



THE BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON AGGRESSION

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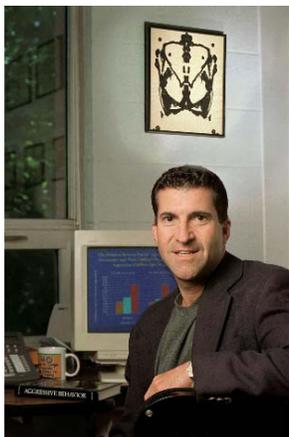
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The North American Editor produced this issue

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Editorial
Eric Dubow,
North American *Bulletin* Editor



Welcome to the June 2013 edition of the *ISRA Bulletin*. I want to note that Ingrid Möller has been our European *Bulletin* editor for 3 years, but she is leaving the field of aggression research. Please join me in wishing Ingrid all the best. It was a pleasure for me to work with Ingrid and share creative ideas about improving the *ISRA Bulletin*. Ingrid spearheaded the inclusion of essays on contemporary topics in the news (i.e., the U.S. Supreme Court decision on the sale of violent video games to minors) and within our society (i.e., ISRA's debate on whether and how we should influence public policy issues). In this issue, I am continuing on that path. In his message to our members, our President John Knutson shares his views of the roles of social science, social scientists, and social scientific societies in the public policy debate. Craig Anderson, our past president, has contributed an essay on "Guns, Games, and Mass Shootings in the U.S." and Peter Smith and Georges Steffgen have contributed an essay on "Cyberbullying: Recent Areas of Research, and the Work of COST IS0801." These are current topics in the news and on the research agendas of some of our ISRA members. In keeping with Menno Kruk's call, we need to provide our collective ISRA empirical expertise on these contemporary issues.

Manuela Martinez has agreed to become the new European Editor for the *ISRA Bulletin*. Please join me in welcoming Manuela. She is a wonderful colleague, and I look forward to working with her! You can email Manuela with information for the December 2013 Bulletin: manuela.martinez@uv.es.

I also want to note that in this *Bulletin*, we introduce preliminary information about the June 2014 ISRA World Meeting in Atlanta. The co-organizers are Dom Parrott (parrott@gsu.edu) and Volkan Topalli (vtopalli@gsu.edu), both at Georgia State University. The 2014 World Meeting promises to be intellectually stimulating, in a nice atmosphere for social events and gatherings as well. We just returned from the ISRA Officers' Mid-Winter Meeting in Atlanta. We all found the venue and surrounding area to be quite impressive. The meeting facilities and hotel are top notch, at a very reasonable cost. The neighborhood is vibrant with great restaurants, a lively nightlife, and a beautiful, expansive park which runners and walkers will definitely enjoy. Thanks to Dom and Volkan for organizing the meeting, and feel free to share your ideas with them!

So, although this a rather lengthy Bulletin, I am sure you will find the contents to be VERY interesting. You may want to print a hard copy!!! I start the *Bulletin* with words from our President-Elect, Kaj Björkqvist, followed by President John Knutson's thoughtful essay, "Ruminations on Aggressive Invasive Species and Political Action." Next, our Executive Secretary, Mike Potegal, and *Aggressive Behavior's* Editor-in-Chief, John Archer, present messages to our members. ***Then***, we are happy to share preliminary information about the 2014 World Meeting in Atlanta. ***Next***, we have the two essays I noted above: one on the role of guns and violent video games in mass shootings (Craig Anderson), and the other on cyberbullying (Peter Smith and Georges Steffgen). ***Next***, I present some Important ISRA Notices, including drawing your attention to our Webmaster, Brian Anderson, at Iowa State University's Center for the Study of Violence. Brian is doing a great job updating the content on

our website! Send Brian updates or other information we might want to include on the ISRA website. *Next*, I present reviews of recently published books by ISRA members, with the reviews being done by other ISRA members. If you would like us to consider *your* book for a review in an upcoming *Bulletin*, let me know. *Then*, for our members who are interested in child and adolescent aggression research, I included a listing of presentations on the most recent research from the April 2013 meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. You'll notice many of our ISRA members' names among those presenters. *Next*, I present an announcement of a journal's call for papers that may be of interest to ISRA members. *As* always, we end the *Bulletin* with the ISRA Flyer that is designed to describe our society, increase our exposure, and attract new members; **be sure to share this flyer with your colleagues and students.**

Finally, a very special thanks goes to Volkan Topalli for setting up an ISRA account on Twitter! **Follow us @ISRASociety**

In closing, please remember that our goal for the *Bulletin* is to keep our members informed of scholarship in the area of aggression and to share each other's work. So, please email Manuela with any materials you would like us to include in the next issue of the *Bulletin* in December 2013.

Best wishes for a productive and relaxing summer! *Eric*

A Message from Our President-Elect, Kaj Björkqvist



Dear ISRA colleagues,

Last year in Luxembourg, I was appointed President-elect of ISRA. Firstly, I want to thank you all for the confidence you have shown in me. It is a great honour. Although I have been an active ISRA member since 1982, it is a totally new position for me in the organization, with new and challenging responsibilities.

When Eric Dubow asked me to write something for this issue of the *Bulletin*, I was considering different options about what to write about. After some thought, I came to the conclusion that the best topic probably would be to present myself to you, since while some of you know me very well, others don't. Accordingly, I will give you a brief overview of my journey within aggression research and ISRA up to this point.

In 1980, as a postgraduate student of psychology, Prof. Kirsti Lagerspetz "hijacked" me from a beginning career within psychophysiological research (EEG, SCR, etc.) into her aggression research team at the Åbo Akademi University in Turku, Finland. She had a large-scale project on media violence going on (part of it in collaboration with Len Eron and Rowell Huesmann), and she wanted me to use my knowledge on psychophysiology for investigating children's reactions to violent films and combine it with behavioral effects of watching film violence. Which I did; that became my PhD thesis. Later, I became increasingly interested in school violence and bullying, which was starting to become a hot topic

in Scandinavian research at the time. This area of research was instigated by Dan Olweus, whom we had frequent contact with. We felt however that research of that time focused too much (in fact: almost entirely) on school aggression and bullying among boys, and aggression among girls had been totally overlooked. As a consequence of that, we started investigating sex differences in the development of aggressive behavior; this led to a whole new area of research on indirect aggression (later on, the related concepts of relational and social aggression were introduced as well). Today, research on female aggression is so well integrated with aggression research in general that it seems almost strange to remember that there once were times when people actually wrote that female aggression was such a rare phenomenon that it was not worth the study!

In the early 90s, it became obvious that bullying is not a phenomenon limited to schools, but something which takes place in workplaces as well, and research on workplace bullying began. It was a logical step for us to start conducting research on that phenomenon, too. Today, our team is based in Vaasa, Finland. We are at the moment giving much focus on studying the effects of childhood physical punishment, especially in a cross-cultural perspective. We also have a nice psychophysiological lab for media studies.

On my ISRA “career”:

My professor and mentor, Kirsti Lagerspetz, was as many of you might know also one of the “founding fathers” of ISRA. The decision to establish ISRA was made in a hotel room in Tokyo, in August 1972, and Kirsti was the only “founding mother” within the group. Naturally, she suggested to me to become a member, and in 1982, I attended my first biennial ISRA meeting in Mexico City. It was such an inspiring event that we wanted to arrange a meeting in Finland, too: That meeting took place already two years later in 1984, in Turku. Since then, I have attended most meetings, but not all. I always felt ISRA meetings to be the most inspiring ones for me personally of all the conferences that I go to. I have served as an ISRA Executive Council member in the periods of 1986-88 and 1990-2012. I served as the European Editor of the ISRA Bulletin 1993-2000. In 2004, Karin Österman and I organized the XVI Biennial ISRA Meeting in Santorini, Greece.

In the late 80s and early 90s, there was a, sometimes quite heated, debate in ISRA on whether we had a moral obligation as a scientific society of experts on aggression to take a stand also on social issues, such as whether war is in the human genes, etc. Some members took the initiative for the so called Seville Statement on Violence (1986), claiming that it is indeed scientifically incorrect to say that war is in our genes. Others disagreed, and the statement was not made in ISRA’s name. I mention this as an example of discussions within the Society at that time. ISRA also received status as an NGO within the UN, and I myself served as its NGO representative in Vienna and Geneva for one year, in 1994. I have to say that it was a complete flop, and I am glad that this experiment was stopped. I think that scientific societies should not get involved in political matters. That does not exclude that we as scientists have a moral obligation to inform the public of our findings.

As you all know, in December 2011, ISRA appointed a special commission to prepare a report on media violence “charged with the task of producing a public statement on the known effects of exposure to media violence, based on the current state of scientific knowledge”. The report of the commission is available at the ISRA website, and it is in my opinion a successful example of how we can take a clear stand on social issues, without compromising our scientific trustworthiness.

Writing these words, I am just on my way to Atlanta, Georgia, for a meeting preparing the next Biennial Meeting which will take place there in 2014. The planning is really getting along well, and I am all excited about it. I hope to see you all there! I am sure it will be worth your time.

Regards,
Kaj

A Message from Our President, John Knutson



Ruminations on Aggressive Invasive Species and Political Action

A few weeks ago I had a planned telephone conference with Eric Dubow regarding some ISRA matters. Although he called when I had suggested he call, I missed his first call because I was in the woods at my home pulling garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), a plant that is classified in the US as an “invasive species.” This plant has relevance to my *Bulletin* column because many Master Gardeners and environmental biologists have characterized the garlic mustard as a particularly “aggressive invasive species.” Depending, in part, on my mood, I am often either amused or annoyed when the term aggression is used casually by persons who are not aggression researchers. In many instances, I suppose my reactions could be characterized as precious or even silly. In the context of garlic mustard, I should be able to recognize that persons characterizing botanicals as aggressive are not thinking of the plants engaging in the sorts of behavior that are the foci of scholarship among members of ISRA. Certainly we are not likely to have a plenary in Atlanta on aggressive invasive terrestrial plants. So, why do I start my ISRA Bulletin comments with a consideration of this matter? Mostly, it has to do with what I perceive to be an enduring gulf between the attempts at definitional precision of aggression scholars and the casual use of the term aggression by the broad general public, and specific members of the community who play important public policy roles as legislators, members of the judiciary, members of school boards, and influential members of the media. I believe that gulf in definitions of aggression compromises any efforts by aggression researchers to bring science to bear on important public policy initiatives.

