



Society of Australasian Social Psychologists

40th Annual Conference

Conference Program and Abstracts

Perth, Australia

April 8th to April 11th, 2010



Conference Sponsored by



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Welcome to SASP 2010

The SASP 2010 Organising Committee welcomes you to Perth and the 40th Conference of the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists (SASP). This conference is taking place at the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle between Friday April 9th and Sunday April 11th. A postgraduate workshop will be held on Thursday 8th of April.

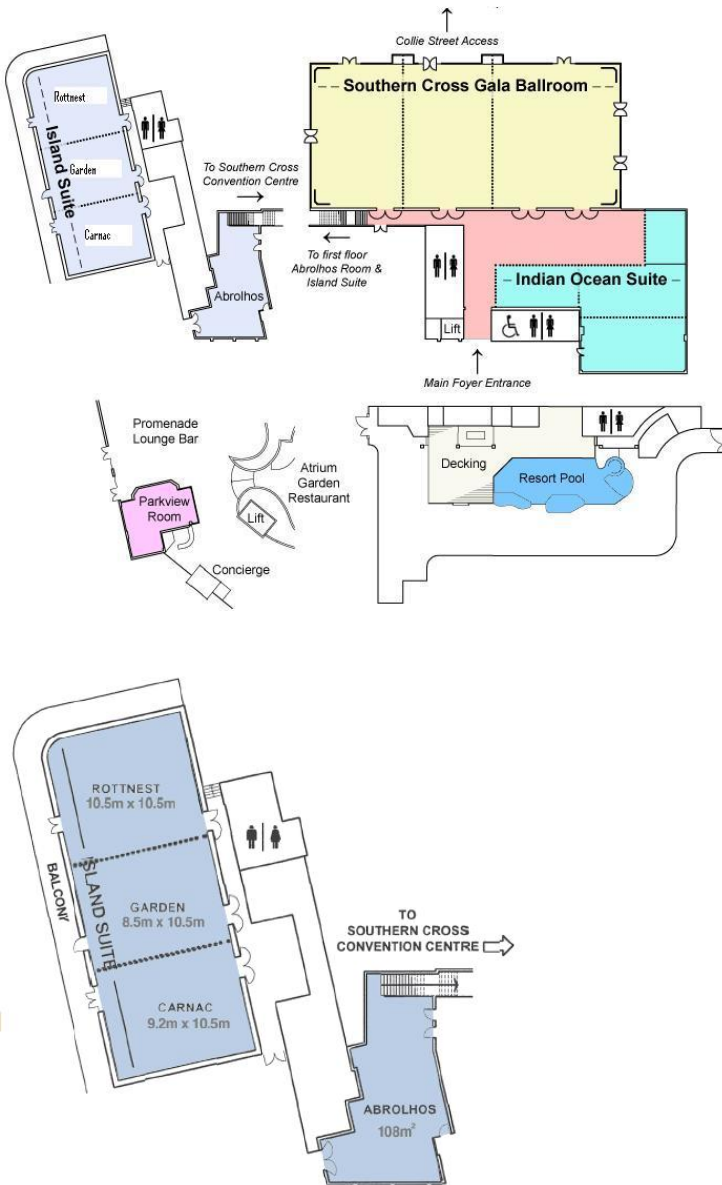
This year, the conference is hosting around 80 delegates from Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom who will be presenting 73 papers.

Conference Information

Venue

The SASP 40th annual conference is being held at the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle. This venue is situated walking distance from the centre of Fremantle. The Esplanade is also a short walking distance from the Fremantle train station, where there are train services that run directly to Perth.

A floor plan of the venue is on the next page for your convenience; all conference presentations are situated within the Island Suite.



Conference Information

Academic Program

Postgraduate Workshop

The postgraduate workshop will take place on Thursday 8th of April at Murdoch University in the Senate Conference Room. The speakers kind enough to donate their time to this workshop are Rosalind Gill, Shinobu Kitayama and Emma Thomas. For more information on the programme please refer to page 9.

Keynote Speakers

The 40th annual SASP conference presents two distinguished keynote speakers, Rosalind Gill and Shinobu Kitayama. The presidential address will this year be conducted by Lucy Johnston. For more information, refer to pages 15-16.

Symposia, thematic, and poster sessions

The conference involves 5 Symposia, 12 thematic sessions and 4 poster presentations. The topics of the talks and poster sessions include climate change, social justice, forgiveness, gender equity and interethnic issues.

This program contains abstracts for each speaker, with the abstracts organised within their particular symposia, thematic or poster session.

Conference Information

Social and Cultural Program

Social Events

Welcome drinks will be on Thursday 8th from 5.30-7pm at The View, 47 Mews Road, Fishing Boat Harbour, Fremantle.

The conference includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided by the Esplanade Hotel. Morning tea and afternoon tea will take place in the Albrohos room. Lunch is downstairs in the Atrium restaurant.

The postgraduate dinner will be taking place at the Little Creatures Brewery in Fremantle from 6pm on Friday 9th.

The Conference Dinner will be held on Saturday 10th from 7pm at the Left Bank Hotel, situated on 15 Riverside Road, East Fremantle. For late ticket requests please see Craig McGarty before midday Friday (Ph: 0437 136 849)

See page 105 for maps and directions to each of these locations.

Fremantle

See <http://www.visitfremantle.com.au> for further information about tourist venues and events in Fremantle.

SASP Information

In 1995, Social Psychologists from Australia and New Zealand voted to form the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists (SASP). The Society was formed from an informal network of social psychologists in the two countries, who had been meeting at an annual conference since 1972. One of the main aims of SASP is to facilitate contact with social psychologists in countries around the world, and this is achieved through annual meetings and regular networking via newsletters and an email bulletin board.

The current president of SASP is Lucy Johnston from University of Canterbury, NZ. The Secretary is Megan Oaten from Macquarie University in Sydney, New South Wales. The Treasurer is Michael Halloran, from La Trobe University, Victoria.

The Society produces a directory of Social Psychologists in Australia and New Zealand, and also has an email bulletin board - SASP email list - that is edited by Julie Fitness. This email network can be used by non-members, as well as members, to circulate information about conferences, new positions, and other matters of interest. A SASP Newsletter is also produced two or three times a year by Editor Paul Williamson.

One of the aims of SASP is to promote undergraduate and postgraduate education in social psychology in Australia and New Zealand. The SASP Post-graduate Representative is Katie Greenway from University of Queensland.

Academic Program Outline

Thursday 8th April

	Postgraduate Workshops Senate Conference Room – Murdoch University
10.00-12.00	Academic career development Rosalind Gill
12.00-1.00	Lunch
1.00-2.30	Publishing in A-star journals in social psychology Shinobu Kitayama
2.30-4.00	Roundtable: Ph.D by Publication Discussion led by Emma Thomas
4.00-5.30	Conference Registration The Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle.
5.30-7.00	Welcome Drinks The View, Fremantle.

