

## About Lyne Starling Reid

Lyne Starling Reid was appointed to University of Virginia faculty in 1949 and served with unflagging dedication over an uninterrupted span of nearly three decades. In the months since his untimely death our sharp sense of loss has been tempered by a deepening appreciation of his unique contributions during a most critical period of development of the University and of the Department of Psychology, and during a time of unprecedented change in the discipline of psychology itself.

Starling Reid was born in Greenville, Mississippi on March 15, 1920, and received his early education in the local public schools. Interrupted by service in the United States Navy, his higher education began at Southwestern of Memphis, continued at the University of Mississippi, and culminated with award of the doctorate from the Ohio State University in 1949.

As was typical of the pre-war and immediately post-war generation of psychologists, Professor Reid's scholarly interests ranged across a broad spectrum. His numerous publications in the area of animal learning and motivation document his firm grounding in basic research. A dozen technical reports on the analysis of complex task performance and on factors in human perception illustrate in admirable fashion how the demands of the practical world can with success be approached by the investigator who is capable simultaneously of imagination and rigor.

The most persistent theme on his scholarly agenda was an interest in memory. He guided the writing of a number of dissertations on the topic, some of which continue to be widely influential. He invented a new method for studying the immediate memory span, a method that made possible its continuous monitoring. First presented in a paper with two students in 1960, it has become such a standard procedure in the investigation of memory, that the detailed citation of its origin is now considered almost superfluous.

His preoccupation with the memory process led him gradually and naturally to the topic of language. By the mid-sixties, linguistic theory was so highly developed that, for the first time, it was useful to experimental psychologists interested in cognition. Reid recognized that language is the principal mode of expression for cognitive processes, but also recognized that linguistic processes are not themselves cognitive. Therefore he avoided the mistake made by many psychologists of supposing that a syntactical grammar, such as that developed by Chomsky, provides also a grammar for cognition. Instead, he developed a psychological theory along independent lines. He was still in the process of refining that theory at the time of his death, but he had in 1974 published one important paper, "Toward the Grammar of the Image," and he left the manuscript for another in such a nearly complete form that it will be published with only slight editing.

The wide respect that Professor Reid's original work inspired led to his appointment to editorial positions for several distinguished psychological journals. He served with marked success as program chairman of the Eastern Psychological Association, and his professional stature was recognized not only by membership in the Society of the Sigma Xi and fellowship status in the Division of Experimental Psychology of the American Psychological Association and in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, but also by election to the Council of the AAAS Section on Psychology.

At this University his service was characterized by a willingness to shoulder many types of responsibility, and his consistent effectiveness led him into a variety of positions of influence. For many years he was secretary of the informal but at-the-time highly important Assembly of Professors. For nearly a decade he was Chairman of the Athletic Advisory Committee, and as our faculty representative served a term as President of the Atlantic Coast Conference. He was proud of the sound growth of the University's role as publisher, while he was Chairman of the Committee on the University Press.

But his most lasting contributions to the life of this University came from his extended tenure as Chairman of the Department of Psychology. During the dozen years in this capacity, as the number of faculty tripled, the centrifugal forces of specialization could easily have fragmented a group that had always enjoyed a remarkable degree of cohesiveness and interaction. It is to his everlasting credit that such an outcome was avoided, and the solid underpinning for the presently diversified Department was preserved and strengthened. His leadership was unobtrusive but steady, farsighted and at the same time responsive to daily needs, quietly patient and yet persistent in his strivings for the betterment of the whole Department. His colleagues could not fail to profit from his personal example as distinguished scientist and inspired mentor, and be touched by his unfailing concern and respect and encouragement.

By all his friends, Starling Reid continues to be remembered for his very special blend of warmth, humor, and kindness; for his adamant rejection of injustice, inequity, and intolerance; for his impatience with affectation and cant; for his integrity in thought and deed; and for his selfless devotion to those principles and those persons at the center of his life.