How we define aggression, and whether we should establish taxonomic distinctions among types of aggression has played a significant role in many ISRA meetings of the past, and it has been reflected in the scholarly work of many former (e.g., Lagerspetz, Moyer) and current ISRA members (e.g. Archer, Berkowitz, Bjorkqvist, Blanchard, Brain, Dodge, Feshbach, Underwood). I have a vivid recollection of spirited discussions and pointed comments in published work related to how we should establish sound operational definitions of aggression. When scholars debate subtle considerations of operational definitions of aggression, those debates are informed by the data that are available, the theoretical models that are under consideration and the research paradigms that are used. Although debaters might have fervently held beliefs, those beliefs are derived from evidence. Those spirited considerations of defining aggression at ISRA meetings played a significant role in my own work and I reflect on those interchanges now as I consider how scholars have attempted to influence the discussion of aggression research in the context of public policy and legislative debates.

The complexity of operationally defining aggression and establishing the validity of those operational definitions is not a simple matter. When scholars of aggression don't always agree, some in the general public see those disagreements as a fundamental lack of consensus and use those differences to argue that the science of aggression doesn't have much to offer the public policy debate. Sometimes, to those who are outside the field, debates regarding definitions of aggression can seem rather arcane. Yet, when trying to make a point that some laboratory analog paradigms provide evidence related to a specific social problem, the very complexity of our definitions of the behavior in question can be used to dismiss empirical findings as irrelevant to the topic at hand. In short, the complexity of aggression research, the differences among strategies for defining aggression, and the difficulty in linking empirical work to pressing social problems can occasion difficulty for scholars hoping to have an impact on public policy and social welfare.

As most ISRA members are acutely aware, regardless of the jurisdiction in which they reside and work, events often occur that stimulate a motivation to make a difference in the lives of children, families, or society by attempting to influence public policy, statutes, or jurisprudence. In my own case, as a U.S. citizen, we are almost daily confronted with some example of serious aggressive encounters that result in the deaths of children and adults. Because I believe that some of our public policies contribute to the general risk for fatal events in the U.S., I have attempted to influence members of the U.S. Congress as they consider new legislation or revisit old legislation, and I do the same with members of the state and local governments in the communities where I reside, or where I think I can make an impact. Sadly, however, I believe most of my individual personal efforts have been futile.

I am well aware of the essential political aphorism that communication with political figures should be brief, simple, and to a single point. Yet, most public policy considerations that relate to aggression cannot be easily reduced to a brief, simple, single point. Thus, when I recently wrote to members of the Iowa delegation to the US Congress, my efforts at brevity resulted in a 2700 word document in which I tried to detail how relevant empirical work on aggression related to pending legislation, and why the legislators should support the legislation in question. The responses from those legislators were sobering. Most failed to even acknowledge that I had written to them. The response of one senator was largely ideological and completely irrelevant to the information I provided. It was, however, suggestive that my considerations of aggression were not consistent with the legislator's own personal definition of *aggression*. That is, his response seemed to intimate that the work I cited was not relevant to the issue at hand. He had an ideological agenda and my consideration of important variables that contribute to aggression was largely irrelevant. The response I received from a second senator indicated that he (or his staff) understood the thrust of my arguments and his vote was congruent with my position. It would be terribly presumptuous for me to conclude that my letter swayed that vote, but I do hope it was, at least, contributory. At the least, his response was certainly reinforcing enough to maintain my behavior of writing to Congress.

Although I was reinforced enough by one out of six of the legislators to whom I wrote, overall my most recent experiences trying to influence legislation related to public policy and aggression was about as satisfying as trying to eradicate those invasive botanicals from my wooded property. I religiously pull the garlic mustard in the spring when I see it, and each spring I have to do it again. I send my letters to legislators in response to pending legislation, and I know I will have to do it again.

I also know that many ISRA members have made serious efforts to influence legislation, public policy, or judicial decisions, and their experiences are not appreciably different than mine. When an individual is unsuccessful in attempts to influence legislation, there is always the hope that some sort of collective action might work more effectively than that on an individual. In that context, there are occasional calls for ISRA to do more to bring the science we can offer to bear on the important social problems related to aggression. I understand the frustration that comes from trying to influence public policy on one's own, and the considerable appeal of an organization like ISRA having a greater impact than that of an individual member. Indeed, within recent years, there have been several calls for ISRA to begin to take a more active role in pressing the collective advantage of our knowledge of aggression science on matters related to public policy. Some have suggested that ISRA runs the risk of becoming irrelevant if the Society does not speak with authority on important public policy matters at either the state-level or internationally. I don't share that view. I believe ISRA's relevance comes from being a vehicle for supporting empirical work on aggression and providing an international forum for the exchange of knowledge about that research. Although I am a strong advocate for ISRA members pushing for public policy that is consistent with the best that aggression research has to offer, I will also continue to argue that ISRA, as a scholarly society, should refrain from engaging in *advocacy* or *lobbying* in support for, or against, various legislative or juridical matters in any geographical or political area in which members have an interest.

I take this position, in part, because we continue to aspire to be a truly *international* society. While problems of aggression and public policy considerations often cross geographical and political boundaries, in most instances, when officers of ISRA have been approached to bring ISRA into the political arena, it is typically to address an issue that primarily pertains to events in one country, and most typically the US. Although I am always impressed by how well-informed European ISRA members are with respect to US politics, I see no reason why that awareness would necessarily translate into support for ISRA taking a position on matters specific to the US. Although not common, over the years ISRA members have occasionally asked the Society to take a public position in support of one side in specific international conflicts. ISRA members have made requests for ISRA to become involved in aggression-related political considerations outside of the U.S. also. When such requests have been made, I have always argued that ISRA, by its international nature and its purpose to advance research on aggression, should not get involved in country-specific or international political efforts. A few current members probably recall some contentious moments in our past when some ISRA members pushed hard for ISRA to take collective political action. I believe those events came close to ending ISRA as an international scholarly organization. In short, I believe we would threaten the essential international nature of the Society if we attempt to take collective political activity in specific geographical or political locales.

I also oppose collective political activity by ISRA because it would compromise our tax exempt status. ISRA was originally incorporated under article 501 c.3 of the Internal Revenue Code of the US. That simply means that when ISRA was founded, it was established as a tax exempt scientific organization. As a tax exempt society, we enjoy some distinct financial advantages that help us maintain our fiscal viability. For example, we do not pay taxes on the funds we receive from John Wiley, publisher of *Aggressive Behavior*. The 501 c.3 requirements are unequivocal in prohibiting any lobbying in support of legislation, or campaign activity in support of political candidates. Recent events in the US related to 501 c.4 organizations should not confuse the matter with respect to ISRA and our 501 c.3 status. In short, if ISRA were to engage in the sort of political advocacy that some members have suggested, we

would definitely compromise our tax exempt status. Thus, it is another very concrete reason I believe ISRA should not attempt to engage in collective political activity.

Although I do not believe ISRA should attempt to engage in political lobbying or advocacy, I feel strongly that the research represented by ISRA members has important public policy implications. I do not think it should be hidden from view and I think widespread distribution of our science is important. I applaud attempts to have press conferences at ISRA meetings, and I believe it is incumbent upon all ISRA members to articulate how their work has important implications for public policy. The notion of translational science should not be just a few phrases to be inserted in grant applications. I don't know of any aggression research that does not have potential applicability and that potential should be emphasized in public venues. Thus, I strongly advocate for ISRA members bringing the empirical evidence pertaining to aggression to bear on those public policy debates that are pressing in their own geographical or political homes. I also believe that summary statements on the state of knowledge, much like the report of the Media Violence Commission, and links to other web-based summaries of science, should be developed for the ISRA website. Those web-based resources would provide individual members engaging in political advocacy readily available summaries to support that advocacy. Then, ISRA members who are potential advocates for aggression-related public policy might be more willing to engage the political environment because they would have material readily available to bolster their positions. Remember, however, when you engage in political discourse, you will be competing in the marketplace of ideas with persons who probably believe that garlic mustard is aggressive or that your laboratory analog paradigm has no relevance to the important public policy issue under consideration. When that happens, I hope ISRA members will stay in the fray and work to advance public policy that is supportable with science.

A Message from our Executive Secretary, Michael Potegal



Dear ISRA Colleagues:

Twenty-first century scientific methodology and information technology have much to offer in terms of the rapid acquisition and exchange of knowledge. To help ISRA and its members stay up to date and take maximum advantage of the exciting new opportunities in the lab and on the internet, 3 new initiatives were proposed at the planning session for the 2014 meeting in Atlanta:

- 1) Asking hosts of our biennial meetings to provide options to visit labs in their universities/cities that have developed or adopted advanced methodologies.** For the Atlanta meeting, Volkan Topalli is planning to arrange an optional visit to the Visualization Wall at the Georgia State Petit Science Center, which enables large-scale, high-resolution visualization of complex data that has been used localize high crime areas and can be adapted to many other uses.

- 2) Creating an ISRA Facebook page for facilitating connections within and among our research communities and fostering discussion of ideas in an ISRA-wide forum.** Conceptual and experimental issues and questions can be rapidly and easily shared among our members. Depending upon how it is

configured, we can make this a members-only interaction or allow the posting of information for the general public.

3) Establishing an Education Page on the ISRA website. Many ISRA members teach courses about or include aspects of aggression. It would be of potentially great benefit to share resources, e.g., key articles, books, and videos, as well as complete syllabi, that people have found useful in informing and engaging students. Manuela Martinez will be among the first to contribute to the Education Page with the syllabus for a Spanish language course on aggression.

To raise ISRA's public profile, meeting hosts will also be encouraged to alert science reporters for their local media about the meeting.

These options will be pursued in the coming year. We welcome your comments and suggestions for facilitating the actions and interactions of ISRA and its members.

Best wishes,
Mike

A Message from the Editor-in-Chief of *Aggressive Behavior*, John Archer



Highly Cited in *Aggressive Behavior*

Publication metrics feature in modern academic life: researchers often show the impact factors of journals and citation in their publication lists; on one website I have seen graphs showing citations per year accompanying the person's most cited papers. Citations provide the main index of the impact of any particular academic paper, and according to one analysis (1), the sum of the faculty members' citations was a primary predictor of the independent ranking of that department's doctoral program. I therefore thought it would be interesting to find out which papers published in *Aggressive Behavior* over its 38 years of existence have been most often cited.

The most frequently cited paper in *Aggressive Behavior* is by Kaj Bjorkqvist and his colleagues, entitled "Do girls manipulate and boys fight: Developmental trends in regard to direct and indirect aggression" (AB, 1992, 18, 117-127). An earlier article by the same group, published in AB in 1988 (and third on the third most highly cited in the list), had established the topic of indirect aggression on an empirical basis for future research. The most highly cited paper followed up and expanded the original work. In between the two on the highly cited list is another article, also authored by Kaj and by his mentor Kirsti Lagerspetz, first authored by Christina Salmivalli, entitled "Bullying as a group process" (AB, 1996, 22, 1-15).

