized against affective influences such as background music, emotion primes, acoustic noise, cognitive conflict, and even dispositional depressive symptoms. We found that participants to whom attention or memory tasks were externally assigned, mobilized higher resources in moderately difficult tasks when they were exposed to sad music, sadness or fear primes, noise, or conflict primes during task performance. By contrast, participants who could personally chose their task were shielded against these affective influences. Our findings provide a new perspective on the important role of personal choice: Agency can work as a shield against various affective influences on action execution.*

Section: *General Psychology*
Session ID: 123794 - Review Session

Section Featured Speaker Address

A role for music in cognition and action: Individual differences, group dynamics, and pain

Main Presenting Author: Palmer, Caroline

Abstract: *What do individual differences in movement, group dynamics that arise from interactions among individuals, and pain sensation have in common? Music interacts with each of these behaviors in systematic ways. Individual differences in the rhythmic movements that people make are related to internal neural oscillations; the natural frequencies of those oscillations can account for a range of human behaviors, from pain perception to group synchronization. I will present findings from*

experimental studies of 1-, 2-, and 3-person tasks as individuals produced musical sound either by themselves (maintaining a regular rhythm) or in groups (synchronizing with partners). Behavioral, physiological, and neural differences among individuals support the idea that group dynamics arise from a complex but systematic interaction of individual differences.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123936 - Section Featured Speaker Address

From insight to innovation: The unique role of neuropsychologists in shaping the social landscape

Main Presenting Author: Beauchamp, Miriam

Abstract: *The emergence of the ability to understand the perspective of others, engage in satisfying social interactions, and gain social autonomy are key moments in human development. Disruptions in the brain-behaviour relationships that support these social milestones can upset the delicate interplay between environmental, neural, and cognitive factors that foster social competence, leading to social impairments and maladaptive behaviours. Empirical evidence from social neuroscience supports the idea that there is a "social brain" responsible for social-cognitive skills, such as theory of mind, empathy and moral reasoning. Neuropsychologists therefore play a critical role in understanding, assessing, and remediating social processes and are uniquely positioned to contribute to developingnovel research and clinical tools. Drawing on theoretical models, empirical research, clinical cases, and innovations in digital health, this talk will explore the power of early developmental assessment for understanding social development and how combining scientific, clinical, industrial, and community perspectives can catalyze the development of practical tools for assessing and optimizingsocial skills. In sum, we will explore the myriad ways neuropsychologists can cross clinical, scientific, and pedagogical boundaries and enrich the social landscape.*

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 122518 - Section Featured Speaker Address

Snapshot

A Network Approach to Fairness in Neuropsychological Assessment Across Race and Ethnicity

Main Presenting Author: Lu, Henri Y

Additional Author: Fouladi, Rachel T

Abstract: *In neuropsychological assessment, interpretation of a cognitive profile assumes certain relationships between test scores, which can be affected by socioeconomic conditions. However, it is unclear whether these test score relationships are similar across racial and ethnic groups. We used a network approach to better understand the organization of neuropsychological test scores with socioeconomic variables in different racial and ethnic groups. Data were obtained from the 2016 Health and Retirement Study's Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol. Participants included 3,273 older adults (2,383 non-Hispanic White, 327 non-Hispanic Black, 363 Hispanic; Mage = 76.19 years, SD = 7.50; 39.8% male, 60.2% female). We conducted network analyses in R. We estimated separate networks of mixed graphical models for the non-Hispanic White, non-Hispanic Black, and*

Hispanic groups. Preliminary analyses showed network differences in neuropsychology test scores across the non-Hispanic White, non-Hispanic Black, and Hispanic groups. Further analyses are planned to examine the contribution of socioeconomic variables, including education and occupational history. This study has implications for fairness and cultural responsivity in neuropsychological assessment by understanding potential interpretive differences in neuropsychology test scores across racial and ethnic groups.