Academic Program

Friday 9th April

	Rottnest Room	Garden Room	Carnac Room
	Symposium: Interethnic Contact	Symposium: Normative Conflict	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Augustinos</i>
9.00-9.20	Pedersen	O'Brien	Hastie
9.20-9.40	Turoy-Smith	Subasic	Stuart
9.40-10.00	Harris	Louis	Batalha
10.00-10.20	Paolini	Smith, J	Hall
10.20-10.40	Walker	McGarty	Lewis
10.45 – 11.15	Morning tea in Abrolhos Room		
11.15-12.15	Keynote address - Rosalind Gill Rottnest Room		
12.15 – 2.00	Lunch in the Atrium Restaurant		
	Symposium: Forgiveness	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Platow</i>	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Hastie</i>
2.00 – 3.30	Strelan	Thomas	Hunt

	Rottnest Room	Garden Room	Carnac Room
	Goldring	Fernando	Nikolova
	Woodyatt	Blink	Watt
	Wenzel	Jones	Blomfield
3.30 – 4.00	Afternoon tea and Poster session in Abrolhos Room		
4.00 – 5.00	Presidential address – Lucy Johnston Rottnest Room		
6.00	Postgraduate dinner		

Academic Program

Saturday 10th April

	Rottnest Room	Garden Room	Carnac Room
	Symposium: Climate Change	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Wenzel</i>	
9.00-9.20	Reser	Hornsey	Teaching Social Psychology Roundtable. Convened by Guy Curtis
9.20-9.40	Fielding	Avery	
9.40-10.00	Leviston	Hribernik	
10.00-10.20	McDonald	Johnston	
10.20-10.40	Gardner	Barlow	
10.45 – 11.15	Morning tea in Abrolhos Room		
	Symposium: Climate Change	Symposium: Social Identity	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Moloney</i>
11.15-12.45	Walker	Reynolds	Sibley
	Lawrence	Jetten	Platow

	Rottnest Room	Garden Room	Carnac Room
	Bochner	Smith, L	
	Callaghan	Haslam	
12.45 – 2.00	Lunch in the Atrium Restaurant		
	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Kurz</i>	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Thomas</i>	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Johnson</i>
2.00 – 3.30	McGarty	Augoustinos	Curtis
	Greenaway	Nesic	Oldmeadow
	Farrugia	Lim	Skorich
	Woolrych	Chan	Tremayne
3.30 – 4.00	Afternoon tea in Abrolhos Room		
4.00 – 5.00	Keynote address - Shinobu Kitayama Rottnest Room		
	Conference Dinner – The Left Bank Hotel, Fremantle		

Academic Program

Sunday 11th April

	Rottnest Room	Garden Room	Carnac Room
	Thematic Session <i>Chair: McGarty</i>	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Pedersen</i>	Thematic Session <i>Chair: Louis</i>
9.00-9.20	Marques	Cosh	Fiddick
9.20-9.40	Haslam	Moloney	Raggatt
9.40-10.00	Peters	Frye	Kashima
10.00-10.20	Williams	Hartley	
10.25 – 10.55	Morning tea in Abrolhos room		
11.00-12.15	SASP AGM Rottnest Room		

Keynote Speaker Rosalind Gill

Professor Rosalind Gill (King's College, London)

Rosalind.gill@kcl.ac.uk

Professor Rosalind Gill has recently moved to King's College, London, as Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis, from her previous role as Professor of Subjectivity and Cultural Theory at the Open University. Before that she spent 10 years working in the London School of Economics' interdisciplinary Gender Institute. She is well known for her work on gender, media, cultural industries and new technologies as well as for longstanding interests in discourse and narrative analysis and visual methods. Underlying all her interests is a concern with theorizing the relationship between culture, subjectivity and change. She is the author of 4 books and more than 60 scholarly articles and book chapters, and sits on the international editorial boards of *Subjectivity*; *Feminist Media Studies*; *Feminism and Psychology and Communication, Culture & Critique*. She is currently writing a book about 'mediated intimacy' and another about 'creatives'. Her latest book (with Roisin Ryan Flood) was published by Routledge in October 2009 entitled *Secrecy and Silence in the Research Process*. Another collection, *New Femininities: Postfeminism, Neoliberalism and Subjectivity*, is due out later in 2010/. Rosalind is also a committed 'public intellectual' who has made 3 documentaries, and regularly contributes to the media.

Rosalind Gill will be presenting her keynote address on **Friday 9th April, 11.15am in the Rottneest Room.**

Keynote Speaker Shinobu Kitayama

Professor Shinobu Kitayama (University of Michigan)

kitayama@umich.edu

With his BA and MA from Kyoto University and his PhD from the University of Michigan, Professor Kitayama taught at the Universities of Oregon and Chicago and Kyoto University before joining the faculty at Michigan in 2003. Currently he is Professor of Psychology, Research Professor of the Institute for Social Research, and the Director of the Center for Culture, Mind, and the Brain and the Culture and Cognition Program at the University of Michigan. Throughout his career he has studied cultural variations in self, emotion, and cognition. He has published extensively in leading psychology journals. He is currently Editor-in-Chief of a leading journal in personality and social psychology (*Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*). His collaborative work with Hazel Markus on culture and self has had seminal influences in psychology and related disciplines. His edited books include “Culture and emotion: The study of mutual influences” (1994, APA Press, with Hazel Markus), “The heart’s eye: Emotional influences in perception and attention” (1994, Academic Press), and *Handbook of cultural psychology* (2007, Guilford Press, with Dov Cohen). He is the author (with Ayse Uskul) of a forthcoming chapter in the *Annual Review in Psychology* (2010) entitled “Culture, mind and brain: Current evidence and future directions”.

Shinobu Kitayama will be presenting his keynote address on **Saturday 10th April, 4.00pm in the Rottneest Room.**

Individual Presentation Abstracts: Symposia
and Thematic Sessions

Friday 9th April

9.00am to 10.45am, Friday

**Symposium: Australian Advances in
Interethnic Contact in Rottnest Room**

PEDERSEN, A. (Murdoch University), TUROY-SMITH, K.
(Murdoch University), HARRIS, N. (University of Newcastle) and
PAOLINI, S. (University of Newcastle)

With discussant WALKER, I (CSIRO)

Fifty years ago, Allport proposed that face-to-face interactions between individuals of different ethnic backgrounds can reduce prejudice, and lead to harmonious interethnic relations. Since then, this simple idea has inspired a wealth of research and desegregation policies, but also mixed findings and heated debates. This symposium reflects recent advances in contemporary research on interethnic contact around Australia. In a review of Australian data, Pedersen, Paolini and Barlow find large variability in the attitudinal outcomes of interethnic contact. The differential impact of quality and quantity of contact on interethnic anxiety is investigated by Turoy-Smith and Pedersen and by Harris, Paolini, and Griffin. The paper by Paolini, Harwood, and Rubin concludes with data on the effects of contact valence on social categorizations. A final discussion, led by Walker, covers the implications of this research for theory and policy-making and the challenges for future research.

9.00am to 9.20am, Friday

Symposium: Interethnic Contact

The complex contact-prejudice relationship in Australia: Do our findings mirror those of Pettigrew and Tropp (2006)?

PEDERSEN, ANNE (Murdoch University) with PAOLINI, S.
(University of Newcastle), BARLOW, F. K (University of
Queensland).

a.pedersen@murdoch.edu.au

For decades, scholars have debated the thorny issue of contact effects on prejudice. Allport (1954) argued that prejudice can be reduced if essential conditions for optimal contact are met. Yet Pettigrew and Tropp's recent meta-analytical evidence suggests that although Allport's conditions are beneficial, they are not essential for harmonious intergroup relations. In Pettigrew and Tropp's review 94% of the samples studied show an inverse relationship between contact and prejudice. The present study reviews recent social-psychological Australian data and finds less clear-cut results than Pettigrew and Tropp. In Australia, generic contact can lead to more prejudice, to less prejudice, and often there is no relationship at all. When relationships do exist, they are often small. The most consistent results emerge when contact is positive or intimate. Finally, we explore the impact of some contextual factors and discuss these findings' implications for contact theory and policy-making.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Friday

Symposium: Interethnic Contact

Changing prejudice toward Indigenous Australians and refugees: How interethnic contact affects interethnic anxiety, prejudice and support for social change

TUROY-SMITH, KATRINE with PEDERSEN, A (Murdoch University).

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Two issues were explored through a random community sample of Perth metropolitan area. First, using quantitative analyses, interethnic contact with Indigenous Australians and refugees was examined for its effect on interethnic anxiety, prejudice, support for egalitarian legislation and willingness to act. Path analyses indicated that increased quantity and quality of interethnic contact significantly decreased prejudice indirectly through anxiety, and increased quality of contact directly decreased prejudice for both target groups. Increases in contact quality also related to increases in legislation support and willingness to act. Second, using qualitative analyses, respondents' views of their contact experiences were analysed. Nature of experiences and context of contact were found to be important factors in predicting group attitudes. The qualitative data also revealed wider societal factors and issues that appear to interact with experiences and impact upon attitudes.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Friday

Symposium: Interethnic Contact

Growing anxious of ethnic others: Investigating the role of prior interethnic contact in the direct and vicarious acquisition of interethnic anxiety

HARRIS, NICHOLAS with PAOLINI, S., & GRIFFIN, A (University of Newcastle).