## Schedule

8:30 – 9:00 Check in Alumni Hall Annex

9:00-9:15 Opening Remarks Jefferson Ball Room

9:30-11:30 Oral Presentations 1-6 Virginia Room

11:30-12:30 Poster Presentations Jefferson Ball Room

12:30-1:45 Lunch & Poster Presentations Alumni Hall Annex & Ball Room

1:45 – 3:30 Oral Presentations 7-12 Virginia Room

3:30 – 4:30 Keynote Address and Awards Jefferson Ball Room

Abstracts

Oral Presentations

**The Effect of Visual Motion Paths on Auditory Temporal Duration Judgments”**

**James Armontrout,  
University of Virginia**

Recent research (Shutz & Lipscomb, in press) has shown that viewing a musical performer striking a note with either a long, flowing strike or a short, choppy strike can cause a viewer to rate the note that is produced as either long or short, respectively, even when the note is the same in both cases. This series of experiments examines what aspects of a visual stimulus can cause a change in perceived auditory duration. In experiment one, a point light model of the vertical motion path used in Shutz & Lipscomb (in press) was created, demonstrating that eliminating horizontal motion does not change the effect. In experiment two, the latter halves of the long and short videos are spliced, showing that the motion after impact drives the effect. Two follow up experiments examining the importance of velocity, time, distance, and acceleration of the strike will also be discussed.

**A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Guilt and Prosocial Behavior**

**Sarah Lyons  
University of Virginia.**

Guilt is derived interpersonally from a perpetration against another, or intrapsychically when no others are involved. After past research has suggested collectivist East-Asian cultures experience feelings of guilt, other reasons suggest people from individualistic cultures might feel guilt in relation to personal responsibility. Study 1 looked at hypothetical feelings of guilt in East-Asian and European-American populations when guilt would be induced interpersonally or intrapsychically. It was predicted that East-Asians would feel guiltier when guilt was induced interpersonally, and would participate in more prosocial behavior. Conversely, Western-Europeans felt guiltier, especially in interpersonal guilt situations. Possible explanations include a tendency for East-Asians to view the self as fragmented, whereas Western-Europeans expect a coherent self to behave consistently across situations. The ongoing Study 2 examines the relationship between intrapsychic or interpersonal guilt and participation in prosocial behavior.

## **Public Support for Racioethnic Profiling: Is Support for the Practice a Corollary of Racial Bias?**

**Darren E. Mason**  
**George Mason University**

In the controversy surrounding racioethnic profiling in the United States, there remains questions of public perceptions and support levels of the practice. Additionally, the most significant and persistent, underlying question for the controversy is a matter of racism: Is the practice perpetuated by racial bias? The researcher posits that by controlling for methodological flaws found in previous research, many ambiguities encircling the debates can be more appropriately addressed. Utilizing survey-based experiments to measure comprehension and support levels of racioethnic profiling, and psychometric scales to measure racially negative affect, this study proposes to investigate and provide more definitive answers to these important questions. Implications of this study's findings will be discussed.

## **The Role of Psychological Traits in the Measurement of Pain: Psychometric Item Response Theory (IRT) Analysis of Locus of Control and Catastrophizing**

**Juliana Schroeder**  
**University of Virginia**

The extent to which patients feel in control of their pain and the extent to which they catastrophize about their pain is associated with increased levels of pain intensity and disability. The Multidimensional Health Locus of Control (MHLC) and the Pain Catastrophizing Scale (PCS) are two scales commonly used to measure locus of control and catastrophizing, respectively, among patients suffering from chronic pain. Item Response Theory (IRT) provides a basis for an item-level analysis of the MHLC and PCS in order to determine the role that catastrophizing and control play in the experience of pain. Item responses for N = 428 chronic pain patients (83% female; M age = 43; M pain duration = 104 months) were examined using the IRT Rasch partial credit model. Subgroups based on age and total catastrophizing score were analyzed using differential item functioning (DIF) procedures. Results indicated that the constructs of interest are not being sufficiently captured by the PCS and MHLC for the chronic pain population because the range of item difficulty does not correspond

with the range of patient trait level. Rasch category response curves indicated that a reduction in response categories on both the MHLC and PCS may enhance scale usefulness in some samples of chronic pain patients. For example, response category "3" is not well-used in the PCS. DIF comparisons revealed some statistically significant subgroup response differences, such as greater likelihood for participants with high PCS scores (>34) but lesser likelihood for older participants (>40 yrs) to agree with statements indicating that their pain was due to chance. Implications for the use of the MHLC and PCS in chronic pain samples and the role of psychological characteristics in the measurement of pain are discussed.