The numbers of citations these articles have attracted varies according to the website used, although they are consistently the first three on the different lists. The first has 1219 citations according to the inclusive Publish or Perish (PP) website, 912 according to Google Scholar, and 505 according to the more restricted ISI. Comparable stats for the second-rank article bullying are 918, 912 and 355, and for

the third 734, 727 and 352. Kaj's 1992 article is the only one published in the journal that has topped the thousand mark.

I must admit to being surprised by these figures in that I had expected a high profile North American researcher from a large research lab to top the list, or at least to be prominent in the first five or six. All three of the most-cited articles describe studies that look at an old problem in a new way. Two concern girls' aggression, which was always said to be less than that of boys. The Finnish researchers' work shows that this only applies to direct forms of aggression, with girls making up for what they don't do in an overt way in this covert indirect manner. This involves manipulating their social world so as to seriously harm another girl's reputation or ability to be part of a desired social group (for an update of this research area, see note 2). The article on bullying as a group process concerned a topic that had (and still is) studied as an individually-motivated process, showing the added complexity of the ancillary roles of those who support the main protagonists.

I also looked at more recent articles to see which have high citation rates per year, as a way of identifying highly cited articles of the future. One I identified was an article on proactive and reactive aggression among adolescents, by Adrian Raine and his colleagues (AB, 2006, 159-171). This extended the reactive-proactive distinction from studies of childhood to emerging adults. Their rating scale has since been used for adult populations, although it probably still requires some modifications.

What are likely to be the highly-cited articles of the future? This is difficult to tell, but those that open up some part of the field in a new way, as the existing highly-cited articles have, would seem a safe bet. Another category would be systematic reviews that draw new conclusions, or summarize the existing evidence so as to form a basis for future studies. Or alternatively, theoretical articles that provide a framework for future work. These last two are absent from the existing list, probably because the journal is not widely seen as a vehicle for reviews or theoretical articles (yet it does publish some of these).

NOTES:

(1) The study on correlates of doctoral program ranking is an unpublished technical report from the Department of Psychology, University of Texas at Austin, by James Pennebaker of the University of Texas at Austin.

(2) A book edited by Karin Osterman, who has been Kaj's collaborator for many years, outlines how the field of indirect aggression has developed since the pioneering highly-cited papers. It is entitled "Indirect and direct aggression and was published by Peter Lang (Frankfurt) in 2010.

John Archer

Editor-in-Chief, *Aggressive Behavior*

—Preliminary Information —

**XXIst ISRA World Meeting in Atlanta, GA
July 15 to 19, 2014**



Meeting Dates

The **XXIst ISRA World Meeting** will be held at the **Loews Atlanta Hotel** and **Georgia State University** from July 15 to 19, 2014.

Meeting Venue

Loews Atlanta Hotel opened in 2010 and is located at the corner of 12th and Peachtree in Midtown Atlanta (<http://www.loewshotels.com/en/Atlanta-Hotel>). It is a luxury, mixed-use development spanning four city blocks that includes 414 guest rooms and 44 suites. The hotel features two dining options (full scale restaurant and bar and a snack bar), wireless access, and a spa and fitness center that includes a gym, yoga studio, and changing rooms and showers. Alternative lodging convenient to Loews that provides lower cost accommodations will also be available.

The World Meeting will be held on the 14th floor of the hotel in self-contained meeting space that includes (a) three breakout rooms for symposia, (b) the Ellington Ballroom that will accommodate all major conference addresses as well as all poster sessions, (c) a pre-function area (i.e., coffee breaks!) that borders the meeting space, and (d) an outdoor Terrace accessible from the pre-function area that overlooks the Atlanta skyline.

The Loews Atlanta Hotel is ideally located in Atlanta's Arts District, which provides guests access to:

- **Heart of the city and arts:** Midtown is the geographic center of Atlanta, located between downtown and Buckhead. The Arts District is home to the Woodruff Arts Center, which includes the Atlanta Symphony, the High Museum of Art, the Atlanta Ballet, and the Alliance Theater.

- **Piedmont Park**: Located two blocks from the hotel, Atlanta's Central Park is a 189 acre urban park that is home to the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, two lakes, tennis courts, walking and jogging trails, and ample recreational space.
- **The Neighborhood**: Midtown Atlanta is the city's most walkable neighborhood and is filled with pedestrians morning, day, and night. It is home to over 100 restaurants, clubs, and bars, many of which are within easy and safe walking distance of the hotel. Importantly, these restaurants reflect a variety of cost-tiers, thereby affording attendees many choices for dining, from quick and economical to some of the most renowned, up-scale restaurants in the city.
- **Airport Accessibility**: The hotel is located 12 miles from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, which is the world's busiest airport. Guests can travel via taxi (\$32 one-way) or via the city's subway system – MARTA (approximately \$3.50 one-way). There are two MARTA stations that border the hotel, with the closest station (Arts Center) located approximately one city block away.

Scientific Program

The scientific program of the 2014 World Meeting aims to represent multidisciplinary research on aggressive behavior. The foundation of the scientific program will include oral paper presentations, poster sessions, invited talks, a pre-conference workshop for young investigators from all around the world, and a meeting of members. However, we also seek to organize themed symposia that (a) bring together invited speakers and/or scholars who represent myriad disciplines to discuss the field of aggression from their varied perspectives, and (b) incorporate major institutions committed to the prevention of violence (e.g., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Emory Center for Injury Control). An extensive list of topics is currently under development. **Suggestions should be sent to local organizers:**

Dominic Parrott (parrott@gsu.edu) and **Volkan Topalli** (vtopalli@gsu.edu).

Young Investigators Program

Mike Potegal will chair the Young Investigators Program for the 2014 meeting. He is looking forward to making another group of the most promising young investigators feel welcome to ISRA and encouraged to pursue a career in aggression research.

Call for Abstracts and Symposia

- **February 1, 2014**: submission of **symposia** are due
- **March 1, 2014**: submission of **abstracts** for oral or poster presentations are due
- Submission information will be posted on the ISRA website and presented in the December 2013 *Bulletin*.

Social Program

Opportunities for attendees to engage in social events will be an integral part of the World Meeting. These activities will include an **Opening Reception** that overlooks the Atlanta skyline from the 14th floor of the Loews Atlanta Hotel (Tuesday July 15), a **Buffet Breakfast** each morning (Wednesday July 16th through Saturday July 19th), and the **Gala Banquet** (Friday July 18th or Saturday July 19th).

Attendees may purchase the Atlanta City Pass, which provides one-time admission to five of Atlanta's most famous attractions: The Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola, the Inside CNN Studio Tour, the High

Museum of Art or Fernbank Museum of Natural History (visitor picks one of these two), and ZooAtlanta or the Atlanta History Center (visitor picks one of these two). The Atlanta City Pass is valid for nine days beginning with the first day of use. Booklets include detailed attraction information, hours, location, insider tips and a map. The cost per person is \$74.00 (Adults) and \$54.00 (Children). Attendees may also purchase tickets to other notable Atlanta attractions, including the Martin Luther King Center and Jimmy Carter Presidential Library. These sites may be of particular interest to conference attendees due to these their efforts around peace and nonviolence. Weblinks to purchase tickets will be available on the ISRA website.

Registration Dates

- **Early** registration begins **March 1, 2014** (*reduced fees*)
- **Late** registration begins **June 14, 2014** (*additional fees*)
- **ISRA World Meeting: July 15 to 19, 2014**

Registration fees will be commensurate with prior World Meetings and will be posted on the ISRA website in Fall 2013 and presented in the December 2013 *Bulletin*.

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Further Information

See the December 2013 *Bulletin* and the website for the XXIst ISRA World Meeting (currently under construction) which will be available through the ISRA website by Fall 2013.

A SPECIAL ESSAY

Guns, Games, and Mass Shootings in the U.S.

A Contribution from ISRA's Past-President, Craig A. Anderson, Distinguished Professor, Iowa State University



As most of you probably know, on December 14, 2012, Adam Lanza, a 20-year old white male, fatally shot twenty children and six adult staff members at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Prior to driving to the school, Lanza had shot and killed his mother. When first responders arrived at the school, Lanza committed suicide by shooting himself in the head.

According to the popular press, this event shocked and horrified the nation. Frankly, although I am horrified by this event, I am not shocked. The easy availability of guns and ammunition in the U.S. make it a certainty that such events will continue to occur here. They are rare and extremely difficult to predict (some would say impossible), which may be why most people are surprised or shocked when they do occur, but such tragedies will persist as long as there are so many guns floating around.

There has been considerable fallout from this event, including some political posturing and much media nonsense. There also have been some very thoughtful pieces, but they tend to attract less attention. It is possible that some positive actions will result, but at this point in time it is too early to tell. I will describe some of the fallout in the remainder of this article.

What is "the" cause?

As usual in such cases, news media, pundits, and self-proclaimed experts immediately weighed in on this event, either seeking the one true or primary cause of such shootings, or claiming that they know the cause or causes of such events.

The president of the National Rifle Association (Wayne LaPierre) claimed that the cause was not easy availability of guns, but was "...an unknown number of genuine monsters. People that are so deranged, so evil, so possessed by voices and driven by demons, that no sane person can every possibly comprehend them." He went on to suggest that these are copycat killers, "... waiting in the wings for their moment of fame from a national media machine that rewards them with wall-to-wall attention and a sense of identity that they crave, while provoking others to try to make their mark." Another related cause, according to LaPierre, is the media violence industry. "And here's another dirty little truth that the media try their best to conceal. There exists in this country, sadly, a callous, corrupt and corrupting shadow industry that sells and stows violence against its own people. Through vicious, violent video games with names like *Bullet Storm*, *Grand Theft Auto*, *Mortal Combat*, and *Splatterhouse*."

There are several interesting points about LaPierre's comments, not all of them bad. For example, there is a tacit recognition of the fact that there is more than one risk factor involved in extreme acts of violence. He notes at least three risk factors, albeit in somewhat nonprofessional terms: (1) certain types of people (what we would call personality traits, or clinical categories, such as antisocial personality disorder, or psychopaths...); (2) media-based glorification and fame for the shooters; and (3) media

violence. Of course, among the very many known risk factors for violence he left out a very obvious one for school shootings: the easy availability of something to shoot with (i.e., guns and ammo).