Nicholas.C.Harris@studentmail.newcastle.edu.au

Interethnic anxiety plays a pivotal role in the contact-prejudice link, but research on the exact mechanisms of anxiety learning and on the moderating role of prior contact is still scant. This study looked at the impact of prior contact with an ethnic minority on direct and vicarious learning of anxiety to ethnic faces. White Australian students reported their prior contact with Black individuals before receiving either a mild electric shock paired with Black faces (direct learning) or watching a video of a model undergoing that experience (vicarious learning). Physiological data indicated that both direct and vicarious learning led to increased anxiety, with greater anxiety learning under vicarious learning. These anxiety effects were moderated by prior contact, with anxiety learning related to contact quantity and absolute anxiety levels related to contact quality. Results are discussed in terms of learning and contact theory and anxiety-reduction interventions.

NOTES

10.00am to 10.20am, Friday

Symposium: Interethnic Contact

Interethnic contact valence and social categorization: Common ground for self-categorization theory and evolutionary psychology?

PAOLINI, STEFANIA (University of Newcastle) with HARWOOD, J., (University of Arizona), RUBIN, M (University of Newcastle).

Stefania.Paolini@newcastle.edu.au

This paper investigates the social categorization consequences of both negative and positive interethnic contact. According SCT, interethnic contact should be biased towards worsening interethnic relations because negative contact encourages intergroup category salience and positive contact encourages the attendance of shared group memberships and interpersonal features. Two experiments of dyadic contact between Anglo- and Middle Eastern-Australians tested this composite prediction. Evidence for the intergroup salience enhancing effects of negative contact was found on ethnicity and global intergroup salience. Evidence for upwards categorization shifts of positive contact was found for humanity, and University membership salience; evidence for downwards shifts was found on interpersonal processing. The paper concludes by discussing these findings' implications and outlining future research contrasting self-categorization theory's and evolutionary theory's accounts of these effects.

NOTES

10.20am to 10.40am, Friday

Symposium: Interethnic Contact

**Discussant in Paolini & Pedersen (conveners) Australian
advances in research on interethnic contact**

WALKER, IAIN (CSIRO)

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Walker leads a final discussion covering the implications of this symposium's research for theory and policy-making and identifying key challenges for future research.

NOTES

9.00am to 10.45am, Friday

Symposium: Resistance in Normative Conflict
in Garden Room

O'BRIEN, K. (Australian National University) SUBASIC, E.
(Australian National University) LOUIS, W. (University of
Queensland) SMITH, J. (University of Exeter)

With discussant by MCGARTY, C. (Murdoch University)

Four speakers describe new research and theorising on social influence, and processes of resistance in normative conflict. Craig McGarty will then serve as a discussant. First, O'Brien and Mavor consider moral and economic identities in politics, and show how issue framing alters which are influential and which provoke resistance. Louis and colleagues explore the draining effect of considering contradictory normative messages, and the impact of being psychologically drained on the conflicting norms' effectiveness. Subasic explores how group members react to norm violations by group authorities, and how this affects political solidarity in social conflict. Finally, Smith and colleagues consider normative conflict between subgroups' norms and superordinate norms, and show how conformity is moderated by the groups' power. In analysing normative influence in terms of resistance rather than conformity, this symposium breaks new ground (and old norms!) in social influence research.

NOTES

9.00am to 9.20am, Friday

Symposium: Normative Conflict

The impact of framing on the normative influences on attitudes towards climate change

O'BRIEN, KERRY with MAVOR, K. I (Australian National University).

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The way climate change is framed is often just as contested as the policy responses. This research investigates whether the normative influence of particular groups change according to how climate change is framed. Over 400 participants took part in the study where climate change is subtly framed as a moral or an economic challenge, or in the absence of any framing. Regardless of framing condition, the attitudes of those who highly identified with their socio-economic class are positively correlated with perceived class norms. However, in the economic frame condition attitudes of those with low levels of class identification are negatively correlated with perceived class norms. These results suggest that social identity processes, namely referent informational influence, offer useful insights into framing effects.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Friday

Symposium: Normative Conflict

Antecedents and consequences of political solidarity: Norm violation and collective action in solidarity with the disadvantaged

SUBASIC, EMINA (Australian National University)

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How to mobilize the so-called “silent majority” to act in solidarity with some disadvantaged minority group is a neglected question within social psychology. The Political Solidarity Model seeks to address this lacuna, proposing that the nature of higher-order identity content (e.g. norms, values) and norm violation by some relevant authority have an important role to play in this process. To investigate this idea, we manipulated whether the content of a relevant social identity (being Australian) was strongly aligned with egalitarian norms and values, whether authority treatment of the minority violated those norms, and whether or not the minority was a part of the national “ingroup”. In line with the Political Solidarity Model, willingness to act collectively in solidarity with the minority was highest “and most likely to be extended to national ‘outgroup’ members” when the relevant authority violated higher-order norms and values that were seen to be important and self-defining.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Friday

Symposium: Normative Conflict

It's making my brain hurt: Conflict between injunctive and descriptive norms as a self-regulation challenge

LOUIS, WINNIFRED (University of Queensland) with SMITH, J. R
(University of Exeter).

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The present paper analyses the influence of group norms (standards or rules for behavior) in social change contexts. The existence of conflict between injunctive normative messages (what other group members say should be done) and descriptive normative messages (what other group members are doing) is seen as a self-regulation challenge. We propose that the concentration and effort required to disentangle mixed normative messages can create “ego-depletion”² (a state in which individuals have temporarily exhausted their willpower), and this ego-depletion in turn increases the influence of situational cues, and weakens the influence of internal cues, potentially privileging descriptive norms over injunctive normative messages. Theoretical and practical implications are discussed.

NOTES

10.00am to 10.20am, Friday

Symposium: Normative Conflict

The power of norms: How social norms and group norms shape the behavior of low power and high power groups

SMITH, JOANNE (University of Exeter) with HORNSEY, M. J (University of Queensland), STASKIEWICZ, J (University of Queensland).

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Research shows that high power groups discriminate more than low power groups, but there is little systematic examination of factors that limit the misuse of power by high power groups. We examine one possible constraint: norms. In two experiments, participants are allocated to either a high power or a low power group, and then primed with a fairness norm or a discrimination norm. In Experiment 1 (N=87), norms are manipulated at the broad societal level; in Experiment 2 (N=96) norms are manipulated at the local in-group level. For high power groups, norms of fairness eliminate discrimination when manipulated at the in-group level but have no effect when manipulated at the societal level. For low power groups, however, norms of discrimination elicit ingroup bias when manipulated at the societal level but have no effect when manipulated at the ingroup level. The implications of the research for the ability of social factors to constrain the behaviour of high power groups are discussed.

NOTES

10.20am to 10.40am, Friday

Symposium: Normative Conflict

Discussant: Resistance in normative conflict

MCGARTY, CRAIG (Murdoch University)

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Professor McGarty will discuss the papers by O'Brien, Subasic, Louis, and Smith and the directions they suggest for future research.

NOTES

9.00am to 10.45am, Friday

Thematic Session in Carnac Room

9.00am to 9.20am, Friday

“A uterus is a pre-existing condition”: Constructing discrimination as lack of choice

HASTIE, BRIANNE (University of South Australia) with COSH, S
(University of Adelaide).

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While discrimination is widely recognised as a serious problem with negative social consequences, little research has considered how people understand particular acts to be instances of discrimination. This research examines 285 online postings in response to an article about gender disparities in pricing of health insurance in the US. In line with the particularisation/generalisation dilemma (Billig, et al., 1988), differential pricing is formulated as problematic because it fails to treat people as individuals: it fails to offer choice. Advocates argue that because pricing is based only on a (general) biological basis, rather than on (particular) behaviour, it is unfair. Conversely, in undermining the arguments of their opponents, the fairness of differential pricing in car and life insurance is justified through generalised formulations of male behaviour, which is contrasted unfavourably with female behaviour. This analysis provides insight into how claims of discrimination can be both bolstered and disputed through this ideological dilemma, and suggests the difficulty of determining that particular acts are evidence of discrimination in everyday life.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Friday

Thematic Session

Discourses of choice: Femininity and beauty practices

STUART, AVELIE with DONAGHUE, N (Murdoch University).