Section: *Clinical Neuropsychology*
Session ID: 125056 - Snapshot

Disrupting the Mad Genius Myth: Affective Instability Undermines Creativity Through Lower Subjective Well-Being in Professional Artists

Main Presenting Author: Khoriaty, Florence

Additional Authors: Bonneville-Roussy, Arielle ; de Chantal, Pier-Luc

Abstract: *Background: The influence of affective instability on the creativity of professional artists has long been debated. Popular narratives often suggest that emotional instability fuels creative achievement, giving rise to the enduring cultural figure of the "mad genius". However, empirical literature presents a more complex and often contradictory picture. This study investigates whether subjective well-being (SWB) mediates the association between affective instability and creative self-beliefs. Method: A sample of 201 artists with proven professional status completed the Satisfaction With Life Scale, the Temperament Evaluation of Memphis, Pisa, Paris, and San Diego, and a validated nine-item creative self-beliefs scale. Analysis: Confirmatory factorial analyses supported the measurement models, and structural equation modelling with bootstrapping was conducted. Results: Results indicated that affective instability negatively predicted SWB, while SWB positively predicted creative self-beliefs. These findings suggest that contrary to the "mad genius" myth, heightened affective instability may undermine creativity when it reduces well-being, highlighting the importance of addressing factors modulating the SBW of professional artists.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 125880 - Snapshot

How Does Gender Stereotype Congruence Impact Sentence Reading in Bilingual Adults?

Main Presenting Author: Yang, Michelle

Additional Authors: Cooper-Williams, Georgia ; Titone, Debra

Abstract: *Gendered word associations pervade language (Charlesworth et al., 2023) and impede comprehension when sentences violate stereotypes (Carreiras et al., 1996). Yet most work focuses on binary pronouns and rarely considers non-binary forms (they/ze; Rose et al., 2023) or bilingual experience (Jankowiak et al., 2024). To address this, 69 French-English bilingual women read 128 occupation-pronoun sentences (he/she/they/ze). Self-paced reading data suggest that readers access gender cues during reading: male occupations yielded longer reading times than female ones, and non-binary pronouns slowed reading overall, consistent with lower frequency and newer lexical integration. Judgement data showed a complementary pattern. Non-binary pronouns received lower*

acceptability ratings, with no effect of occupation gender, suggesting that explicit evaluations remain anchored in binary norms. Reaction times reflected pronoun×occupation congruence: they was slower than ze in female-stereotyped contexts, and the reverse for male-stereotyped, indicating stereotype-driven processing even when ratings are neutral. Increased English use sped both reading and judgment responses -- language experience modulates real-time processing. Collectively these results highlight how linguistic environment shapes gender-stereotype processing. Data collection with men and gender-diverse readers is ongoing.

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 125764 - Snapshot

More is better: Handholding improves the effectiveness of cognitive reappraisal

Main Presenting Author: Fudge, Jennifer E

Additional Authors: Webster, Olivia ; de Jong, Jacob; Flores Jr., E Luis

Abstract: *Emotion regulation (ER) research has largely ignored the potential benefits of using multiple ER strategies. Similarly, few studies have examined social ER techniques, such as handholding (HH), despite social ER being common, and possibly requiring less cognitive effort than intrapersonal strategies, like cognitive reappraisal. Exploration of the efficacy and cognitive load of social ER alone and in combination with other ER strategies is needed. Pairs of emerging adult friends (aged 18-29) described 4 negative and 4 neutral memories, along with 6 negative self-beliefs about each negative event. One week later they were presented with sentences from their memories and self-beliefs under HH, reappraisal, combined, and control conditions. Participants' negative affect and negative self-belief ratings and rating response times were recorded. Although HH and reappraisal were both effective at reducing negative affect and self-belief ratings, combining strategies had the greatest effectiveness. Reaction times, a proxy for cognitive effort, were significantly higher during cognitive reappraisal than both combined and other conditions. In conclusion, while both HH and reappraisal were beneficial, combining strategies appears to yield synergistic effects, including reduced cognitive effort. Thus, social ER may bolster the efficacy and cognitive efficiency of intrapersonal techniques.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 125875 - Snapshot

Negative affect in major depressive disorder during increasing cognitive load

Main Presenting Author: Stewart, Chloe A

Additional Authors: Wood-Ross, Chelsea ; Woolridge, Stephanie M; Bowie, R Christopher

Abstract: *Cognitive impairments, particularly of working memory, are a core symptom in major depressive disorder (MDD). Negative affect and task disengagement are often observed in MDD, and may perpetuate cognitive impairment. We examined self-reported disengagement and negative affect during a working memory task, and their relationship to performance. We hypothesized that individuals with MDD would report more negative affect and disengagement relative to controls, and that this would be related to task performance. Fifty-five individuals with MDD and 34 controls completed an N-back task with increasing difficulty and reported negative affect (frustration and anxiety) and engagement (motivation and focus) at each level. Individuals with MDD reported*

significantly greater negative affect than controls throughout the N-back; post hoc tests found this was largely driven by anxiety. We found no significant effect of group or task difficulty on disengagement. In the MDD group, negative affect was the only significant predictor of performance; disengagement and task difficulty did not contribute.Our results align with research linking negative affect with cognitive impairment in MDD; however, we did not find the expected link between disengagement and cognitive impairment in MDD. These results suggest that anxiety may be a valuable treatment target for cognitive impairment in MDD.