**The dual-process model of moral cognition and Rawls' linguistic analogy:  
New evidence and some philosophical consequences  
Shriver Sargent  
University of Alaska Fairbanks**

This paper (1) presents new data that support the dual-process model of moral cognition, according to which moral judgment is sustained by intuitive emotional responses and cognitive control, and (2) presents new data that support Rawls' linguistic analogy, which compares moral knowledge to linguistic knowledge in the Chomskyan tradition. I also discuss some philosophical consequences of both, in particular Joshua Greene's argument that deontological philosophy is based not on reason, but on rationalizations of intuitive emotional responses.

**Does Knowledge Dictate Behavior in Interrogations?:  
Police Officers' Interrogation Tactics and Knowledge Regarding Juveniles  
Sarah Robertson  
University of Virginia**

Research is reviewed that suggests that police use inappropriate techniques in juvenile interrogations that exacerbate juveniles' suggestibility and comprehension problems. Researchers and police agree that juvenile interrogation training needs to be developed. However, evaluations of training programs for those who interview victims of child sexual abuse indicate that education alone about proper interview procedures does not produce long-lasting changes in interviewers' behavior. Participants included 1,828 police officers employed by 10 different agencies who responded to items in a developmental knowledge survey and a survey regarding interrogation practices. As hypothesized, results suggest that officers' knowledge of child development and

beliefs about juveniles' legal knowledge are not related to the likelihood that officers endorse the use of age-inappropriate interrogation techniques. Training programs should include regular practice and feedback along with education, and further protective measures, such as videotaping interrogations, should be employed to regulate practice.

### **A Weighty Issue: The Relationship Between Paternal Perceptions of Weight and Paternal Monitoring of Child Eating Behavior**

**Emily Adams & Emily Steinbaugh**  
**Appalachian State University**

The purpose of this study was to examine the relationships between paternal perceptions of self-weight and child weight, and paternal monitoring of eating behavior in his child. Currently, little research has been conducted on the relationship between weight and monitoring, especially in fathers. We collected data from 57 father-child dyads living in the mountains of North Carolina. Children in this study ranged between 6 and 12 years of age. Fathers were given the Child Feeding Questionnaire (CFQ) to collect information about paternal perceptions of weight and monitoring behavior. The CFQ is a previously validated measure that taps paternal approaches to child feeding practices. In addition, research assistants collected actual height and weight data to assess Body Mass Index (BMI). One-tailed Pearson correlations were used to examine the relationships between paternal perceptions and monitoring. Results indicated that there was no significant correlation between monitoring and fathers' own perceived weight ( $r = -.17$ , *ns*) or monitoring and the perceived weight of their children ( $r = .067$ , *ns*). There was also no correlation between fathers' actual BMI and their reports of monitoring ( $r = -.19$ , *ns*) or between the children's actual BMI scores and paternal monitoring ( $r = .076$ , *ns*). There was a significant correlation between the fathers' actual BMI and their perception of their own weight ( $r = .77$ ,  $p < .01$ ), as well as a significant correlation between the children's actual BMI and the fathers' perception of their child's weight ( $r = .35$ ,  $p < .01$ ). These data suggest that fathers have a realistic perception of their own weight and their child's weight. Surprisingly, fathers' monitoring practices do not correlate with weight perceptions. These findings conflict with similar research on maternal monitoring. The results may reflect the fact that fathers are not traditionally as responsible for or concerned with child feeding as much as mothers.

### **Gender-Identity, Institutional Offering, and Victimization Among Male Juvenile Offenders**

**Kristen Meyer**  
**University of California – Irvine**

Previous research indicates that the adoption of a masculine gender-identity may be beneficial for mainstream adolescent males.