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There exists the idea that Western societies are now post-feminist; implying that systematic and structural factors disadvantaging women have largely been addressed and that remaining differences between men and women should be understood as a result of the free exercise of individual choice (Jeffreys, 2005; Mc Robbie, 2009). Yet the postfeminist promise of liberation through empowered choice is overwhelmingly packaged within the crushingly cruel beauty images that Western women are judged against and incited to emulate (Jeffreys, 2005; Gill, 2007). Within a feminist post-structuralist framework this paper examines how young Australian women use discourse to negotiate positions for themselves and utilises the conception of the 'neoliberal' feminine subject (Davies et al., 2006); described as someone who playfully expresses themselves by freely choosing their level of participation in socially promoted beauty practices; in turn resulting in a resistance to being seen as inflexible, or critical of wider social influences.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Friday

Thematic Session

Social Dominance Orientation: Gender Invariance or Gender Similarity?

BATALHA, LUISA with REYNOLDS, K. R (The Australian National University).

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There is growing evidence that the genders do not differ so much from each other as it is normally believed. Therefore a gender similarities hypothesis has been suggested. This work explores this hypothesis in relation to social dominance orientation (SDO) and its association with hierarchy enhancing (HE) and hierarchy attenuating (HA) majors and sexism. The results show that the effect of gender on SDO is fully mediated by HE/HA majors and sexism. They also show that SDO does not significantly mediate the effect of gender on HE/HA majors nor in sexism. A model where ideology-related variables (HE/HA majors, sexism) mediated the relationship of gender with SDO revealed to fit the data whereas a model where SDO mediates the relationship of gender with ideology-related variables did not. Implications for social dominance theory and the gender similarities hypothesis are discussed

NOTES

10.00am to 10.20am, Friday

Thematic Session

Aesthetic or Athletic? The contribution of Quality and Quantity of Coverage to the Popularity of Women's Sports

HALL, LAUREN with DONAGHUE, N (Murdoch University).

L.hall@murdoch.edu.au

Women's sports do not receive the same quantity of coverage as men's sports, and it is debatable whether this is due to a negative attitude towards women's sports, or negative attitudes towards women's sports are influenced by the coverage itself. This study involved 150 participants completing a questionnaire that asked what they liked about professional and Olympic sports, their agreement with stereotypical statements about women's sports, and to respond to items from the Modern Sexism Scale (MSS; Swim et al 1995). Stereotypical attitudes towards women's sports correlated with MSS scores, while participants made significantly less differentiation between men's and women's Olympic sports than between men's and women's professional sports. This suggests that increased coverage of women's sports, as occurs in the Olympics, affects the ways in which people enjoy them. It then seems that coverage is an important factor in the maintenance of the unpopularity of women's sports, potentially affecting the way women are viewed in society generally.

NOTES

10.20am to 10.40am, Friday

Thematic Session

Adult intervention for body image concerns. An evaluation of a body image group program on the well-being of men and women.

LEWIS, V. (University of Canberra)

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Body image is an individual's perception of how their physical body appears to them and includes their feelings and attitudes towards it (Cash, Fleming, Alindogan, Stedman & Whitehead, 2002). Body image dissatisfaction has a significant negative impact on an individual's mental and physical health (Neumark-Stanzier, Paxton, Hannan, Haines, & Story, 2006; Stice, 2002). Two separate cognitive-behavioural six week group intervention programs for women and men were designed and implemented at the University of Canberra for people who wanted to improve their body image and well-being. Forty participants took part in the women's programs and 20 in the men's. The programs targeted numerous risk factors important in the development and maintenance of body image dissatisfaction. The aims were to educate about body image perceptions and their origins, challenge negative beliefs and behaviours associated with body image and improve body image, health and general well-being. Evaluation of the programs through a pre-and post intervention questionnaires showed improvements in body satisfaction and self-esteem and decreases in physique anxiety and body image distress. The success of the program suggests that focusing on numerous risk factors that research has identified as important in the development of body image distress and eating disorders is an effective way of improving participants' body image and general mental health.

NOTES

Keynote Address by Rosalind Gill

Rottnest Room

11.15am to 12.15pm, Friday

"Objectification": what is it good for?

GILL, ROSALIND (King's College London)

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In this presentation I consider whether or not the notion of 'objectification' -- so long a key term for thinking about the links between visual culture and inequality -- is still analytically and politically useful. I will briefly discuss the way this term has been used and understood before moving on to explore three significant challenges to it from changing representations of gender in advertising.

First, I will discuss a shift in representations of (some) women -- the shift from depicting them as passive, objectified victims of an assumed male gaze, towards a more active, knowing, humorous and even empowered mode of address. This is what I have called the shift from sexual objectification to sexual subjectification, and I will argue that it represents the transformation in the ways in which power operates in visual culture.

Secondly, I will examine transformations in the depiction of male bodies in mainstream visual culture, which have led some to argue that "we are all equally objectified now". I will critically discuss this claim, opening up questions about how to analyse visual culture, and interrogating whether 'objectification'

resides in the representation itself or in the cultural histories of practices of looking that gave rise to it. Why do representations of semi-naked men on billboards not seem 'objectifying' in the way that apparently comparable representations of scantily-clad women do? Does the answer lie in some formal quality of the image (pose, lighting, *mise en scène*) as some have argued, or, alternately, in the complex relationship between historically/culturally located subjects and representations?

Thirdly, I will discuss the trend within contemporary advertising to draw attention to and humorously send up or ironise 'objectification' as a practice. This is connected to a particular postfeminist, post-'political correctness' moment, in which critics of objectification are accused of 'spoiling our fun'. I will look at the way in which objectification is trivialised as a practice, through the assumption of egalitarian social relations (not borne out by other evidence) -- which is simultaneously undermined by the gratuitous display of women's bodies.

Taken together, these three shifts require a rethinking of the analytical and political usefulness of the term 'objectification'. Is it worth defending and/or do we need different critical vocabularies to engage with inequalities in/and visual culture?

NOTES

2.00pm to 3.30pm, Friday

Symposium: The Many Facets of Forgiveness
in Rottnest Room

STRELAN, P. (The University of Adelaide), GOLDRING, J. (The University of Adelaide), WOODYATT, L. (Flinders University) & WENZEL, M. (Flinders University)

Generally, forgiveness is assumed to have benefits for the restoration of relationships and positive selves after transgressions. Forgiveness is a multi-faceted construct with intrapersonal, interpersonal and intergroup dimensions; it can refer to another party or oneself as transgressor; it can be thought of as a sentiment or action. This symposium will discuss current research on the antecedents and consequences of forgiveness across its many facets, using a variety of methods. The four papers will investigate: interpersonal trust as a proximal determinant of forgiveness, implicitly measured self-concept as a predictor of forgiveness, the restorative qualities of self-forgiveness, and the effects of a group's expression of forgiveness on justice perceptions and reconciliation. Together the results will challenge and advance our understanding of a fascinating construct.

2.00pm to 2.20pm, Friday

Symposium:Forgiveness

Re-established trust: An important ingredient for forgiveness

STRELAN, PETER with COTTON, J (The University of Adelaide).

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This study tests the claim that restored trust is important for forgiveness. A sample of 159 undergraduates (108 women, 51 men) indicated that in response to recalled trust betrayal events, partner-specific trust predicted forgiveness (i.e., absence of avoidance and revenge; increased benevolence) over and above well-established social-cognitive, relational, transgression-specific, and dispositional predictors of forgiveness. Furthermore, partner-specific trust mediated between key situationally-derived variables -- apology, responsibility attributions, relationship commitment -- and each of avoidance, revenge, and benevolence. These findings have important implications for our understanding of how forgiveness is facilitated. In close relationships, partner trust may be a crucial ingredient for forgiveness.