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 123845 - Snapshot

Towards Inclusive Neuropsychology : Investigating Verbal Memory and Visuospatial Abilities in Relation to Sex, Gender and Sexual Orientation

Main Presenting Author: St-Amant, Andrea

Additional Authors: Montembeault, Maxime ; Juster, Robert-Paul

Abstract: *Current literature highlights sex-related differences in verbal memory (typically favouring individuals assigned female at birth), as well as differences between gay and lesbian individuals and their heterosexual counterparts (gay men outperforming heterosexual men, and heterosexual women outperforming lesbians). However, research has largely overlooked bisexual populations and the influence of gender identity and gender roles (masculinity and femininity). To address this gap, the objective of the present study is to examine differences in verbal memory across sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender roles.Data collection is complete. The full sample includes 409 individuals aged between 18 and 78 with diverse sexes, sexual orientations, and gender identities. Sexual orientation was primarily self-reported using the Klein Sexual Orientation Grid (KSO). Gender identity was self-reported. Gender role was measured through a self-perceived masculinity-femininity scale (1 = low; 5 = high). Verbal memory was assessed using the California Verbal Learning Test and visuospatial abilities were assessed with a mental rotation task. The planned analyses will examine the influence of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity on performance of these two cognitive domains via ANCOVA adjusting for age and education, and the influence of gender roles via partial correlations adjusting for sex, age, and education. All analyses using the full sample (N = 409) will be completed by the time of the presentation. At present, preliminary exploratory analyses have been conducted on a subsample of 169 participants for verbal memory only. These preliminary trends indicated: (1) a non-significant tendency for individuals assigned female at birth to outperform those assigned male; (2) a trend for bisexual participants to perform better than the other participants; (3) a trend for nonbinary individuals, and particularly trans men, to perform slightly better than cisgender groups; (4) weak associations between perceived masculinity/femininity and CVLT performance (|r| < .10).Although preliminary, these results provide an initial step toward understanding intersections between cognition, sex, gender, and sexual orientation. Early trends suggest that bisexual people, nonbinary individuals, and trans men may show stronger verbal memory performance-patterns that challenge existing literature. In contrast, perceived femininity did not show the expected advantage commonly observed in cisgender comparisons. These findings underscore the need for our upcoming analyses using the full sample, comparing with visuospatial skills (a cognitive domain favouring people assigned male at birth) as well as for the inclusion of additional variables such as intersectional minority stress. Potential explanatory factors, including social cognition and psychological resilience, warrant further exploration.*

Section: *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*
Session ID: 125487 - Snapshot

Tuning inward: The role of Interoceptive Awareness on the Sense of agency

Main Presenting Author: Anwarzi, Deewa

Additional Author: Obhi, Sukhvinder

Abstract: *The sense of agency (SoA), defined as the experience of control over our actions and outcomes, is integral to self-consciousness and self-regulation (Schultchen et al., 2019), yet little is known about how bodily perception impacts this experience (Herman & Tsakaris, 2020). This study explores whether interoceptive attention, the perception of one's internal bodily cues, modulates SoA. We predict that directing attention to cardiac cues (manipulation 1) will produce greater SoA, indexed by temporal binding (TB), than directing attention to visual cues (manipulation 2) or no cues (manipulation 3) . We test this hypothesis on 78 healthy participants. Participants attend to either 1) a visual cue, 2) their heartbeat, or 3) a fixation cross for 10 seconds, before completing the TB task. During the TB task, participants estimate the time of intentional actions with (A), and without an outcome (B), and tones presented alone (C) and following intentional actions. Objective heart rate is recorded using an electrocardiogram (ECG), and ECG signals will be processed for R-peaks to calculate heart rate across each manipulation. TB scores (calculation: A-B + C-D) will be computed for each manipulation and compared using a 1-way ANOVA. Study findings will clarify the role of bodily attention/perception on SoA, with implications for mindfulness interventions and other somatic therapies.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 126240 - Snapshot