However, it is unknown whether this masculine identity serves the same function among incarcerated male juvenile offenders. This study explores the effects of gender-identity among incarcerated adolescent males, specifically as it pertains to institutional offending and victimization. Data were obtained from 218 male juvenile offenders age 14-17 years who were confined in a secure facility. Analyses were conducted to assess the relation between gender-identity and frequency of offending and victimization within the first two months of incarceration. While masculinity was not related to rates of institutional offending, femininity was, interestingly, related to decreased rates of institutional offending. Although heightened femininity is not necessarily beneficial for mainstream adolescents, the results of this study suggest that when considering incarcerated adolescent samples, perhaps femininity should be viewed more positively. It seems that endorsing a more feminine gender-identity serves as a protective factor against institutional antisocial behavior during the initial two months of incarceration.

### **Friendship Quality and Peer Attachment as Predictors of Adolescents' Subsequent Academic Achievement**

**Elizabeth A. Spavins**  
**University of Virginia**

This study investigated the hypothesis that peer influences in adolescence, specifically friendship quality and peer attachment, predict improved academic achievement over time. Participants included a diverse sample of 145 adolescents (M age = 13.32 years). In support of the hypothesis, participants who reported greater levels of peer attachment at age 13 displayed improved academic achievement at age 17, controlling for academic achievement at age 13. Greater levels of certain aspects of friendship quality, such as validation and caring, as reported by participants at age 13, also predicted greater academic achievement for participants at age 17.

Academic achievement predicts decreased juvenile delinquency (Chavez, Oetting, & Swaim, 1994), while educational attainment is correlated with increased future income (Murphy & Welch, 1992) and decreased substance use (Swaim, Beauvais, Chavez, Oetting, 1997). Thus, it is important to investigate what factors contribute to and detract from academic success for adolescents. Peer influences are also salient for adolescents. Previous research has found homophily, the inclination to associate with similar people, characterizes adolescent relationships, specifically in elements of antisocial behavior such as delinquency (Chavez, 1994) and drug use (Kandel, 8). Homophily in adolescent friendships may apply to other domains of behavior as well, including similarity of academic success. Friends seem likely to be similar in academic achievement given that most adolescents attend school with their peers.

Previous research on peer effects and academic achievement has examined the impact of group norms (Chen 14) and peer rejection (DeRosier, Kupersmidt, & Patterson (10)) on academic achievement. This study took a different approach by examining whether peer attachment and friendship quality are predictive for academic achievement up to four years later.

**“I know I’m so loved”: Aspects of Friendship Relations and Their Association with Earlier and Concurrent Peer Skills**  
**Mari-Elaine Triolo and Kristi Wilson**  
**George Mason University**

This study was carried out to look at the development of social and emotional competence in children by looking at interactions between “best friends”. During middle childhood, friendships become crucial (Hartup & Stevens, 1997; Newcomb & Bagwell, 1996; Smollar & Youniss, 1982; Sullivan, 1953). This social developmental task is supported by various activities. For example, gossip and avoiding embarrassment are now socially competent responses to numerous social situations. Friends also value and validate each other’s social experiences and emotions (Gottman & Mettetal, 1986). They also help each other to learn the skills necessary for intimacy, and the management of disagreements that inevitably arise (Asher, Parker, & Walker, 1996; Rose & Asher, 1999a, 1999b; Salisch, 2000).

Negotiating the role of friend, is important in its own right, but also may predict how children get along in the peer group in general. For example, older children’s behavior in aggressive friendships predicts lower social acceptance (Boivin, Dodge, & Coie, 1995; Coie et al., 1999). Furthermore, earlier peer skills may predict the quality of friendships children become capable later. Thus, our problem questions for this study are as follows:

1. How do aspects of earlier social competence (e.g., peer status, observed reactions to peer emotions, and teacher ratings) predict later functions and behaviors of friendship?
2. How do observed functions and behaviors of friendship correlate with concurrent measures of participants’ evaluations of their friendship, as well as overall social skill and acceptance?