NOTES

2.20pm to 2.40pm, Friday

Symposium: Forgiveness

The forgiveness self-concept IAT predicts actual forgiveness, but in the wrong direction

GOLDRING, JEREMY with STRELAN, P., & SEMMLER, C (The University of Adelaide).

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I will present data from a study which sought to determine if a Forgiveness-Revenge self-concept IAT could predict forgiving behaviour. Participants (N=126) thought of a time when someone hurt them, rated how much they had forgiven this person, and completed the IAT and some forgiveness attitude scales. Forgiveness was operationalised using the TRIM (McCullough et al., 1998), which measures motivations to avoid, seek revenge, or act benevolently toward the transgressor. The Forgiveness IAT did predict avoidance ($\hat{\beta}^2 = .18, p = .04$), but in the opposite direction to expected. Furthermore, there appear to have been order effects, with the IAT more strongly predicting forgiveness when it was completed immediately after participants had reflected on the transgression (Benevolence, $\hat{\beta}^2 = -.36, p = .004$, Avoidance, $\hat{\beta}^2 = .39, p = .002$, and Revenge, $\hat{\beta}^2 = .26, p = .049$). Findings will be discussed in relation to the nature of the self-concept IAT, as well as research on the malleability of IAT scores.

NOTES

2.40pm to 3.00pm, Friday

Symposium: Forgiveness

Self-forgiveness and restoration after an interpersonal transgression

WOODYATT, LYDIA with WENZEL, M (Flinders University).

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This study aims to advance a more differentiated understanding of self-forgiveness and its implications for restoration processes. Participants (N = 73) who reported having committed an interpersonal transgression completed five questionnaires over a 10 day period. Three proposed self-forgiving processes were assessed: self-punitive, pseudo self-forgiving, and genuine self-forgiving (GSF). Linear mixed models were used to explore the impact of these processes on aspects of restoration. GSF, as a process of coming to terms with an acknowledged wrongdoing, was significantly positively associated with social cohesion, hope, sympathy, self trust. Pseudo self-forgiveness and self-punitiveness were positively associated with avoidance and perceptions of unfair treatment, and negatively associated with hope and self-trust. Significant interactions with time indicated, inter alia, that high GSF was associated with decreases in avoidance and increases in self esteem over time.

NOTES

3.00pm to 3.20pm, Friday

Symposium: Forgiveness

When our group forgives: Justice and reconciliation in intergroup contexts

WENZEL, MICHAEL (Flinders University) with OKIMOTO, T. G (Yale University).

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Recent research has highlighted the role of forgiveness in post-conflict reconciliation between groups. However, usually forgiveness has been measured as a sentiment of individual group members. In contrast, we investigate the effects of a victimized group's expression of forgiveness, on members' perceptions of justice and conciliatory attitudes. In two studies using the same laboratory paradigm, two groups were allegedly formed and engaged in a competition, during which the outgroup unnecessarily deprived the ingroup of their winnings. The ingroup then decided by vote to send a forgiving or unforgiving message to the outgroup. Study 1 showed that, when participants felt wronged by the other team, the group's expression of forgiveness lowered their sense of injustice and, mediated by this, led to more favourable attitudes towards the outgroup. Study 2 replicated this finding and found that the justice-restoring effect of forgiveness was primarily mediated by feelings of status/power.

NOTES

2.00pm to 3.20pm, Friday

Thematic Session in Garden Room

2.00pm to 2.20pm, Friday

Social identities facilitate and encapsulate action-relevant constructs: A test of the social identity model of collective action

THOMAS, EMMA (Murdoch University) with MAVOR, K. I., (Australian National University) & McGARTY, C (Murdoch University).

Emma.Thomas@murdoch.edu.au

Three studies explore the recently elaborated social identity model of collective action (SIMCA; van Zomeren, Postmes & Spears, 2008) and an alternative, the encapsulated model of social identity in collective action (EMSICA; Thomas, McGarty & Mavor, 2009). Both of these models afford a central role to the function of social identities in promoting collective action, through emotional reactions to injustice and group efficacy, but in different ways. Combined analyses of three samples (N = 305) using multi-group structural equation modelling showed that both SIMCA and EMSICA fit the data well. Results showed that social identity processes can both facilitate and encapsulate other action-relevant constructs, and suggest the importance of considering multiple causal pathways to action.

NOTES

2.20pm to 2.40pm, Friday

Thematic Session

An appraisal model of emotions in the context of intergroup inequality and links to action orientations

FERNANDO, JULIAN with KASHIMA, Y., & LAHAM, S. M (University of Melbourne).

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We propose a new model of four collective emotions (sympathy, anger, guilt and shame) commonly experienced in response to outgroup suffering or inequality. It is founded upon two observations not accounted for by previous models: 1) individuals tend to report multiple emotions in response to an inequality; 2) some emotions (e.g. shame) require more complex appraisals than others (e.g. sympathy); thus, the requisite appraisals for complex emotions may entail those required for basic emotions. Four appraisal dimensions are thought to account for the elicitation of these emotions: outgroup suffering, illegitimacy, ingroup responsibility and damaged ingroup reputation. As a first test of the model, 97 Australian participants rated the appraisal dimensions, their emotions and their action orientations regarding asylum seekers. Appraisals of illegitimacy, ingroup responsibility and damaged ingroup reputation accounted well for the elicitation of anger, guilt and shame; however, an appraisal of outgroup suffering predicted only sympathy. Anger and shame were the emotions that best predicted action to reduce inequality. Cluster analysis detected subgroups of participants with similar emotion profiles; these subgroups were associated with different action orientations, supporting the idea that individuals experience multiple emotions. Generally, these results support the new appraisal model, but may not have been predicted by previous models which typically propose larger, separate sets of appraisal dimensions.

NOTES

2.40pm to 3.00pm, Friday

Thematic Session

Social identity and individual difference variables as predictors of prejudice and support for social change

BLINK, CAROLINE (The Australian National University) with
MAVOR, K. I. (Australian National University), & McGARTY, C
(Murdoch University).

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The predictors of prejudice and conflictual actions have long been studied but the predictors of opposition to prejudice and intergroup cooperation have received less attention. In this study, we use individual-difference variables and social-identity measures to predict prejudice, collective efficacy beliefs and social change action intentions among 189 non-Indigenous supporters of reconciliation with Indigenous Australians. We found that right wing authoritarianism was a significant predictor of prejudice but social dominance orientation and social identification were significant predictors of prejudice, action intentions and collective efficacy beliefs. The results demonstrate that social dominance orientation has wider applicability than right-wing authoritarianism but social identification adds considerable value to the explanation of opposition to prejudice.

NOTES

3.00pm to 3.20 pm, Friday

Thematic Session

Choice of scapegoats: It's not all about them

JONES, BENJAMIN (The Australian National University)

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To the extent that scapegoating is considered an intergroup phenomenon, a holistic understanding of how scapegoats are chosen must take into account relevant stereotypes of the ingroup, as well as perceived characteristics of the scapegoat. The central argument of this paper is that the social position, stereotypical characteristics, and nature of the scapegoat are never evaluated in a social vacuum; rather these variables are always construed through the lens of the ingroup. It is the perceived characteristics of the ingroup (formalised in their norms, beliefs and values) which indirectly determine who is likely to be chosen as a scapegoat in the broader context of threatening intergroup relations. The crucial point is that “who” is scapegoated depends on “what” characterises the ingroup. To this end, empirical evidence supporting this assertion will be discussed. This research aims to highlight the potentially dynamic nature of scapegoating, and outline the potential consequences of this for the broader understanding of the antecedents of prejudice.

NOTES

2.20pm to 3.20pm, Friday

Thematic Session in Carnac Room

2.20pm to 2.40pm, Friday

Masculinity and muscularity: Changes in appearance concerns following a threat to manhood

HUNT, CHRISTOPHER with GONSALKORALE, K (University of Sydney).

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In recent years, it has been observed that men are increasingly becoming concerned about their appearance and desire a more muscular physique. It has been hypothesised that increasing threats to masculinity are at least partially responsible for driving this phenomena. The current study examined this issue by evaluating men's drive to be more muscular and their appearance concerns following the receipt of false feedback about their degree of masculinity. It was found that for men who scored low on a masculine gender role measure, exposure to a threat to masculinity resulted in an increased desire to be more muscular and reduced self-reported appearance concerns, suggesting a desire to adhere more closely to masculine gender role norms following threat. This is consistent with models hypothesising that perceived violation of gender role norms result in increased desire to demonstrate gender conformity.