Visual Contextual Cues on Motion Prediction

Main Presenting Author: Godin, Zoe L

Abstract: *Research has shown that representational momentum, the tendency to overestimate the final position of a disappearing object, and representational gravity, the assumption that a target moves in the direction of implied gravitational pull, both influence participant responses in motion prediction tasks. Little is known if the presence of visual contextual cues elicits a gravitational attraction bias in motion prediction judgments. Our project addresses this gap by analyzing participants' spatial responses in a motion prediction task with two background images: a grey background and a cliff image. Participants watched a circle move upwards or downwards across the screen at varying speeds until it disappeared. After a delay, a tone sounded, and participants placed their mouse at the location where they believed the center of the circle would be had it remained visible. A three-way ANOVA investigated main and interaction effects among speed, direction, and background image. Findings show that subjects overestimated how far the target travelled, regardless of direction, consistent with representational momentum effects. We conclude that the cliff image did not produce any statistically significant gravitational bias. These results suggest that representational gravity may be confined to action-based contexts. Future research is needed to delineate boundaries between visual and action-based motion prediction processes.*

Section: *Brain and Cognitive Science*
Session ID: 123247 - Snapshot

Standard Workshop

Active and Overactive Imagination: Identification and Treatment of Maladaptive Daydreaming

Main Presenting Author: Meindl, Susan L. E.

Abstract: *Research into mind-wandering, and the default-mode network of the brain suggest that loose associative thought and fleeting fantasies are interspersed with directed cognition throughout our conscious waking hours (Killingsworth and Gilbert, 2010) but the capacity to vividly imagine varies significantly between individuals. Fantasy has adaptive functions, but for a "Maladaptive daydreamer" (Somer 2002, 2017) who is capable of profound absorption (Tellegen, 1974), "real-as-real" fantasies may become a defensive refuge or an intractable behavioral addiction which can occupy many hours a day, disrupting work, social-life or studies. Disordered levels of fantasy are rarely revealed by clients who fear being diagnosed as psychotic and few therapists have received any specific training in identifying or managing disordered levels of fantasy. This workshop will offer an exploration of Maladaptive Daydreaming (MD) including etiology, themes, functions and differential diagnosis. Research suggests that MD is often comorbid with ADD, ASD and giftedness. Prevalences range from 2.5% in the general population, to 9-14% in traumatized populations, and may be even higher in neurodivergent populations. Current avenues for clinical work and treatment of disordered fantasy will be summarized and links to current research will be provided to participants.*

Section: *Clinical Psychology*
Session ID: 122932 - Standard Workshop

Symposium

Pain in context: How gender shapes experiences, treatment and self-management

Moderator(s): Pagé, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Background: Sex and gender differences have been documented in terms of pain prevalence, pain sensitivity, and treatment responses. Yet, evaluation and intervention strategies are rarely adapted to the different needs of men and women and mechanisms through which gendered contexts influence lived pain experiences remain insufficiently understood.Methods: Drawing on insights from women's health, epidemiology, and self-management, our symposium will examine how gender influences treatment access and response using an intersectional lens, and considering how various pain outcomes interact with chronic pain across the life span. We present results from three empirical studies.Learning Objectives:1.Examine the role of multidisciplinary involvement in the development of screening measures for young women and gender-diverse individuals within the context of gender biases in pelvic pain.2.Understand the association between sex, gender, and other sociodemographic factors in the persistent use of medications in chronic pain.3.Examine the influence of gender roles and sex in the self-management engagement and efficacity among individuals with multiple medical comorbidities.Impact: This session will underscore the importance of addressing gender as a determinant to improve the equity and effectiveness of chronic pain care in Canada.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125511 - Symposium

Screening for Early Endometriosis Detection (SEED) : Using a multidiscipinary approach to accelerate the development of screening for endometriosis in young adults

Main Presenting Author: Rosenbloom, Brittany

Abstract: *Introduction/Aim: Endometriosis is a systemic, inflammatory condition often accompanied by painful menstruation and heavy menstrual bleeding. While diagnostic screeners exist, it is not clear whether they are adapted for use in younger adults. The aim of this study was to expedite the validation of an endometriosis screening measure for young adult women and gender-diverse people.Methods: Phase 1 included a rapid scoping review of screening measures for endometriosis as well as an evaluation of their validity. Phase 2 included a Delphi to narrow down relevant items to be included in a modified screening measure for young adults. Phase 3 included a working meeting to determine (1) best items that represent core features of endometriosis in young adults and (2) items that were stigma-free, gender inclusive, and trauma-informed. Results: Phase 1: None of the 24 identified screening measures were validated in a young adult population, however, the ENDOPAIN-4D included participants under the age of 25 years. Phase 2: Using the ENDOPAIN-4D as the basis, a Delphi was performed including 61 participants (gynecologists, pain physicians, people with lived experience, general physicians, pelvic physiotherapists, psychologists) who assessed the relevance of each item. Phase 3: A modified measure with 22 items [Screening for Early Endometriosis Detection (SEED)] was developed and assessed by a group of experts from the Delphi (n = 15). This was done in an iterative process until consensus was achieved on item inclusion and wording. Discussion/Conclusions: The SEED measure shows promise for targeting a younger population. Next step will include validation studies of this tool.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125519 - Paper within a symposium