Naturally, the media picked up on the reference to violent video games. The video game industry and its apologists were quick to deny that there is any evidence linking video game violence to aggressive or violent behavior in the real world. As we know, there are studies linking media violence to violent behavior in the real world (not just mild aggression), some going back many years. Numerous reports by various expert groups, the most recent being our own [Media Violence Commission Report](#), have noted the link to real world aggression. For those of you who are interested in seeing some of these reports, I have posted some on my web site:

<http://www.psychology.iastate.edu/faculty/caa/StatementsonMediaViolence.html>

The media industries and web sites aren't the only ones who reacted strongly to LaPierre's statements. After news reports that Adam Lanza may have been diagnosed as autistic, or as having Asperger's Syndrome, many mental health professionals challenged the notion that either of these conditions are related to violence, a claim that my quick internet search seems to confirm. Other ISRA members undoubtedly know more about this than I do; please feel free to confirm or refute this in a future ISRA Bulletin note.

Several more thoughtful and detailed responses to the whole media frenzy have been made, including several by ISRA members. Rowell Huesmann and Eric Dubow posted a [very useful piece](#) on the Aggression Research Program web site at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, a link we added to the ISRA site some time ago. Also, ISRA member Brad Bushman co-chaired a National Science Foundation committee that produced an excellent report on "[Youth Violence: What We Need to Know](#)," in response to a request by President Obama and some members of Congress. Both of these reports make the very important point that extreme acts of violence typically occur only when a large number of risk factors converge in the same place, person (or persons), and time. That is, there is no single cause of school shootings or of mass killings in general or even of the more mundane single homicide. Furthermore, almost none of the risk factors are necessary for these extreme events. The one exception, of course, is that you can't have a school shooting without a tool that shoots. Despite these reasoned comments by ISRA experts and others, though, the media and some politicians are still on the hunt for "the cause."

What is "the" solution?

In the immediate aftermath of the Newtown killings, there were broad calls for legislative action, especially action concerning gun control. Those of you who don't live in the U.S. may be surprised to learn just how easy it is to buy, sell, and own a wide array of guns here, including civilian versions of standard military assault weapons. Indeed, in many States you don't even need a permit to purchase a handgun. Here is link to a recent story on guns, gun laws, and gun violence:

<http://247wallst.com/2013/04/15/states-with-the-most-gun-violence/> The U.S. Congress even passed a law several years ago giving manufacturers of guns immunity from lawsuits arising from the use of their products in criminal events (e.g., murder).

In general, most representative surveys of U.S. citizens find strong majority support (90%, in some cases) for increased gun controls of some kind. The results vary somewhat based on the specific issue, wording, and whether there has been a recent highly publicized school shooting. But the support is there.

However, the National Rifle Association is one of the most powerful lobbies in Washington, D.C., and they have been very successful in keeping serious gun control legislation from being considered or passed. Basically, Federal politicians are scared that getting on the NRA's bad side will mean that they lose their next election.

In the current case, there were early calls for banning private ownership of some types of assault weapons, for banning the sale of magazines that hold more 20 rounds (bullets, for you non-gun savvy folks), for requiring background checks of all prospective gun purchasers (currently, background checks are required only in certain types of stores, and certain types of transactions, and this varies by State). But, already these proposals have been greatly watered down in the only proposal that is currently being debated in the U.S. Senate. The ban on assault weapons appears dead, as is the ban on large capacity magazines. My initial guess was that if anything could pass at the Federal level, it would be some additional background checks required in some purchasing circumstances, though not in all purchases or exchanges of guns. However, even that has been failed in the U.S. Senate. On the positive side, at least two states (Connecticut, Maryland) have passed new laws tightening gun restrictions, largely in response to the Newton killings.

The other "action" that is currently taking place is based on a call from the Obama administration to further investigate the causes of gun violence (hence the NSF report by Brad Bushman's committee mentioned earlier), including the possible effect of media violence. Whether this will result in some new, good research being funded is unknown at this time. Another little tidbit for non-U.S. members (and perhaps many U.S. members as well) is the fact that in 1996 Congress passed a law (and it was signed by the President) that prohibited the CDC from funding research on gun violence. So, maybe this crazy law will be rescinded, but so far I've seen no movement on this.

APA's response

The American Psychological Association has also started taking action, though I don't know whether this was strictly inspired by the Newton shootings, the President's call for more information on gun and media violence, the controversy surrounding the 2011 U.S. Supreme Court's ruling that laws restricting children's access to any violent video games are unconstitutional, or whether this is a response to the media industry (and their supporters within APA) pressure. Basically, someone at APA decided to form a new Task Force to investigate the media violence literature and to review past APA official statements on media violence effects. Furthermore, this Task Force is supposed to conduct a new meta-analysis of the research literature. This initially sounds like it might be a good idea. And it may be. But there are some very strange aspects about it that I would like to share with you.

I heard rumors of a new Task Force early this year. I was first contacted about it in an email request from Dr. Lauren Fasig on February 5th, 2013. Lauren is the Director, Children, Youth & Families Office, Public Interest Directorate, American Psychological Association. This email went to 25 people, most of whom have published at least something in the media violence area, and many of whom are legitimate experts. There also was one very vocal critic of mainstream media violence research on the list, whom I shall not name. Here is the main part of the email:

We are writing to request your assistance in identifying experts to serve as members of the APA Task Force on Violent Media. The Task Force will oversee a meta-analysis and review of the empirical literature addressing violent television, video games (both interactive and non-interactive),

and other visual programming, such as apps and internet sites. The Task Force will also review the APA Resolutions relevant to this topic as part of their charge.

The Task Force will include seven members with extensive methodological and/or topical expertise and will represent a balanced range of viewpoints and interpretations of the scientific literature in order to achieve the most rigorous review possible. Statistical and methodological expertise will be crucial in this project, so individuals with strong skills in these areas may be included, regardless of whether they have personally conducted research related to the topic. To identify potential members of the Task Force, we are asking knowledgeable and prominent researchers to suggest as many as 5 individuals whom they feel will be best suited to this work. Task Force membership is not limited to psychologists; we are interested in putting together the best working group possible, regardless of discipline.

Please provide the names, and where possible, contact information, of the 5 individuals you believe to have the appropriate methodological and/or topical expertise for this Task Force.

How the initial list of 25 people who received this was created, and who created it, is still unclear. This email (and all subsequent official emails from APA on this) was sent with three APA officials identified as the senders (along with Dr. Fasig, who has handled the actual correspondence): Dr. Gwendolyn P. Keita, Executive Director, Public Interest; Dr. Steven J. Breckler, Executive Director, Science; and Dr. Gary R. Vandenbos, Publisher.

This first email appeared to suggest that the Task Force members would include members with "topical expertise," which most of us assumed meant expertise in conducting and publishing media violence research in top tier journals. More on this in a moment. This first email also said, "We are also seeking nominations of literature to be included in the Task Force's review. You may receive a second letter in the near future requesting your assistance with identifying the strongest relevant articles published between 2000 and 2013." This suggests that the Task Force was only going to look at published articles (a clear deviation from normal meta-analysis practices), and only those published after 2000 (which would inappropriately exclude a huge research literature on television and film violence effects).

On February 7th, Dr. Fasig sent an email (in the names of the three APA officials mentioned earlier) requesting nominations of literature to include in the APA Task Force review, again specifying articles published in the 2000-2013 time period. In response to some questions that I sent to her, Dr. Fasig indicated that, "We will conduct a comprehensive search of the related literature to be used in the review, but we are asking for nominations of publications in order to ensure that we include all of the relevant research for consideration by the Task Force. We anticipate that most of the nominated publications may also be identified in the literature search." This suggests that the literature review will be more comprehensive, not limited to the last 13-14 years.

Most recently (April 5th), Dr. Fasig sent an email to me and at least some of the original group of 25 (maybe all, maybe not), announcing the appointment of a Task Force on Violent Media, and requesting assistance in providing information to the Task Force as questions are generated by them this summer. This email did not include a list of Task Force members, or an explanation of how members were chosen.

Eventually, the membership was made public, and much to my surprise, there are no major media violence experts on the Task Force. Not one. So, what happened to the nominations of experts that were solicited in the February 5th email? I can't imagine that ISRA members Rowell Huesmann, Brad Bushman, and Doug Gentile didn't receive multiple nominations.

The selected Task Force members certainly are recognizable scholars, with expertise in meta-analysis (Larry Hedges), quantitative psychology (Mark Appelbaum), violence (Sherry Hamby), developmental psychology (Ken Dodge), and psychopathology (Gordon Nagayama Hall). One member (Sandy Calvert) has done some excellent work on media and children, including a little bit of media violence work. Another (Sandra Graham) has done excellent work in attribution theory, motivation, and peer-directed aggression. I thank them all for their willingness to serve on this rather unusual and difficult Task Force.

One possible explanation for this composition is that perhaps the APA Board of Directors was trying to create a "balanced" task force that is "unbiased." They seem to have accepted the media industry claim that the research is mixed, and that the experts are about equally divided two warring camps, those who find a true harmful effect versus those who claim that no harmful effects exist. Of course, this claim is like the tobacco industry claims in the 2nd half of the 20th century that medical researchers were evenly split over whether cigarettes caused lung cancer. By not having anyone who has ever published an original empirical media violence article in a top tier journal on the Task Force, they can claim that the results they obtain are unbiased. A recent email from Elizabeth Carll (who chaired the 2005 Task Force) seems to confirm this line of thinking.

I understand this strategy, even though I don't agree with it. I understand their goal of deflecting criticism by media violence skeptics. But frankly, the media industries and other denialists will not be convinced or silenced. At best, a few middle of the road folks who are interested in the topic but who haven't carefully examined the literature may be better persuaded by this unbiased--but non-expert--group than by a Task Force that includes a representative sample of true experts. Maybe this is a valuable goal.

In any case, this is very different from the approach ISRA took with our recent Media Violence Commission, in which real media violence experts generated a very important summary report. Nonetheless, despite some misgivings, I have agreed to help the Task Force (as has Brad Bushman, Rowell Huesmann, Doug Gentile, and probably several other ISRA members).