NOTES

2.40pm to 3.00pm, Friday

Thematic Session

Community responses to domestic violence against women by their male partners

NIKOLOVA, EVELINA with MCGARTY, C & DONAGHUE, N
(Murdoch University).

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These two studies are part of a larger project that is designed to study community responses to domestic violence against women perpetrated by their male partners. In Study 1 twenty six professionals from the Perth region, Australia, participate in structured interviews to elicit their perceptions of women who they suspect are experiencing violence from their male partners. The data for study 2 are 274 messages in response to online posts from 9 women who are experiencing abuse from male partners. Findings from both studies reveal strong encouragement for women to leave their violent partners. Nevertheless results show diverse and nuanced responses to suspected and disclosed violence. Whereas the online discussion board members respond by seeking to galvanize the women to take actions and leave their partners, the response of the professionals reveal intriguing inconsistencies.

NOTES

3.00pm to 3.20pm, Friday

Thematic Session

“Everybody says it, so it must be true.” Exploring the relation between prejudice and perceived consensus for one's views.

WATT, SUSAN with MCFARLANE, S (University of New England).

sue.watt@une.edu.au

Recent research in Australia has found a strong positive relation between prejudiced attitudes and overestimating consensus for one's views. The current study sought to replicate this result in a different country, and tested whether the effect could be explained by ego-defense. According to this explanation, imagined agreement of others is used to maintain self-esteem while holding socially undesirable views. Three hundred sixty three students at Karl Franzens University, Austria, participated in a survey of Austrian students' attitudes to African immigrants, which included measures of their own attitudes, their peers' attitudes, and an Attitude Functions Inventory (to identify attitudes that served an ego-defensive function). Results showed a strong positive relation between prejudice and over-estimates of others' prejudice. There was no effect of ego-defense. The results speak to a concerning generality of the prejudice/consensus bias relation which warrants further investigation.

NOTES

3.20pm to 3.40pm, Friday

Thematic Session

Developmental Experiences During Extracurricular Activities and Australian Adolescent Self-Concept: Particularly Important for Disadvantaged Youth

BLOMFIELD, COREY & BARBER, B. L. (Murdoch University)

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This study investigated whether the developmental experiences that occurred during extracurricular activities were linked to a more positive self-concept for Australian adolescents, and whether this link was particularly salient for youth from disadvantaged backgrounds. Adolescents ($N = 1521$, 56% Female) from 26 diverse high schools across Western Australia were surveyed. The main findings revealed that (a) adolescents from low socio-economic status backgrounds who participated in extracurricular activities had a more positive general self-worth and social self-concept than adolescents from similar economic backgrounds who did not participate in any extracurricular activities, and (b) the positive developmental experiences that occurred during extracurricular activities predicted a more positive general self-worth and social and academic self-concept, and this link was stronger for youth from disadvantaged backgrounds. These findings indicate that the developmental experiences afforded by extracurricular activities may foster positive adolescent development.

NOTES

Poster Session

3.30pm to 4.00pm, Friday

Looking Korean, being Australian: the impact of racial appearance versus cultural background on discrimination encountered by interracial adoptees.

ALCOTT, YVETTE with WATT, S. E (University of New England).

Interracial adoption can raise many complex issues, one of which is racial discrimination. This research tested whether Korean interracial adoptees in Australia suffer from discrimination within their own cultural environment, and how this compares with experiences of Korean immigrants and white Australians. Comparing these groups allowed us to examine the relative impacts of racial appearance and socialization on discrimination. One hundred and sixteen adult male and female Korean interracial adoptees, Korean immigrants to Australia, and white Australians reported their experiences of discrimination. Results indicated that interracial adoptees perceive significantly more discrimination on a Daily Discrimination scale. Interestingly, the results also indicate that this does not affect their lives anymore than the other two groups. The role of location, cognitive dissonance, family influences and the notion of protective factors are discussed to address the results.

NOTES

The effect of the gender composition of organisations on male and female perceptions of 'glass cliff' situations.

HALLFORD, DAVID with WEBB, J. W (Deakin University).

david_hallford@hotmail.com

The 'glass cliff' refers to the higher likelihood of women, compared to men, of being placed in 'precarious' leadership appointments during times of organisational crisis. The current study aimed to investigate perceptions of the fairness, prevalence and problematic nature of 'glass cliff' situations and the extent to which these perceptions depend on the gender composition of an organisation. Participants read one of three conditions of hypothetical 'glass cliff' scenario differing only in their description of the gender composition of the organization: majority male, majority female or equal gender composition. The results suggested that females found the 'glass cliff' appointment more unfair than males on measures of distributive, procedural and interpersonal fairness, but these differences were not found to depend on gender composition. Exploratory measures revealed that the obtained gender difference in fairness perceptions was mediated by levels of modern sexism. Overall, these findings suggest individuals do not find 'glass cliff' situations to be unfair, prevalent or problematic, but that there are gender differences in the evaluation of the fairness of 'glass cliff' situations, and these differences are related to modern sexist attitudes.

NOTES

Belonging and intergroup discrimination

HUNTER, JOHN with BANKS, M (University of Otago).

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Existing research investigating the motivational ramifications of intergroup discrimination has, almost without exception, assessed the role of self-esteem. Recently however, the motivational primacy of self-esteem has been challenged. Theory and research suggest that self-esteem is a higher order motive whilst belonging is a lower order motive. With this in mind, the current investigation sought to further explore and find evidence in support of a link between belonging and intergroup discrimination. Three studies were conducted. Studies 1 and 2 found that category members levels of belonging elevated following the display of intergroup discrimination. Study 3 replicated these effects, and subsequently demonstrated that threats to belonging (via ostracism from the ingroup) led to more pronounced levels of intergroup discrimination. These findings indicate that belonging may function as both an antecedent and consequence of intergroup discrimination.

NOTES

Collective Guilt and Recycling Behaviours

PENSINI, PAMELA with SLUGOSKI, B. R (James Cook University).

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Understanding motivations toward pro-environmental behaviours is of particular relevance in this age of global climate concern. In this study, the personal construct of collective guilt was investigated as a factor motivating individuals to engage in recycling behaviours. Eighty-five, largely young participants completed self-report measures of collective guilt, social desirability, and a recycling measure investigating attitudes toward recycling and normative influences on their recycling behaviour. As predicted, those accepting collective guilt for the actions of their ingroup reported more favourable attitudes toward recycling, and also reported greater social norms surrounding their recycling behaviour. This suggests that those engaging in pro-environmental behaviours may be doing so at least partly as a means to alleviate guilt for the actions of their ingroup. As a result, encouraging the experience of collective guilt regarding environmental impacts may be a successful method of increasing environmentally friendly behaviour. Practical implications are discussed.

NOTES

Presidential Address by Lucy Johnston

Friday 9th April, 4.00pm

**If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely
show it**

JOHNSTON, LUCY (University of Canterbury)

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In this talk I will discuss our program of research investigating perceiver sensitivity to the emotional state of others, as specified through facial expressions. I will argue that effective social interactions are dependent on such sensitivity. Further, I will contend that perceivers must be able to differentiate between spontaneous and deliberate, or posed, facial expressions of emotion. Spontaneous, or genuine, expressions correspond with underlying affective states whereas deliberate, posed facial expressions are intended to simulate a genuine, spontaneous expression, but occur in the absence of an associated emotional state. Such expression specify, we argue, differential interaction opportunities to the sensitive perceiver. I will present evidence demonstrating perceiver sensitivity to the differences between these types of facial expression, and to the underlying emotional state of others, but I will also present evidence demonstrating situational and individual constraints on such sensitivity. I will provide evidence of the consequences of perceiver sensitivity for social interactions and explore the processes underlying this sensitivity.