Sex, Gender, and Sociodemographic Factors Associated with Persistent Use of Prescription Medication in Chronic Pain: Insights from a Cohort Study

Main Presenting Author: Godbout-Parent, Marimée

Abstract: *Introduction/Aim: Chronic pain (CP) disproportionately affects women and gender-diverse individuals, raising questions about how sociodemographic factors influence medication use. We examined how sex and gender relate to persistent use of prescribed pain medication classes among individuals with CP, accounting for sociodemographic factors. Methods: This study was conducted among individuals living with CP and links self-reported data to public and private prescription claims (n=561). Persistent use (≥40% days covered; yes/no) of medications prescribed for CP and related comorbidities in the year following questionnaire completion was analyzed. Cluster analysis was used to create intersecting sociodemographic subgroups (incorporating sex, gender, and other sociodemographic factors). Multivariable logistic regression was achieved to examine associations between these subgroups and persistent medication use. Results: Most commonly persistently used classes of medications prescribed for CP and related comorbidities were antidepressants (48%), anticonvulsants (35%), opioids (19%), and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (18%). Between clusters, statistically significant differences were found for the subgroups labelled: (1) 'Women with private drug insurance', who had lower odds of persistent opioid use (adjustedOR:0.38; 95%CI:0.15-0.95), and (2) 'Unemployed older men', who had lower odds of persistent antidepressant use (adjustedOR: 0.45; 95%CI:0.24-0.87) (vs. 'Unemployed women'). Discussion/Conclusions: Our results highlight how sex, gender, and intersecting sociodemographic factors influence persistent use of prescribed medications, particularly opioids and antidepressants, among individuals living with CP.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125523 - Paper within a symposium

The role of gender and sex in the experiences of chronic pain self-management in a sample of adults living with multiple medical comorbidities

Main Presenting Author: Pagé, Gabrielle

Abstract: *Introduction/Aim: Many adults living with chronic pain also experience other chronic medical conditions including cardiovascular, endocrinological diseases that require active self-management skills. This study aims to understand sex and gender differences in one's confidence to manage multiple illnesses, engagement in self-management, and levels of psychological distress. Methods: This cross-sectional study collected self-reported data online (sociodemographic, gender role, self-efficacy, medical burden, psychological distress, self-management) on one hundred twenty-seven individuals living with chronic pain and at least one additional medical comorbidity. Participants were recruited through social and conventional media.Results: A large proportion of participants were of female sex (81%). Using the BEM-gender role inventory, they identified as feminine (25%), masculine (21%), androgynous (26%) and undifferentiated (28%). Participants were living with 3.6±2.2 comorbidities. Male sex and a feminine gender role were associated with higher levels of self-efficacy to manage pain (mean=236.00±65.1; overall mean=195.63±52.0; p<0.007) but no such difference was found in terms of levels of engagement in pain management. There were no significant interactions or main effects of sex and/or gender on levels of engagement in pain management (p < 0.05). Females identifying with more traditional feminine gender roles reported lower levels of sensitivity to pain traumatization (mean=19.14±1.9) compared to those identifying with more masculine gender roles (mean=17.90±2.0; p<0.05). Among those identifying with an undifferentiated gender role, females had higher levels of stress (mean=14.67±0.7) compared to males (mean=10.63±1.1; p < 0.05).Discussion/Conclusions: Results show an interactive effect of sex and gender on how confident patients are to manage their pain and their psychological well-being. Research and clinical interventions geared at optimizing pain self-management should take both constructs into account.*

Section: *Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine*
Session ID: 125526 - Paper within a symposium

Social Values and Expectations and the Experience of Emotion

Moderator(s): Jordan, Christian H.