But, let's be clear that there are real risks to APA's approach. The overarching risk is that they will get it wrong. The underlying assumption of APA's approach is that a group of very bright, well-meaning researchers will *necessarily* produce a good, accurate meta-analysis even if they don't know all of the relevant theoretical and methodological issues involved in the area that they are trying to summarize. I don't believe that this assumption is true, especially the "necessarily" part. They might end up with a summary that is accurate, but there are many possible errors and pitfalls that must be avoided in order for an accurate meta-analysis to result. What are the proper ways to measure or manipulate media violence? What are the best ways to measure aggression, violence, and aggression-related variables? What kinds of controls are appropriate, and which are inappropriate? What do various research designs tell us? What theoretical approaches are most appropriate as guides to making some of these decisions? What are inclusion and exclusion rules for determining which studies go into the meta-analysis? Many studies, for example, claim to have a measure of aggressive behavior, when in fact they have measured

something that is only vaguely related to modern definitions of "aggression." In one such study, frequently touted by the video game industry and its apologists, the measure of aggression is arguments with a friend. Well, that fails as a measure of aggression on multiple points, including whether or not the arguing was intended to hurt the other person. It also fails as being very relevant on theoretical grounds to violent video game effects on physical aggression, which has been the focus of video game studies because they primarily model physical aggression, not relational aggression.

My point is not that the Task Force members don't know about the importance of such issues. In fact, given the decision to not have true domain experts on the Task Force, the group that was selected is in my view an excellent one (although the lack of a primarily laboratory-based experimental social psychologist is a bit troubling, perhaps leading to an undervaluation of such studies). These are careful, thoughtful, skilled scholars. But still, I worry about the lack of true media violence experts. I, for one, would not want to be in a position of having to make the kinds of decisions required in a good meta-analysis— that is, decisions about best practices, based on theory and practice—in a domain in which I was not an expert, such as the effects vitamin E supplements on grooming behavior in rhesus monkeys. The bottom line, I guess, is that I hope that the Task Force: (1) is given the time and resources to make full use of the true experts in this domain; (2) they make use of the true experts; and (3) they successfully distinguish between the true experts and the industry apologists who have garnered a lot of attention with faulty methods and claims.

Coda

In the first 4 months since the Newtown killings, there were over 3481 gun deaths in the U.S. (http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/crime/2012/12/gun_death_tally_every_american_gun_death_since_newtown_sandy_hook_shooting.html). The NRA claims that we need more guns in the hands of citizens, so that they can shoot crazed individuals who attack schools. Some politicians and pundits want to arm school teachers and staff. Other groups (including some NRA folks) have volunteered to post armed guards at schools; in some cases the guards would be real police officers, in other cases they would be citizen volunteers, perhaps NRA members. One element missing in the discussion is the fact that even if, at the point of sale, you screen out certain individuals deemed unfit to own a gun, there still will be many high risk individuals who have easy access to almost any type of gun on the market. Some will get them from friends and family. Some will be legitimate originally-low-risk owners of guns whose life circumstances have turned them into high risk people now (think of divorce, infidelity, being fired from a job, new drug habit...). Some will get them from person-to-person sales, which are not regulated at all. And some will be stolen. A second missing element is the fact that many gun deaths are the result of accidents and suicides.

Other approaches to reducing violence, in the U.S. or elsewhere, also need serious attention and resources. Reducing children's and adolescents' exposure to media violence issue is one such approach. But the many other known risk factors also warrant attention and resources, such as factors that increase impulsivity and hostility in the developing child, adolescent, and young adult; physical environmental factors of many kinds (e.g., various chemicals in food, water, air); social environment factors (e.g., parenting styles/skills; poverty); and others too numerous to list here. In sum, there is no "one" cause and no "one" solution to societal violence, as ISRA members know. Perhaps all of us can use the tragedies of recent events to inform and educate our various general publics, students, and public policy makers about the multi-causal nature of aggression and violence, and the multi-dimensional solutions that are needed.

A SPECIAL ESSAY

Cyberbullying: Recent Areas of Research, and the Work of COST IS0801 A Contribution from Peter K. Smith (Goldsmiths, University of London, U.K.) & Georges Steffgen (University of Luxembourg)



Cyberbullying refers to bullying and harassment of others by means of new electronic technologies, primarily mobile phones and the internet. There has been much research and action on traditional forms of bullying in schools, but cyberbullying has arisen and increased in the last decade. The research area has developed very rapidly. Recent published books on the topic include: Bauman,

Walker and Cross (eds) (2013) – the product of an International Cyberbullying Think Tank Meeting in the USA; Genta, Brighi, and Guarini (eds.) (2013) – the product of a DAPHNE III funded research project; Hinduja and Patchin (2012); Katz (2012), Kowalski, Limber and Agatston (2012); Li, Cross and Smith (eds.) (2012); Patchin and Hinduja (eds.) (2012). There have been many special journal issues on the topic, including recently in *Emotional & Behavioural Difficulties*, 17(3-4), 2012, *European Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 9, 2012; *Psicothema*, 24(4), 2012; and *School Psychology International*, 33, 2012.

The prevalence rates for cyberbullying vary tremendously by factors such as definition, time period for measurement, frequency criterion, and nature of sample. Generally rates appear to be around one-third to perhaps one-half that for traditional bullying. The EU Kids Online survey (Livingstone, Haddon, Görzig & Ólafsson, 2011) surveyed children aged 9-16 in 25 European countries in 2010. Questions were prefaced by the explanation that bullying could occur face-to-face, by mobile phone calls or texts, or on the internet; children were then asked whether someone had acted in this hurtful or nasty way to them in the past 12 months, or if they had acted in this way to others. While incidence varied across countries, on average 3% said they had bullied others on the internet (mostly on a social networking site or by instant messaging), and 2% by using a mobile phone; this compared with 10% who reported face-to-face or offline bullying. For victims, 6% reported being a victim of bullying on the internet and 3% by using mobile phone; this compared with 13% who reported being bullied face-to-face or offline. Other research has produced much higher figures, but usually with more lenient criteria. This issue was recently debated (see Olweus, 2012, and commentaries).

Relatedly, the definition of cyberbullying is under debate, since the traditional criteria of repetition and imbalance of power are more questionable in the cyber domain. Some researchers argue that a broader area of cyber aggression is a more defensible research area – see Bauman et al (2013) for discussion of this. We know that interventions against traditional bullying have some success, and some of these will be applicable to cyberbullying; but more tailored interventions specific to cyberbullying are in the early stages (see Genta et al., 2013, and Patchin & Hinduja, 2012, for examples).

A challenge for researchers in the area is how fast things are developing. Technology continues to develop rapidly. The advent of smart phones has rendered the earlier distinction made between mobile phone bullying and internet bullying, largely obsolete. The growth in use of social networking sites in the last few years means that cyberbullying is no longer mainly by text messages and emails (the topics of ‘early’ research around 2005-2007). New forms of cyberbullying, for example by Twitter, are

becoming important. All this means that the historical context of research – the date at which the data was collected – is very important. Astonishingly, many publications still do not give the year in which data were gathered, an example of disregard of wider context that psychologists especially may be susceptible to.

In the remainder of this review we will summarise the work and outcomes from a COST Action, IS0801, on Cyberbullying, which finished recently. COST stands for Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research, and a COST Action funds meetings, workshops and seminars, scientific visits, training schools, and dissemination in its particular disciplinary area. COST Actions primarily cover European countries, but a number of other countries have affiliation arrangements and possibilities. Many COST Actions are in operation at any one time, over a wide range of disciplinary areas; see http://www.cost.eu/about_cost

COST IS0801 was a project from 2008 to 2012 involving 28 European countries, plus Australia. Its full title was *Cyberbullying: Coping with negative and enhancing positive uses of new technologies, in relationships in educational settings*. The project website is at <http://sites.google.com/site/costis0801/>. In addition to many journal articles and book chapters, a book on the work of the Action, Smith & Steffgen (eds.) (2013), is in press. The more detailed objectives (see website) were pursued through six Working Groups (see Ch 1 of this book).

The first Working Group was on definition and measurement issues. Menesini et al. (2012, and Ch 2 in book) discuss how cyberbullying has been defined. They use empirical data gathered from cartoon-based studies, and present a thorough comparison of different approaches and criteria, ending with a proposal for an integrated definition. Measurement issues were considered by Frisé and colleagues (Ch 3 in book; Berne et al., 2012). They describe the results of a systematic review of 44 instruments used to assess cyberbullying, published up to October 2010. The review puts emphasis on the structural and psychometric properties of cyberbullying instruments, such as validity and reliability, as well as the conceptual and definitional basis. An important aim is to provide criteria for readers to evaluate and choose instruments according to their own needs.

A second Working Group was on perspectives from the law, industry and the media. Campbell and Završnik (Ch 4 in book) explore whether cyberbullying should be criminalized, by examining the purposes of the law and its application to cyberbullying. The role of the law in reflecting social norms and legal influences on anti-bullying policies in educational settings is reviewed. Current legal applications in different countries are considered and challenges to updating the law provided. Coyne and Gountsidou (Ch 5 of book) consider the role of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Mobile Phone Companies (MPCs) in the cyberbullying process. They debate the notion of industry self-regulation and outline the EU Safer Social Networking Principles as a guide to evaluating the effectiveness of industry action. Vandebosch and colleagues (Ch 6 of book) point out that the amount of attention that media pay to cyberbullying, and the way they frame the issue, influence the general public and policymakers. They report the findings of a content analysis of national, daily newspapers in 8 countries; these indicate that cyberbullying has become an important news issue, with the tone of the majority of articles often being alarmist.

Two Working Groups were on coping with cyberbullying, and national guidelines. Mc Guckin and colleagues (Ch 7 of book, and Perren et al., 2012) explore current knowledge on coping with

cyberbullying, providing a systematic review of the literature in the area. The issues regarding the research agenda in this area are explored, and attention is directed towards what is known and what those interested in the area should focus on for current and future research. O'Moore and colleagues (Ch 8 of book) review already nationally published guidelines in different countries. Criteria for assessing best practice were determined to assess the two most prominent national guidelines in each of 27 countries, according to school ethos, policies and programs, skills, and collaborative partnerships, and as they targeted parents, young people, schools, and teachers. For each target group, they review the research evidence, present key findings from their content analysis, and make recommendations of practical importance. This work resulted in a booklet, *Guidelines for preventing cyber-bullying in the school environment: A review and recommendations*, which is available for download on the COST Action website.

One Working Group was established to look at the positive uses of new technologies in the relationships area. This resulted in a separate book, Costabile and Spears (2012), and in Ch 10 of the COST book, Spears and colleagues discuss how electronic and virtual environments have become increasingly important in the social lives of adolescents. They describe the impact of ICT use on cognitive skill, academic development, social development, and relationships; and discuss the range of positive uses that these new technologies can have.

A final Working Group was on training opportunities for early career researchers, an important component of all COST Actions. Boronenko and colleagues (Ch 13 of book) review the use of Short Term Scientific Missions (visits of one week to 3 months), with six case study examples. They also describe the organization and outcome of two Training Schools, one in Australia, and one in Finland. The Australian contribution to this primarily European action was immense, and Cross and colleagues (Ch 12 of book) describe four major cyberbullying research initiatives in Australia and the outputs generated from each. They consider the implications for policy and practice for Australian education systems and for schools, their staff, students, and their parents.