Individual Presentation Abstracts: Symposia
and Thematic Sessions

Saturday 10th April

9.00am to 10.45am, Saturday

**Symposium: Psychology and Global Climate
Change in Rottnest Room**

RESER, J. (Griffith University and University of Queensland),
FIELDING, K. (CSIRO/The University of Queensland),
LEVISTON, Z. (CSIRO), MCDONALD, R. (The University of
Queensland) GARDNER, J. (CSIRO) & WALKER, I. (CSIRO)

With discussant by LAWRENCE, CARMEN (University of
Western Australia)

Global environmental change is arguably the single most pressing issue facing humans in the 21st century. The scientific evidence for the anthropogenic causes of global environmental change seems clear, although many do not accept it. The implications for human behaviour also seem clear, although many do not act on them. This symposium brings together researchers from around Australia to present analyses of human responses and non-responses to global environmental change. The symposium begins with an overview of the international role played by psychology in addressing climate change. The remaining speakers present theoretical perspectives and data highlighting the reasons for people's denial and inaction in the face of climate change. The role of mortality salience, normative conflict, public debate and group and personal factors are explored, as well as determinants of specific environmentally-relevant behaviours.

NOTES

9.00am to 9.20am, Saturday

Symposium: Climate Change

An overview of psychology's role in addressing climate change

RESER, JOE (Griffith University and University of Queensland)

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The paper provides a historical window on psychology's involvement in climate change research over the past three decades, and examines those convergent perspectives within and outside of psychology that constitute that corpus of social science work typically framed as the 'Human dimensions of global environmental change'. Drawing from the recent APA Taskforce Report on Psychology and Climate Change, I look closer at public risk perceptions and understandings, climate change adaptation, the inter-relatedness of climate change adaptation and mitigation, and the psychosocial impacts of the social representations and unfolding environmental impacts of climate change. Current research is then examined in the context of prioritising particular research needs and issues, and communicating the crucial importance of psychological perspectives and levels of analysis for collaborative and transdisciplinary research and policy initiatives addressing the human dimensions of climate change.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Saturday

Symposium: Climate Change

Beyond the 'yuck' factor: A social psychological analysis of public responses to recycled water

FIELDING, KELLY S (CSIRO/The University of Queensland),
PRICE, & LEVISTON (CSIRO)

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The intergovernmental panel on climate change has highlighted the vulnerability of water resources and the likelihood that they will be strongly impacted by climate change. The challenge for policy-makers, therefore, is to ensure adequate water supplies through a range of options, including recycled water for drinking purposes. This talk will provide an overview of a program of research aimed at understanding the social and psychological factors that underpin public acceptance of recycled water for potable use. In total, over 1200 residents of South East Queensland took part in the research program that comprised longitudinal quantitative surveys and qualitative data collection. Consistent with social psychological theory, key predictors of acceptance were perceptions of normative support, perceived fairness of the scheme, trust in authorities, risk perceptions, and emotion. Implications of the results for policy aimed at managing urban water demand will be discussed.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Saturday

Symposium: Climate Change

Mortality, Anxiety and Worldview: Associations with Climate Change

LEVISTON, ZOE (CSIRO)

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Most psychological research in the area of climate change (CC) has focused on individual attitudes and beliefs toward CC itself. There has been little research into how people respond to the threat of the extreme social consequences implied by even conservative estimates of CC. The magnitude of consequences, multiple uncertainties and associated implications for humans in our lifetime can fuel anxieties that provoke maladaptive and counter-intuitive responses to CC information. These responses may partly assuage anxieties associated with thoughts of one's own death. Whether CC resonates at a level deep enough to make one's mortality salient is at this point untested. Using a Terror Management Theory framework, we outline a body of research seeking to test whether thinking about CC makes mortality salient and, hence bolsters aspects of one's worldview pertinent to adaptive responses. We also examine the roles of perceived personal relevance and cognitive biases when thinking about CC.

NOTES

10.00am to 10.20am, Saturday

Symposium: Climate Change

The social psychology of individual-level responses to climate change: The impact of conflicting social norms

MCDONALD, RACHEL (The University of Queensland) &
FIELDING (The University of Queensland/CSIRO)

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Climate change requires high-level action on a global scale. However, to reduce the problem and subsequent impacts on human society and natural ecosystems, the importance of individual level behaviour cannot be ignored. The literature shows that for both public and private behaviour, people are not demonstrating behavioural changes in line with expressed levels of awareness and concern about environmental threats. We propose that one factor underlying this discrepancy is the experience of multiple, conflicting social norms regarding individual-level behaviours targeted at reducing carbon emissions and preventing climate change. To the extent that people experience normative conflict in this domain, they may also experience behavioural uncertainty and reduced perceptions of efficacy, which may reduce pro-environmental intentions and behaviours. The results of a study examining the effects of normative conflict on personal carbon emission-reduction behaviours will be presented.

NOTES

10.20am to 10.40am, Saturday

Symposium: Climate Change

Tin foil hats and junk science: Online public debate about climate change.

GARDNER, JOHN (CSIRO)

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In recent years, public debate on the causes, consequences and appropriate reactions to climate change has exploded. A major setting for this debate is online, where news and opinions are rapidly disseminated to a large audience and subject to immediate and extensive counter-arguments and reinterpretation. This study examines publicly posted comments about climate change on web logs maintained by two Australian journalists with strongly divergent views on the nature of climate change. Both prompt extensive public comment on their sites. Online posts made in response to stories on climate change issues were gathered over three one-week periods from October to December 2009, resulting in over 12,500 comments comprising nearly one million words. Common themes were identified and compared across sites. Findings are related to mechanisms of attitude maintenance, lay-person perceptions of scientific information, and the nature of public disagreements about climate change issues.

NOTES

9.00am to 10.45am, Saturday

Thematic Session in Garden Room

9.00am to 9.20am, Saturday

Keeping up appearances: The strategic nature of conformity expressions in relation to group acceptance and dating success

HORNSEY, MATTHEW with JETTEN, J., & WELLAUER, R
(University of Queensland).

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We present a series of studies examining the impression-management dimension of expressions of conformity. We found that people primed to feel relatively junior within their group express more conformity than those primed to feel relatively senior, particularly when conformity expressions are public. This tendency applies also to people's willingness to "blow the whistle" on deviance within group ranks. Finally, we subjected to empirical scrutiny the widely held evolutionary assumption that conformity in women and non-conformity in men "pay off" in terms of maximizing attractiveness and dating success. The evidence suggests that people are more attracted to non-conformist opposite-sex others, and that this tendency is equally strong for men and for women. Contrary to evolutionary arguments, independence is positively related to dating success for both men and for women; if anything, independence paid off more for women than for men.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Saturday

Thematic Session

Life history theory and male reproductive strategy

EVERY, MICHELLE with LEWIS, A. J. & GOULD, E. L (Deakin University).

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Relationship status has both psychological and biological dimensions. This study examines the interplay between these aspects of relationships by examining endocrine variations that occur in male adults in response to changes in relationship status. This association is looked at in the context of adult attachment and its relationship to life history strategy. The study examines the hormonal correlates of romantic relationships across a 12 month time period. This paper will present the theoretical rationale and review of existing studies. It is predicted that relationship stability and quality will vary with attachment status and testosterone levels in particular.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Saturday

Thematic Session

The life history model of reproductive strategy: developmental pathways from early psychosocial adversity.

HRIBERNIK, JERNEJ with LEWIS, A. J. & KREMER, P. J (Deakin University).

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This study examines male and female reproductive development from an evolutionary life history perspective. The data comprises 8,256 Australian boys and girls. Results indicate that family conflict and mobility, insecure attachment to parents, co-habitation with non-biological family members and lack of parental care are associated with faster reproductive development and higher depression but are confounded with socioeconomic variables. These indicators of early psychosocial stress predicted early menarche in girls and early development of secondary pubertal characteristics in boys. Differences in the quality of direct parental care may be the key factor linking family environment to reproductive development. Further replication is required to elucidate these divergent developmental pathways.

NOTES

10.00am to 10.20am, Saturday

Thematic Session

Fluctuations in testosterone-levels and person construal in male perceivers

JOHNSTON, LUCY (University of Canterbury) with PORTER, R. (University of Otago), MACKENZIE, A. (University of Canterbury), & MILES, B (University of Canterbury).