Abstract: *Emotions are intrapersonal experiences that are shaped by social context and others' expectations. This symposium explores ways in which some emotions, for some people are permitted, promoted, restricted, or stigmatized, with consequences for well-being. In different ways, each presenter explores how emotions may be regulated not only by individual preferences but by social or interpersonal norms and values. This topic is novel in highlighting collective and relational dimensions of the experience of emotion, introducing research that can encourage dialogue between emotion science, social and personality psychology, and mental health fields. Each talk provides a unique perspective: The first examines how experiences of personal and collective emotion restriction can undermine well-being; the second distinguishes relatively adaptive and maladaptive ways of valuing happiness in close others; and the third examines how the "taboo" emotion of schadenfreude may be readily experienced in online contexts. Together, these talks advance an understanding of how social expectations can shape emotional experience and their psychological consequences.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124959 - Symposium

Misfortunes at your fingertips: Daily encounters with others' misfortunes and experiences of schadenfreude online

Main Presenting Author: Siamro, Jake

Abstract: *Public expressions of schadenfreude (the enjoyment of others' suffering) risk social disapproval, but people may still experience it regularly. Our ability to access others' misfortunes may be greater than ever through social media, which may create greater opportunities to experience schadenfreude. We used a daily diary design to track a sample of Canadian undergraduates' consumption of online content depicting others' misfortunes across 10 days (N = 419; observations = 3354) to examine how frequently participants see online depictions of others' misfortunes, to what extent they seek such content, and whether they react to it with empathy or schadenfreude. Participants reported encountering online content depicting others' misfortunes on 39% of days and 40% of participants reported actively seeking such content at least once. Dispositional schadenfreude measures were significantly related to both daily experiences of enjoying others' misfortunes (schadenfreude) and the frequency of consuming such content. Daily positive affect was associated with positive reactions to others' misfortunes, whereas daily negative affect was associated with seeing more misfortunes and greater empathy in response to them. These findings highlight how social media affords opportunities to feel schadenfreude and suggests our daily mood can shape our engagement with content depicting others' misfortunes.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124993 - Paper within a symposium

The interpersonal risks of valuing happiness: Links to other-focused emotion regulation and close others' mental health

Main Presenting Author: Zhao, Yitong

Additional Author: Ford, Brett

Abstract: *While most people want to feel happy, valuing happiness can paradoxically make people unhappy. We propose that such costs may extend to interpersonal contexts, given that valuing happiness may shape how people manage others' emotions. While valuing happiness could motivate people to reduce others' distress using effective forms of emotion regulation, it may also push them to be intolerant toward others' distress and, in turn, predict worse others' well-being. We examined two approaches to pursuing happiness and how they predict the strategies people used to regulate their children's and romantic partners' distress. In a longitudinal study with a socio-culturally diverse sample (N=279, 155 parents and 248 partnered individuals), we found simply aspiring to be happy predicted more successful use of reappraisal and distraction to manage child and partner emotions, while being concerned about happiness predicted less successful acceptance of child and partner's emotions, and in turn predicted worse child and partner mental health longitudinally. These findings underscore the importance of understanding people's emotion values that shape powerful forms of managing others' emotions, which illuminates who may be putting their loved ones at risk, even with the best of intentions.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124990 - Paper within a symposium

What can you feel? Using multilevel models to examine the impact of emotion types on emotional restriction and well-being

Main Presenting Author: Caceros, Erik

Additional Author: Kachanoff, Frank

Abstract: *Autonomy supports well-being, but restrictions undermine it. Across two studies, we examined well-being impacted by emotional restriction: people's perception that they as individuals (personal) or their in-group members (collective) cannot freely express emotions. In Study 1 (N = 139), using daily diaries, participants completed 14 surveys on daily emotional restriction and well-being. Greater personal restriction across days predicted more physical and depressive symptoms, more negative emotions and fewer positive emotions. On days when participants experienced more personal restriction, they similarly reported worse well-being. Baseline collective restriction predicted greater personal restriction on a daily basis. In Study 2 (N = 382), participants recalled experiences of anger, sadness, calmness, excitement or happiness, and indicated how personally restricted they felt relative to a neutral experience. Participants experienced greater personal restriction when recalling negative emotions; and relative to neutral, all emotional conditions (except for anger) were associated with decreased personal restriction. In all conditions, baseline collective restriction was associated with greater average personal restriction. In sum, we suggest different emotional experiences uniquely shape restriction, and that autonomy in emotional expression is vital to support well-being.*

Section: *Social and Personality Psychology*
Session ID: 124988 - Paper within a symposium