Two other chapters in the book describe some emerging research areas. Spears and Kofoed (Ch 11 of book) point out that traditionally, bullying research has focused on survey methodologies; what has been largely missing is the voice of young people, and methodologies which allow for carefully listening to youth voices. The insights into youth life and social media that can be gained through qualitative methods can add valuable and important knowledge to what we already know from surveys and quantitative studies, including the subtleties of youth life mediated by technologies and the variability of it. Also, although most research has focused on school age populations, cyberbullying is a lifespan phenomenon; Cowie and colleagues (Ch 9 of book) examine research on cyberbullying among university students. Although prevalence rates are lower than for school pupils, the effects of being bullied at school can persist into young adulthood. They present both qualitative and quantitative data from 4 countries, explore the nature and incidence of cyberbullying, discuss continuities and discontinuities and identify some possible interventions to alleviate the problem.

The book ends with commentaries from Patchin and Hinduja (as researchers), Eklund and Flocken (as practitioners), and Sullivan (on bridging research and practice).

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Important ISRA Notices

NEW EUROPEAN BULLETIN EDITOR

We are happy to announce that Manuela Martinez (manuela.martinez@uv.es) is our new European Bulletin editor. Manuela will be producing the December 2013 Bulletin, so please send any information you have for that Bulletin to Manuela.

ISRA WEBMASTER

Our ISRA webmaster is Brian Anderson, Center for the Study of Violence, Iowa State University. Please contact Brian at csv@iastate.edu if there is information you would like to see on the website.

MEMBER WEBPAGES CAN BE LINKED TO THE ISRA WEBSITE

If you would like your webpage listed as a link on the ISRA website, please send your request and the link to our webmaster, Brian, at csv@iastate.edu.

TEACHING RESOURCES SECTION TO APPEAR ON ISRA WEBSITE

As you read in Mike's messages, we are developing a Teaching Resources section for the ISRA website. Please consider contributing to this endeavour! Contact Mike about materials you'd like to share.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR ISRA WORLD MEETING VENUES

We are reviewing proposals for the 2016 ISRA World Meeting. We would like to urge our members to start thinking about developing proposals for our future meetings (2018, 2020, etc.). If you would like to consider hosting a meeting, please let Mike, John, or Kaj know. It's not too early to start that discussion!

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN THE NEXT ISSUE OF *AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR* IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE?

Wiley makes it possible to receive an email alert when a new issue is available. It requires that you create a Wiley log-in which can be done from Wiley's Aggressive Behavior home page. The link to receive "new content alerts" is located in the upper left section on the home page under "Journal Tools".

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/%28ISSN%291098-2337>

The screenshot shows the Wiley Online Library interface for the journal *Aggressive Behavior*. Key elements include:

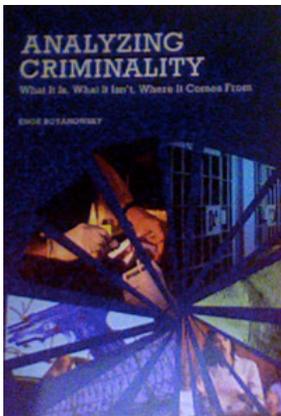
- Navigation:** Home > Cognitive Psychology > Brain & Behavior: Physiological Psychology > Journal Home
- Journal Tools:** A menu on the left with options like "Get New Content Alerts", "Get RSS feed", "Save to My Profile", "Get Sample Copy", and "Recommend to Your Librarian".
- Journal Information:** Edited By: John Archer, Impact Factor: 2.63, ISI Journal Citation Reports ranking, and Online ISSN: 1098-2337.
- Impact Factor Graphic:** A large graphic stating "NEW Higher Impact Factor 2.63*" with a source note: "*Source: 2011 Journal Citation Reports® (Thomson Reuters, 2012)".
- Recently Published Issues:** A list of issues including "Current Issue: July-August 2013" (Volume 39, Issue 4) and "November / December 2012" (Volume 38, Issue 6).
- Search and Sidebar:** A search bar on the right and a "JOURNAL MENU" sidebar on the left.

Book Reviews

Boyanowsky, E. (2012). *Analyzing Criminality. What is it, What is isn't, Where is comes from.* Boston: Pearsons.

Reviewed by: Philip Birch, School of Social Sciences and Psychology, University of Western Sydney

This text offers a biological/psychological approach to understanding crime/criminality, so the focus is narrower than the title suggests. The potential reader should be alerted to this limited focus because many other important areas within the field of criminology such as the social, environmental, and structural causes and explanations of criminality are not well covered. Thus, the text appears to be designed for a reader interested in the biological/psychological perspective.



Boyanowsky indeed explores some important themes throughout the text. For example in Chapter 1, consideration is given to the problem of the term 'crime' and its lack of universal agreement over time and through culture. In Chapter 2, Boyanowsky presents an interesting framework, 'A three dimensional dynamic model for analysing crime', in which (i) force/energy, (ii) harm, and (iii) intention are described. Interestingly, Boyanowsky then adds a fourth dimension, knowledge (culpability), so the model ends up being a four dimensional model that is applicable to understanding a range of crimes.

Any criminology text needs to consider the nature of criminality and Chapter 3 introduces one of the founding fathers of the discipline into the discourse - Lombroso. Understanding the philosophical/theoretical underpinnings of the discipline is important. However, again the focus is limited to Lombroso and a biological understanding of criminality. Thus, the reader needs to be alerted to the fact that the text does not focus on alternative theoretical perspectives, including social and cultural perspectives. The following three chapters (Chapters 4-6) extend the biological/psychological examination of crime/criminality, with scholars such as Freud presented. As a new student to the discipline of criminology, it is important to consider Freud and how his work has influenced the discipline. Nevertheless, the chapter could have been strengthened by a more critical discussion of how an understanding of Freudian concepts such as the id, ego, and superego might be helpful to those working in the field, such as probation and parole officers.

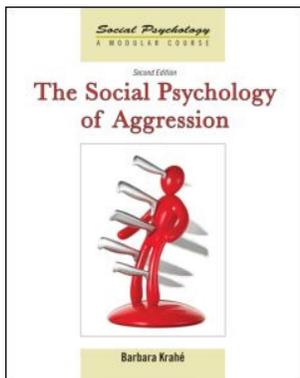
Chapter 8 offers insight into some alternative psychological understandings of crime. Chapter 9 discussed important gender issues related to crimes, including sexual assault and murder. The chapter, however, could have gone into some key advances made in recent years concerning gender symmetry violence. Finally, Chapter 10 turned its attention to aggression; the examination of aggression from an environmental perspective (e.g., the climate effect) was welcomed in a text whose primary focus is largely limited to the biological/psychological perspective.

In summary, Boyanowsky's text primarily considers crime from a relatively narrow biological/psychological perspective, which may lead a reader to want to explore other perspectives as

well. Overall, the applicability of this text would most likely be geared toward first year undergraduate students as an overview of the biological and psychological perspectives on crime. The text might also appeal to readers interested in pursuing future study in the area and wanted to extend their knowledge on the biological and psychological perspectives of crime.

Krahé, B. (2013). *The Social Psychology of Aggression* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Psychology Press.

Reviewed by: Kevin M. Swartout, Department of Psychology, Georgia State University



In her recently-published book, Barbara Krahé presents a thorough and engaging overview of the social psychological literature on human aggression. I found *The Social Psychology of Aggression* tough to get through—but only because I felt compelled to stop at several points per chapter to take notes and ponder the ideas Dr. Krahé presents. This second edition of the text has been thoroughly updated to highlight current perspectives within the literature. I appreciate the fact that this book addresses some of the most controversial topics in the social psychology of aggression, including the link between violent media and aggression and gender symmetry in intimate partner violence. Dr. Krahé offers readers a transnational perspective on aggression by including prevalence rates and definitions of aggressive behaviors from countries around the world. This text presents a tremendous opportunity for students to gain an up-to-date understanding of how social psychologists approach and study human aggression as well as what has been found at this point in time; it would also serve as an excellent primer for researchers looking to expand their knowledge on the topic.

The book is divided into two sections. The first section presents the general social psychological construct of aggression with chapters offering definitional, theoretical, and developmental perspectives. These foundational chapters are followed by general discussions of situational factors influencing aggression and the effect of violent media consumption on aggression. I specifically appreciated the attention paid to the alcohol-aggression link within the chapter on situational elicitation of aggressive behavior; this section includes coverage of the moderators and theoretical explanations involved in the alcohol-aggression relationship as well as a succinct list of conclusions that can be drawn from the current literature on this topic.

The second section of the book focuses on specific forms of aggressive behavior with emphasis given to aggression among family members and between groups of people as well as a chapter dedicated to the study of terrorism. Although I found all of these discussions compelling, I was especially pleased to find chapters in this second section dedicated to everyday and sexual aggression. The chapter devoted to everyday aggression is compelling in addressing the literatures on bullying, workplace aggression, aggressive driving, and aggression in sports; these discussions not only address risk factors for these forms of aggression but also provide updates on the current state of intervention research specific to these more specific areas of inquiry. The chapter devoted to sexual aggression begins with broad yet

detailed overviews of definitions, base-rates, and theory; Dr. Krahe then presents well-organized discussions of risk factors associated with sexual aggression perpetration and victimization.

Overall, this text is an organized and well-written addition to the literature on human aggression. It provides readers with a current understanding of both basic and advanced topics as well as the specific methods and paradigms commonly used by social psychologists to study aggression. The scope of material presented as well as the short lists of suggested follow-up tasks—interesting suggestions of things the reader can do to learn more about each topic—and further readings concluding each chapter make this text the perfect supplement for courses on social psychology, human aggression, or related areas targeted at advanced undergraduate or early-stage graduate students.

This space is reserved for YOU!

**Have you recently published a book?
Are you about to launch a new book?**

Why not share this information with all other ISRA members who might be more than interested to read or recommend it to colleagues and students?