**How does the undergraduate curriculum contribute to student learning?**  
**An examination of the structure of the undergraduate curriculum**  
**Lizbeth Keller, Joanna Lynch, Kara Makara, Samantha Simmons, Whitney Smiley,**  
**Veronika Varfolomeeva**  
**Research Advisor: Dr. Michael Stoloff**  
**James Madison University**

The success of the field of psychology relies on the quality of psychology training. What curriculum is the best model? Our study describes the curriculum at 374 institutions. The schools selected for this analysis were respondents to a survey of undergraduate psychology programs. We developed a uniform coding system to describe courses and program requirements at each institution. Among our findings, we discovered that 99% of institutions require general psychology and methodology courses. Virtually all schools offer abnormal, social, personality, biopsychology, among other courses, but less than half of these schools require these courses. Our results can be used to help departments to improve their curriculum and give insight into the weaknesses and strengths of various curricula.

### **Assessing Perceptions of Incarcerated Juvenile Offenders**

**Megan Watt**

**University of California - Irvine**

Previous research suggests that attitudes and perceptions may influence behavior, particularly in situations concerning the law and authority figures. This study examines juvenile offenders' perceptions of the justice system as well as their attitudes toward the institution and how these perceptions are related to institutional offending and victimization. Data were collected from 197 serious male juvenile offenders between 14 and 17 years of age incarcerated in a secure juvenile justice facility in southern California. Analyses revealed a significant change in youths' opinions over the first month of incarceration. Specifically, opinions of program helpfulness and organization became more positive over time, while perceptions of staff and ward apathy grew more negative as time passed. Interestingly, those who view the police in a less positive way begin to view the staff as more apathetic. Surprisingly, correlations between justice system attitudes and perceptions of the facility revealed no significant relation to either victimization or offending behaviors within the institution.

### **Relations Between Perceived Stress, Emotional Suppression, and Overall Health**

**Tara M. Irani**

**University of Miami**

This study examined the associations between perceived stress, emotional suppression, and overall health in order to replicate previous studies that found a relationship between perceived stress and poor health. The study also extended past research by investigating associations between these variables and emotional suppression. Seventy-nine students from the University of Miami filled out the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS) to assess levels of perceived stress, the

Emotional Regulation Questionnaire (ERQ) to assess levels of emotional suppression, the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) to assess levels of depression, and the Medical Symptoms Questionnaire (MSQ) to assess both physical and mental health. Perceived stress was found to negatively correlate with overall health. Interestingly, depressive symptoms partially mediated this relationship; however, even after accounting for depressive symptoms, elevated levels of perceived stress were still significantly associated with lower levels of overall health. Neither perceived stress nor health was correlated with emotional suppression. These findings highlight the large role that stress plays in our society, and encourage more research on stress prevention.

## Poster Presentations

### **Infants' Natural Interest In and Attraction to Babies**

**Jennifer Bailey**

**University of Virginia**

This study explores infants' interest in other babies. The infant participants ranged in age from 9 to 12 months and were paired by birth date (within one month). Coding was based on approach, affect and attention of each infant to the different stimuli in the room. Early data suggests that infants do, in fact, prefer to look at unfamiliar infants when compared to other stimuli. However, the child's amount and type of previous experience with babies plays a critical role in the style of later interactions.

### **Effect of Perspective-Taking on Decision-Making in the Courtroom**

**Katie Bountress**

**University of Virginia**

This study examined the role of perspective-taking on decision-making in the courtroom. Participants read a vehicular manslaughter trial, assigned a verdict, and rated their perceptions of the defendant and the victim. Half of the participants were told to take the perspective of the defendant, and it was predicted that those in this group would view the defendant in a more positive light. Although there was no difference in verdict between these two groups, males reported perspective-taking more with the defendant; whereas, females reported empathizing more with the victim. After controlling for gender and self-reported perspective-taking, participants in the perspective-taking group rated the defendant as less responsible for the crime and less likely to have committed the crime. Thus, perspective-taking did affect perceptions even though it did not affect verdicts.

## **The Cost of Homelessness in Boone: Analyzing the Effectiveness of the Hospitality House's Services**

**Kara Brown**

**Appalachian State University**

Homelessness is an ever-present problem in the U.S., and local communities as a result, must respond to the needs of their homeless populations. While non-profit organizations such as the Hospitality House of Boone provide much-needed emergency shelter and meals to those in need, the community also pays to support the needs of the local homeless, particularly through hospital, mental health, and police costs. This study will investigate the effectiveness of the Hospitality House in reducing the cost of homeless to the community. Three groups will be studied: one group that has never used the Hospitality House's services, a second group of short-term Hospitality House residents, and a third group of long-term residents. Aggregate medical and mental health costs as well as police costs for both groups will be utilized. The hypothesis is that coordinated homeless programs (i.e. the Hospitality House) will result in a markedly reduced community cost.

## **AN EVALUATION OF THE DYSTHYMIA DREAM SCALE AND ASSOCIATED MMPI SCALES**

**Katherin Enriquez-Pecheroga**

**George Mason University**

The study explores the specific correlates involved with the Dysthymia Dream Scale (DDS) (Enriquez-Pecheroga & Van de Castle, 2006) by systematically evaluating the presence or absence of dysthymic elements in inpatients' dream content. Dysthymia is characterized by mild depression or despondency, and/or a depression of spirits from loss of hope, confidence, or courage. The presence or absence of dysthymia will be evaluated across all scales of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI), utilizing 293 (106 M, 187 F) psychiatric inpatient archival clinical records, and yielding two contrasting *Dysthymia-present* and *Dysthymia-absent* groups. Two average representative profiles will then be compiled for each group in order to graphically describe the specific correlates associated with the DDS, as it relates to inpatients' MMPI profile scores. It is our aim to determine which MMPI scales are most strongly associated with dysthymia. Furthermore, it is hypothesized that a presence of dysthymia will be associated with higher MMPI profile scores. Individuals with and without dysthymic dreams may have certain respective personality characteristics, which we hope to determine and describe using each average MMPI profile created.

**Candidate Inconsistency and Humor in Political Persuasive Messages**  
**Timothy H. Gray & Robyn K. Mallett & Jeffrey R. Huntsinger,**  
**The University of Virginia**

Emotional and ideological/issue-specific political advertisements are often effectively employed to persuade viewers. Humor, however, might mitigate or otherwise moderate the ordinary emotional effects of those arguments. Participants ( $n=77$ ) watched an advertisement attacking one candidate and supporting another; these varied according to ideology attacked and presence/absence of humor. A 2 (participants' ideology: conservative, liberal) x 2 (targeted ideology: conservative, liberal) x 2 (humor: present, absent) ANOVA revealed a 3-way interaction,  $F(1, 75) = 4.76, p = .03$ . Serious advertisements targeting participants' ideology are more persuasive than humorous appeals. Humorous advertisements not targeting participants' ideology are more persuasive than serious appeals.

**The effect of mood on category priming**  
**Amanda Greslick**  
**University of Virginia**

When a social category is activated, the tendency is to assimilate one's attitudes toward those of the primed social category. In the present research, I asked if mood shapes this tendency to adopt the attitudes of primed social-categories. It was hypothesized that positive and negative moods will signal the value of primed social categories: positive moods signal they are valuable and negative moods signal just the opposite. To test this idea, positive and negative-mood participants were primed with the categories elderly or young and their social attitudes were measured. As predicted, positive-mood participants expressed attitudes consistent with primed social categories (i.e., they expressed more conservative attitudes following elderly priming than young priming). In contrast, negative-mood participants did not exhibit attitude assimilation. Implications of the role of mood in the process of category priming are discussed.