If you would like to see an advertisement for your book in the next *Bulletin* in December 2013, please contact Eric Dubow (edubow@bgsu.edu)

Recent Child and Adolescent Aggression Research from the Society for Research in Child Development

The 2013 Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development was held in Seattle, Washington, from April 18-20. There were many presentations on the topics of adolescent aggression and violence. We searched the online program for the keywords “aggression” and “violence.” Below, we list the symposia papers on these topics. (The online program also lists poster presentations on these topics.) If you would like more information about specific presentations listed below, go to the SRCD webpage where you can access a printable program of the biennial meeting, along with author contact information at the end of the program book: <http://www.srcd.org/meetings/biennial-meeting/program-information> (Click on 2013 SRCD Program Book)

Genetic and Biological Factors

- Polygenic Risk for Adult Externalizing Behavior Predicts Impulsivity in Adolescents and Young Adults
Jessica Salvatore, Fazil Aliev, John Nurnberger, Victor Hesselbrock, Danielle Dick
- Latent Profiles of Child Temperament: Genetic and Environmental Influences and Associations with Externalizing Behavior Problems
Charles Beekman, Jenae Neiderhiser, Daniel Shaw, David Reiss, Jody Ganiban, Leslie Leve
- The Etiology of the Relationship Between Aggression, Rule-breaking, and Positive and Negative Parenting in Childhood
Ashlea Klahr, Kelly Klump, S. Burt
- Family Functioning Moderates Links Between Childhood Sexual Abuse and Cortisol Awakening Response Over Pregnancy
Margaret Bublitz, Laura Stroud
- History of Childhood Trauma is Associated With Increased Placental Corticotropin-Releasing Hormone (CRH) Production Over Pregnancy
Nora Moog, Claudia Buss
- Domestic Violence in the Mother's Family of Origin Predicts Infant HPA Axis Functioning Over the First 30 Days: Moderated Effects
Stephanie Parade, Margaret Bublitz, Laura Stroud
- Peer Victimization and Acceptance as Moderators of the Association between Physiological Reactivity and Preschool Aggression
Amy Gower, Bonny Donzella, Nicki Crick
- Autonomic Reactivity to Stress and Physical and Relational Aggression: The Moderating Roles of Victimization, Type of Task, and Child Gender
Dianna Murray-Close, Nicki Crick, Wan-Ling Tseng, Nicole Lafko, Catherine Burrows, Clio Pitula
- Physiological Reactivity Predicting Relational Aggression: The Moderating Roles of Gender and Functions of Aggression
Nicole Lafko, Erin Shoulberg, Dianna Murray-Close

Individual and Contextual Predictors of Adolescent and Early Adulthood Risk Behaviors

- Exposure to Different Types of Violence in Adolescence and Sexual Risk Behavior in Emerging Adulthood
Jennifer Walsh
- Childhood and Adolescent Predictors of Drunk Driving in Young Adulthood
Jennifer Jester, Anne Buu, Eduardo Romano, Jing Wang, Robert Zucker
- Psychopathy and Intelligence: Predictors of Juvenile Aggressive and Income Offending During a Three-Year Follow-Up Period
Ashley Hampton, Abigail Seelbach, Laurence Steinberg, Deborah Drabick

□ The relationship between empathy, affect regulation processes and aggression: A longitudinal study of adolescents at-risk *Roseann Larstone, Marlene Moretti*

Community Violence and War

□ Does Autonomic Functioning Moderate the Relation between Community Violence Exposure and Children's Anxiety Symptoms? *Jessie Cline, Lindsey Bruett, Darcy Burgers, Deborah Drabick*

□ Shattered Schools? Student Achievement, Social Disorder and Violent Crime in School Neighborhoods
Jondou Chen, Jeanne Brooks-Gunn

□ Social disorder in the wake of war: the post-conflict social environment and externalizing behaviors among war-affected youth *Theresa Betancourt, Ryan McBain, Elizabeth Newnham, Robert Brennan*

□ Impact of Violent Ethno-Religious Conflict on Secondary School Educational Outcomes in Jos Metropolis of Plateau State *Beatrice Bahago, Grace Ohunene Momoh*

□ Longitudinal Trajectories of Child Emotional Insecurity About Family and Community in Contexts of Political Violence *Edward Cummings, Laura Taylor, Christine Merrilees, Marcie Goeke-Morey, Justin Lunningham, Catherine Reidy, Pete Shirlow*

□ Trajectories of Internalizing Problems in War Affected Sierra Leonean Youth: Examining Conflict and Postconflict Factors *Theresa Betancourt, Ryan McBain, Elizabeth Newnham, Robert Brennan*

□ Violence Exposure and Emotional Distress among Youth in the Middle East: Pathologic Adaptation or Diminished Exposure? *Paul Boxer, Eric Dubow, L. Rowell Huesmann, Erika Niwa, Simha Landau, Shira Dvir Gvirsman, Khalil Shikaki, Jeremy Ginges*

□ Helping War-Affected Youth: Efficacy of Cognitive and Socio-Emotional Psychosocial School Intervention for Palestinian Children *Marwan Diab, Raija-Leena Punamäki, Esa Palosaari, Samir Qouta*

The Role of Schools

□ No More Teachers' Dirty Looks: School Discipline and Arrest *Kathryn Monahan, Susan VanDerhei*

□ Family Matters: Taking Stock of School Discipline and Arrest *Elizabeth Cauffman, Paul Frick, Laurence Steinberg*

□ From the Schoolyard to the Prison yard *Jordan Bechtold*

□ Externalizing and Internalizing Behavior Problems in Elementary School Among Low-income Males: The Role of Teacher-child Relationships *Erin O'Connor, Brian Collins, Lauren Supplee*

□ Child aggressive behavior during the transition to school: unique and interactive contributions of observed teacher-child conflict and emotional support *Karine Verschueren, Joana Cadima, Sarah Doumen*

□ Teacher-Child Conflict, Reactive and Proactive Aggression, and Victimization in the First School Years
Kevin Runions

□ Children's Expectations for their Teacher's Responses to Students' Aggression: Does Teacher-Child Relationship Quality Matter? *Wendy Troop-Gordon, John Ranney*

Social Aggression and the Role of Peers

- "I'm the Jealous Type": Exploring Underlying Motivations for the Use of Social Aggression *Danielle Quigley, Tina Daniels, Christine Polihronis, Katherine Magner*
- Does it Feel Good to be Bad?: Predicting the Emotional Experiences of Using Social Aggression *Katherine Magner, Tina Daniels, Danielle Quigley, Christine Polihronis*
- "We Don't Give A Damn About Her": Understanding the Role of Motivational Goals and Peer Beliefs in Endorsing Social Aggression *Christine Polihronis, Tina Daniels, Katherine Magner, Danielle Quigley*
- Physical and Relational Aggression Trajectories as Predictors of Adolescent Health-Risk and Externalizing Behaviors in Girls *Kathryn Kimball, Sharon Foster, Judy Andrews*
- Relational Aggression Trajectories for Girls and Boys: Associations with Internalizing-Externalizing Problems and Peer Relations *Idean Ettekal, Gary Ladd*
- Girls' Aggression: What is Developing through Adolescence *Debra Pepler, Depeng Jiang, Wendy Craig, Jennifer Connolly*
- Overt and Relational Aggression toward the In-group and Out-group among Early Adolescents *Leanna Closson, Shelley Hymel*
- The Impact of Clique Hierarchization on Peer Influence Processes in Adolescent Delinquency *Kim Pattiselanno, Jan Kornelis Dijkstra, Christian Steglich, Aart Franken, Wilma Vollebergh, René Veenstra*
- Being in the Know: Early Adolescents' Nominations of Who Bullies Whom *Naomi Andrews, Laura Hanish, Carlos Santos, Olga Kornienko, Philip Rodkin, Kristen Granger*
- Bystanders matter: Classroom levels of reinforcing bully and defending victim are related to the frequency of bullying *Christina Salmivalli*
- Popularity in Fifth-Grade Friendship Networks: Selection and Influence Processes *Philip Rodkin*
- IT as a Context for Cyber Aggression and Victimization: Perception of Perpetual Audience *Kevin Runions*
- Childhood Bullying and Social Dilemmas *Amelia Kohm*

Effects of Intimate Partner Violence on Youth

- Exploring Affective and Adrenocortical Attunement as Pathways Between Intimate Partner Violence and Child Behavior Problems *Lia Martin, Alytia Levendosky, J. Audie Black*
- Intimate Partner Violence and Fathers' Parenting: Do His Depressive Symptoms Matter? *Victoria Mueller, Elizabeth Hoover, Ernest Jouriles, Renee McDonald*
- Impact of Violence on Youths' Aggressive Beliefs and Behaviors: The Role of Contextual Factors *Jessica Houston, John Grych*

□ Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence in Early Childhood and Behavior Problems: The Mediating Role of Executive Functioning *J. Audie Black, Alytia Levendosky, Lia Martin*

□ Developmental changes in threat and self-blame for preschoolers exposed to IPV *Laura Miller, Sandra Graham-Bermann, Kathryn Howell*

The Role of Social Cognitions and Emotions

□ Hostile Attribution Biases for Relational Provocation and Future Relational Victimization: A Short-Term Longitudinal Study in Early Childhood *Kimberly Kamper, Stephanie Godleski, Emily Hart, Jamie Ostrov*

□ Predicting Victimization and Aggression with Hostile Intent Attributions and Emotional Distress: The Utility of Parent Perceptions *David Nelson, Christine Cramer, Sarah Coyne, Joseph Olsen*

□ Longitudinal Associations between Hostile Attribution Bias and Peer Victimization: The Moderating Roles of Autonomic Reactivity to Stress and Gender *Clio Pitula, Dianna Murray-Close, Wan-Ling Tseng, Adrienne Banny, Nicki Crick*

□ Associations among Relational Victimization, Hostile Attribution Bias, and Conflict Resolution Skills: The Moderating Role of Physiological Reactivity to Social Stress *Erin Shoulberg, Nicole Lafko, Caitlin Wagner, Dianna Murray-Close*

□ Aggressors and Aggressive-Victims: Do they Adopt Similar Aggressive Moral Disengagement Practices? *Kay Bussey, Kirstin Barchia*

□ The Chicken and the Egg: Deficits in Morality and Bullying Behaviors. A Cross-Lagged Latent Growth Model *Fabio Sticca, Sonja Perren*

□ The Role of Moral Disengagement in the Longitudinal Associations between Children's Social Goals and Aggression *Kari Visconti, Gary Ladd, Becky Kochenderfer-Ladd*

□ Morally Disengaged and Defending? The Moderating Role of Best Friend Characteristics *Caroline Doramajian, William Bukowski*

□ Conflicted Values?: The Social Motivations of Aggressive-Prosocial Youth *Christopher O'Brien, Kristina McDonald, Maya Benish-Weisman*

□ Heterogeneity of Relationally Aggressive Adolescents: Gender, Status, and Social Goals *Karmon Dyches, Lara Mayeux*

□ Subtypes of Aggressive and Prosocial Preadolescents: Social Functions and Behavioral Strategies *Tabitha Wurster, Hongling Xie*