**Children's Private Speech During a Self-Regulatory Task**  
**Amanda Koury & Adam Winsler, 2007**  
**George Mason University**

Private speech is sometimes labeled as disruptive or abnormal in social settings even as several studies have suggested a positive relationship between private speech and self-regulation. Several studies have been conducted, but few have examined private speech while children are actively engaging in a task requiring self-regulatory skills. The present study examined the potential self-regulatory function of private speech in 91 children aged three to five during the gift-in-bag task (Kochanska et al., 2000). During this task, a child is to demonstrate his/her ability to resist temptation during a "wrapping" and a "waiting" portion. The

present study investigated the following questions: (1) What kinds of speech were used during the task and what quantity? (2) How did the children perform on the task? (3) Were the children who utilized more private speech more successful? (4) Did the type or the quality vary based on age and/or gender? (5) Did children who received higher overall self-regulation scores use different quantities/types of private speech than the children who were poorer at self-regulation? and (6) Are there gender differences in private speech usage and self-regulation? Most children used private speech (83%), however contrary to the hypothesis and past literature, the quantity of private speech was not related to performance during the “waiting” period or to overall self-regulation although other interesting correlations were found. Boys used more speech overall and more private speech than girls. Age was not correlated with quantity of speech, probability of speaking, or the usage of any particular category of private speech, contradictory to past literature. Boys also performed more peeks overall than girls and waited a shorter amount of time to peek. Girls scored higher on the “wrapping”.

**Women's rights in the Gambia: An analysis of Gambian newspapers**  
**Hillary M. Leech and Debora A. O'Donnell**  
**St. Mary's College of Maryland**

Historically, Gambian newspapers have been very concerned with political, cultural, social, and economic issues. In fact, throughout Africa, newspapers have been used for over a century as a tool of social reform and to propel social action. A social issue that is currently being discussed in the Gambian newspapers is gender inequality and the role that women have within the Gambia's patriarchal society. The present study utilizes linguistic and content analysis techniques to reveal what female journalists' writing styles say about their mental processes and the differences in how male and female journalists portray women's issues. Additionally, this study investigates how the language characteristics' of women's rights articles varies based on the issues that the journalists chooses to write about.

**Gender Differences in Rule-Breaking Behaviors and Peer Regard among Children with ADHD**  
**Jill Lorenzi and Amori Yee Mikami**  
**University of Virginia**

We investigated the relationship between 29 male and 12 female children's rule-breaking behaviors and peer rejection among a sample of 1st through 4th graders with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Rule-breaking behavior (common among children with ADHD) was assessed by parent and teacher report. Teachers also reported children's peer rejection. Results suggested that girls with ADHD tended to display more rule-breaking behavior

and peer relationship problems than did their male counterparts. Crucially, correlations revealed a stronger positive relationship between rule-breaking behavior and peer rejection for girls than for boys, on both teacher and parent scales, suggesting that peers are less tolerant of girls' rule-breaking than they are of boys' rule-breaking behaviors. Different peer perceptions of rule-breaking among the two genders stress the need for ADHD interventions that incorporate this distinctiveness.

## **Emotion Regulation in the Youth of Ghana: A Comparison of Cultural Contexts**

**Diana Morelen**

**College of William and Mary**

The primary goal of this study was to research the different ways that children living in an African village express their emotions compared to children living in an orphanage. To date, no one has examined how children in African countries may express their disappointment/sadness, frustration/anger, and pride. The participants for this study included 39 children from ages 5 to 15 living in the village, and 17 children from ages 6 to 15 living in the orphanage. With the help of a translator, I used questionnaires and interviewed the children in both living environments to investigate these research questions. Statistical analyses were used to determine the effects of living environment and gender on children's expression of emotion in Kpando, Ghana. Orphaned children reported more overall emotional dysregulation than children living in the village who reported inhibiting their expression of negative emotions more frequently than the orphaned children. A significant effect of gender was also found showing that boys tended to inhibit their anger and sadness more than girls; and girls reported expressing sadness in dysregulated ways more than boys.

## **The mate preferences of younger adults and older adults across two Western countries**

**Vandhana Ramadurai**

**Hollins University**

We tested two hypotheses concerning differences in the mate preferences of younger adults and older adults across two Western countries. We found that men, more than women, preferred the characteristics good cook and house keeper, chastity and good looks. Women, more than men, preferred characteristics like similar educational background, good financial prospects, emotional stability, ambition and industriousness and love. Younger adults,

relative to older adults, preferred characteristics such as good cook and housekeeper, similar education background, good financial prospects, chastity, desire for home and children, good looks, ambition & industriousness and education and intelligence. Older adults, relative to younger adults, preferred the characteristic pleasing disposition. Discussion highlights the importance of understanding possible developmental shifts in mate preferences.

## **The Influence of Emotion Regulation on Children's Somatic Symptomatology**

**Elizabeth Saddock**

**College of William and Mary**

Research on adults indicates a strong relationship between emotion processes and physical health, however, this relationship has not been examined extensively with child populations. The goal of the present study was to explore the relationship between children's emotional management styles (i.e., inhibition, dysregulation, coping) and their frequency of somatic symptoms. Participants were 92 children (53 boys, 39 girls, *Age* = 13.63 years) and 49 parents. Children completed the Children's Emotion Management Scales for anger and sadness and the Reynold's Children's Manifest Anxiety Scale, Physiological Symptoms scale. Parents reported on their children's somatic symptoms using the Child Behavior Checklist. Analyses revealed that children who report expressing sadness and anger in dysregulated, non-constructive ways also report a higher frequency of somatic symptoms. Similarly, children who report coping adaptively with sadness and anger, report having fewer somatic symptoms. There was no significant association between parent and child report of somatic symptoms. The results illustrate the importance relationship between adaptive emotion coping mechanisms and somatic symptoms.

## **Individual Differences in Women's Sexual Strategies**

**Samantha Toney**

**Hollins University**

I tested several hypotheses related to female mate preferences using a sample of college women. I tested several hypotheses about individual differences in women's mating strategies including waist-to-hip ratio (WHR), ratio of second digit to fourth digit (2D:4D), and sexual orientation on women's mating decisions. The results inform us of the value of couching women's mate preferences in the contexts in which they are expressed. Discussion (1) highlights the lack of immutability in the evolved psychological mechanisms generating women's mate preferences in favor of sensitivity to various personal and environmental circumstances and (2) highlights additional areas of interest for future research.

Introduction

Previous studies on mate selection have focused primarily on the selection of

females by males. There has been comparatively little research on the ways and reasons in which females select their mates. In this paper, I develop several hypotheses and derivative predictions designed to replicate and expand on previous research on women's sexual strategies.

Research has documented that women, relative to men, place greater emphasis on a potential mate's access to resources and their willingness to devote these resources to her and her offspring. Singh (1995) reported that women are less likely to choose mates based on attractiveness, unless the prospective mate also has resources. This preference is generated by the fact that men differ in their resources and their willingness to devote them to a woman and her offspring. There were advantages of long-term monogamous relationships for females that were not present in short-term relationships (Buss, 2003). While the preference for resources is critical for women in selecting long-term mates, it is not an important preference in selecting short-term mates.

Women who elect to use a short-term mating strategy place a greater emphasis on physical attractiveness. Attractiveness in a potential short term mate ensures that if an offspring is produced during a short-term mateship, the offspring will have a greater likelihood of reproducing later in life.

## **Correlates of Boundary Structure and Aspects of Dream Content**

**Brittney Zakielarz**

**St. Mary's College of Maryland**

This study, examining the relationship between boundary structure in the mind as a measure of personality and several aspects of dream content, involved the administration of Hartmann's Boundary Questionnaire and a Dream Report prompt to 130 college students at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Dream content was analyzed using a modified version of Hall and Van de Castle's system of classification for the content analysis of dreams. Results of several one-way ANOVA's indicated a significant relationship between the number of familiar characters in a dream report and the dreamer's Boundary Category identification. Further significance was found in the relationship between the incidences of threat made by the dreamer and the Boundary Category that the dreamer identified with. Other variables examined were friendly interactions, setting, number of unfamiliar characters, primary emotion, and various demographic variables; none of these yielded significant results.