□ Effectiveness of the KiVa Anti-Bullying Intervention on Popular and Unpopular Bullies *Claire Garandeau, Ihno Lee, Christina Salmivalli*

□ The Bright Side of Imagined Friends: Perceptual Bias in Network Centrality and Aggression *Jennifer Neal, Elise Cappella*

□ Social Cognitive Processes and Behaviors Related to Chinese Children's Popularity: A Longitudinal Study *Yinyan Hu, Yan Li*

- Dyadic Accuracy and Bias in Preadolescents' Perceived Peer Relations: Associations with Aggression, Depression, and Peer Victimization *Michael Morrow, Julie Hubbard, Meghann Sallee, Lydia Barhight, Meghan Lines, Ronnie Rubin*
- Emotion Regulation and Negative Emotionality Moderates the Effects of Moral Emotions and Externalization of Blame on Aggression *Sanna Roos, Christina Salmivalli, Ernest Hodges*
- Empathy-Related Responding and Externalizing Behavior in Adolescence; a Multi-Measure Study *Jolien Van der Graaff, Susan Branje, Minet De Wied, Anton Van Boxtel, Wim Meeus*
- Is Perspective Taking all That in Adolescence? Examining the Bidirectional Associations With Empathic Concern and two Forms of Aggression *Milena Batanova, Alexandra Loukas*
- Adolescents' Aggressive and Prosocial Behaviors: Links With Social Information Processing, Negative Emotionality, Moral Affect, and Moral Cognition *Debbie Laible, Tia Murphy, Mairin Augustine*

Aggression and Humor

- Aggressive, yet Funny: Mixing Positive Humor, Negative Humor, and Aggression in the Bid for Peer Status *David Nelson, Sacha Bikhazi, Sarah Coyne*
- The Powerful Combination of Being Funny and Being Mean on the Road to Perceived Popularity *Tracy Vaillancourt, Heather Brittain, Patricia McDougall, Shelley Hymel*
- Playful Relational Behaviors in Adolescence: Associations with Prosocial Behavior and Self-Esteem *Amy Luckner, Christina Piccirillo*
- Verbal Aggression and Verbal Rough-and-Tumble Play in Adolescents' Interactions With Siblings and Friends *Ganie DeHart, Leslie Cohoon, Sana Shakeel*
- The Association Between Early Adolescent Liking and Peer Nominations of Being Funny: Data from Canada and Colombia *Ryan Adams, Jonathan Santo, Luz Lopez, Gina Carmago, Shari Mayman, William Bukowski*
- Does Humor Explain Why Relationally Aggressive Adolescents are Popular? *Julie Bowker, Rebecca Etkin*
- The Costs and Benefits of Aggression Depend on Whether Adolescents Have a Good Sense of Humor *Ernest Hodges, Kätlin Peets, Ryan Adams*

In-Person Bullying and Cyber-Bullying

- Is social network centrality related to (cyber)bullying and (cyber)victimization? Parallel process growth model analyses *Sonja Perren, Sabrina Ruggieri, Fabio Sticca, Françoise Alsaker*
- Self-Other Discrepancies in Reports of Cyberaggression and Cybervictimization *Cigdem Topcu, Noel Card, Sheri Bauman, Daniel Erickson*
- Motivations for Cyber Bullying: A Longitudinal and Multi-Perspective Inquiry *Faye Mishna*
- Response Decision Processes for Face-to-face Versus Cyber Aggression and the Longitudinal Association to Aggressive Behaviors among Adolescents *Michelle Wright*

- Predicting Cyberbullying Behavior in Late Adolescence: The Importance of Attitudes *Douglas Gentile, Christopher Barlett*
- Borderline Personality Disorder and Cyberbullying in Adolescence *Sarah Coyne, David Nelson*
- Examining the Moderating Influence of Age in the Relation between Cyber-bullying and Aggression: A Meta-Analysis *Christopher Barlett*
- Predictors of Reported Prevalence Rates for Cyber and Tradition Aggression in Adolescence: A Meta-Analytic Investigation *Kathryn Modecki, Jeannie Minchin*
- Developmental Trajectories of School Bullying predict PTSD Symptoms: A 5-year Longitudinal Study from Finland *Thormod Idsoe, Ella Idsoe, Atle Dyregrov, Christina Salmivalli*
- The Longitudinal Relation between Peer Violent Victimization and Delinquency: Results from a National Representative Sample of US Adolescents *Corrie Jackson, Rochelle Hanson, Ananda Amstadter, Dean Kilpatrick, Benjamin Saunders*
- A Comparison of Self- and Peer-Reports of Electronic Forms of Aggression and Victimization *Daryaneh Badaly, Mylien Duong, David Schwartz*

Non-Suicidal Self-injury

- Nonsuicidal Self-Injury in Children of Depressed Mothers: Moderation by CRHR1 TAT Haplotype *Brandon Gibb, Andrea Hanley, Jimmy Choi, Katie Burkhouse, Mary Woody, Sydney Meadows, Michael Van Wie, John McGeary, Valerie Knopik*
- Latent Trajectories of Adolescent Non-suicidal Selfinjury: Examining the Role of Peer Experiences *Matteo Giletta, Mitchell Prinstein, Andrea Barrocas, Brandon Gibb, John Abela, Benjamin Hankin*
- Non-suicidal Self-injury as a Gateway to Suicide in Young Adults *Janis Whitlock*

Teen Dating Violence

- Relation Between Bully Perpetration and Teen Dating Violence Perpetration Across Early to Late Adolescence *Dorothy Espelage, Lisa De La Rue, Sabina Low*
- Examining the Association Between Bullying and Student Concerns About Teen Dating Violence *Sarah Lindstrom Johnson, Katrina Debnam, Catherine Bradshaw, Elise Pas*
- Dating Violence: The Joint Effect of Emotional Maltreatment and Emotion Communication Skills *Laura Bradbury, Anne Shaffer, Courtney McCullough*
- African American Girls' Perceptions of the Ideal Dating Relationship: Implications for the Prevention of Teen Dating Violence *Katrina Debnam, Donna Howard*

Call for Papers

Call for Papers: Understanding Media Violence Effects Special Issue of "Societies"
(<http://www.mdpi.com/journal/societies>)

Guest editor: Barbara Krahe

Deadline for submissions: 15 September 2013 for further details see:
http://www.mdpi.com/journal/societies/special_issues/violence-effects



THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON AGGRESSION

Founded in 1972

ISRA: an Interdisciplinary Society

ISRA, the International Society for Research on Aggression, founded in 1972, is an international interdisciplinary, organization dedicated to the study and dissemination of information on the causes and consequences of aggressive behavior and violence in all of its forms and contexts.

The Social Burden of Violence

The human capacity for aggressiveness and violence inflicts a considerable burden on society. Obviously, it can lead to death and immediate physical injury, but it also creates long-term physical and emotional disabilities. In addition, violence has a profound effect on those who witness it, such as the families and communities of the victims. Moreover, it impairs the ability of communities to address important public health issues, such as infectious diseases, malnutrition, urban decay, and environmental hazards. Violence and aggression often prevents the delivery of critical public services, such as emergency management and education. Such effects on society tend to exacerbate the very adverse social conditions that promote aggression, facilitating a vicious circle, with violence as a crucial factor.

home page: <http://www.israsociety.com/>

ISRA's Core Mission

Effectively addressing violence and aggression, whether it be child abuse, domestic violence, homicide, terrorism, sexual violence, or civil wars, requires a sustained focus by international scientists. *ISRA's principal mission* since 1972 is to show that aggression and violence, as well as alternative ways to resolve conflicts, can be successfully studied using scientific methods.

Members, Meetings and Media

- *ISRA* members gather for *World Meetings* every other year on alternating continents.
- All members receive *Aggressive Behavior* the official journal of ISRA at a discount.
- Members receive the *ISRA E-Bulletin*.

From Understanding to Solutions

Finding solutions to the pervasive consequences of aggression, requires a multidisciplinary approach. To understand the complex causes, our research addresses brain and other physical processes that underlie the human capacity for violence and the psychological processes that facilitate violent actions. Strategies providing alternatives to violence are studied together with the social factors that serve to promote or prevent violent behavior. Importantly, students of aggression studies are increasingly moving beyond the simple awareness of new results in other disciplines, to develop important research approaches that span multiple disciplines. As a result, novel areas of synergy and convergence between different disciplines and methodologies emerge. *ISRA meetings* and media provide the forum and the multidisciplinary audience.

Join ISRA & Turn page! ►

A Multidisciplinary Society

ISRA is home to virtually all scientific disciplines interested in aggression and violence, such as psychology, neuroscience, anthropology, animal behavior, endocrinology, primatology, psychiatry, genetics, pharmacology, sociology, and criminology. Joining **ISRA** will help you to reach the right audience for your own research. Its meetings provide an optimal forum to learn about novel concepts and advances in other fields. Members enjoy reduced registration fees at **ISRA meetings**.

Awards

- Each World Meeting the **John Paul Scott Award** is presented to a scientist with a distinguished lifetime contribution to aggression research.
- **Presentation Awards** are granted to young scientists for excellence in presentation of original research to a multidisciplinary audience.

The ISRA Logo

The ISRA logo reflects our intention to advance the understanding of a deeply rooted behavior. The humanoid figure in the logo was modified from a petrograph called "the warrior" on the Minnesota-Ontario border¹⁾. The figure seems to express the ambivalent human attitude towards aggression. The figure faces us, a spear in its left hand, reflecting potential to kill. The tip of the spear points downwards, so the weapon is not about to be thrown. The right hand is up and open, a stop-signal in many cultures, and often a signal of peaceful intent. The heart-shaped body expresses force and human's emotional nature.

¹⁾ M Furtman, *Magic on the rocks* (2000) ISBN: 0-916691-02-0

Home page: <http://www.israsociety.com/>

Membership

ISRA has four kinds of members:

- **Fellows** are scientists working in any biological, psychological or social science on problems of aggression.
- **Associates** are scientists or professionals supportive of the Society's goals but who are not actively engaged in aggression research.
- **Student members** are graduate students nominated by a Fellow of the Society.
- **Life Fellows** are chosen on a significant lifetime record in aggression research.

Joining ISRA

In order to join the society, please send a CV to:

Prof Michael Potegal
Executive Secretary ISRA
MMC 486
420 Delaware St SE
Minneapolis MN 55455

E-Mail: poteg001@umn.edu

Name _____
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Dues including *Aggressive Behavior* subscription
 Fellow 60\$ Associate 60\$ Student 30\$

These are 2010 rates

Updated Information see *ISRA home page*.

Official Journal: *Aggressive Behavior*
<http://www.interscience.wiley.com>