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An extensive literature has demonstrated that female perceivers show enhanced sensitivity to sexually desirable targets during periods of high fertility relative to periods of low fertility. Although not experiencing a cyclical variation in levels of sex-hormones akin to the female menstrual cycle, males do experience natural fluctuations in circulating testosterone levels and levels can change rapidly. The aim of the present experiment is to investigate whether natural fluctuations in male testosterone levels are related to person construal. In two testing sessions 1-week apart, males provide a saliva sample, analyzed for testosterone level, and complete a sex-categorization task. Differences in testosterone levels between testing sessions are significantly correlated with differences in categorization times, but for female targets only. These findings are considered in terms of adaptive person construal.

NOTES

10.20am to 10.40am, Saturday

Thematic Session

Conservatives may be happier, but liberals are better in bed: The social psychology of sexual satisfaction

BARLOW, FIONA (University of Queensland)

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The politically conservative typically report that they are happier than the politically liberal. The present research suggests, however, that the politically liberal should not lose hope. In Study 1 (N =109) the more people identified as politically liberal, the more they believed that women's enjoyment of sex was an important issue. Further to this, participants who denied racism in Australia today (a marker of conservative ideology) were also more likely to devalue women's sexual pleasure. So why do political conservatism and racism relate to our attitudes towards intimate congress, and in particular, that elusive behemoth, women's sexual pleasure? Study 2 explores these issues through measurement of men and women's attitudes towards sex, self-reported sexual enjoyment, group-based identification, perceived group-based norms towards sex, political conservatism and intergroup attitudes. I suggest that through consideration of social psychological variables we can gain a better understanding of the way in which the groups to which we belong, and the norms that we follow, can predict how we feel and behave in bed.

NOTES

Teaching Social Psychology Roundtable

Carnac Room

9.00am to 10.40am, Saturday

Teaching Social Psychology Roundtable

Convened by CURTIS, GUY (Murdoch University)

This session is an informal roundtable session rather than a session of formal presentations. Attendees are encouraged to share teaching and learning innovations in social psychology that you have found to be effective, such as classroom activities, demonstrations, resources, and assessments. Other topics we might discuss include teaching awards, teaching portfolios for job applications and promotions, scholarship of teaching issues such as how to assess and where to publish your social psychology teaching initiatives.

NOTES

11.15am to 12.45pm, Saturday

Symposium: Psychology and Global Climate
Change in Rottnest Room

11.15am to 11.35pm, Saturday

A social psychology of denial and inaction

WALKER, IAIN (CSIRO)

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The science of global climate change is well-established, and forecasts significant environmental changes for all ecosystems, including those humans inhabit and depend upon. Surveys show that most people accept predictions of climate change and are concerned about it, although both acceptance and concern are diminishing. But, there is a lack of meaningful behaviour in response to the challenges of global climate change, and the voices of those disputing the science and its predictions are growing louder. This paper analyses this seeming paradox – why do people fail to act when confronted with overwhelming reasons why they should act. Across levels of analysis, I consider in turn broad historical, group, interpersonal, and intrapersonal factors as they help explain why people deny the threat of climate change and why they fail to act in response to anticipated climate change. I also reflect on how to mobilize social behaviours to mitigate and/or adapt to anticipated climate change.

NOTES

11.35am to 11.55pm, Saturday

Symposium: Climate Change

Discussant: Psychology and global climate change

LAWRENCE, CARMEN (University of Western Australia)

Carmen.lawrence@uwa.edu.au

This discussion articulates themes emerging from the paper presentations about the important role of psychology in addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation, and in dealing with the human threats posed by climate change. The importance of making psychology policy-relevant is stressed.

NOTES

11.55am to 12.15pm, Saturday

Thematic Session in Rottnest Room

The missing ingredient in campaigns to influence people to change their climate-related attitudes and behaviour

BOCHNER, STEPHEN (University of New South Wales).

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Changing attitudes and behaviour is the province of applied social psychologists. Yet most of the climate change advocates are politicians, economists, activists and celebrities who have only a limited understanding of how to alter behaviour. Their campaigns do not take the psychology of persuasion into account, often using strategies that create resistance to influence. I will spell out the principles of attitude and behaviour modification relevant to climate change and their implications for designing more effective action plans, distinguishing between the demand and supply side of consumer behaviour. Theoretical and empirical findings in social and cognitive psychology are relevant to the demand side, referring to the internal processes that affect behaviour. Learning theory is relevant to the supply side, or the external influences that shape behaviour. The model also has to take into account the existence of cross-cultural differences in how people respond to persuasion.

NOTES

12.15am to 12.35pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

‘The way that science is done’: Scientists’ discourse around the contestable nature of climate change science.

CALLAGHAN, PETA with AUGOUSTINOS, M (University of Adelaide).

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Recently controversies have arisen around climate change science including what has come to be known as ‘climate-gate’, where in late 2009 leaked emails from the University of East Anglia’s Climate Change Institute revealed the possible suppression and manipulation of climate data in order to maintain the impression of increasing global temperatures, despite alleged evidence to the contrary (ref.) As such, analysis of climate change science drawing on the tradition of the Sociology of Science Knowledge (SSK) presents as both a relevant and fascinating study. Interviews with two high profile Australian scientists familiar with the ‘climate change debate’ were conducted. Rhetorical and fact constructing devices (see Potter, 1996) were identified as the scientists’ talk about why they believe climate change science is so widely contested. Comparisons between ‘new’ and ‘old’ ways of doing science, young and old scientists with divergent career goals, and overblown media attention for the sake of a ‘good story’ were prominent ways of accounting for the contested nature of climate change science. The analysis also demonstrates how competing repertoires of science identified by Gilbert and Mulkay’s (1984) classic work were drawn upon as accounting practices.

NOTES

11.15am to 12.45pm, Saturday

Symposium: Social Identity, Health and Well-being in Garden Room

REYNOLDS, K. (Australian National University), JETTEN, J. (UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND), SMITH, L. (The University of Queensland)

With Discussant by HASLAM, N. (University of Melbourne).

In this symposium the relationship between social identity processes and health and well-being will be explored. The theory and research that is reported moves beyond factors such as social support and social connectedness that are often considered (to varying degrees) in the health domain to explore the social self and social processes in better understanding, explaining and treating health issues. In this way the focus is very much on the “social cure”. The symposium brings together three papers that investigate social identity processes using participant samples from education, organisational and clinical settings. The work highlights the impact of social identity processes on individual-level health outcomes (e.g., stress, resilience, recovery, depression) offering insight into both the interplay between group and individual functioning and how to better manage mental health in the work place and more broadly. The symposium also points to the need for further integration of social psychology and the areas of clinical and health psychology.

11.15am to 11.35pm, Saturday

Symposium: Social Identity

The role of the group in individual functioning: Understanding the relationship between leadership effectiveness, social (organisational) identity and well-being.

REYNOLDS, KATE (Australian National University) with BIZUMIC, B (Australian National University), SUBASIC, E (Australian National University), & BACKHOUSE, A (Department of Immigration and Citizenship).

Katherine.Reynolds@anu.edu.au

Increasingly the psychological health of staff is viewed as an occupational health and safety issue. As a result there is interest in the relationship between organisational factors such as leadership and the well-being of followers. Taking the case example of staff in ACT high schools (N = 197), we explore the relationships between leadership effectiveness, social identity processes and well-being. In line with predictions, leadership positively influenced well-being outcomes. Furthermore, organisational identification significantly contributed to the explanatory power in predicting well-being (e.g., depression, stress, anxiety, job involvement; Bizumic, Reynolds, Turner, Bromhead & Subasic, 2009). Results are discussed in light of the interplay between group and individual functioning, “interventions” that could affect the health of the workplace and the benefits of further integration of social and clinical psychology.

NOTES

11.35am to 11.55pm, Saturday

Symposium: Social Identity

The social cure: Multiple group memberships promote resilience in the face of challenges

JETTEN, JOLANDA (University of Queensland) with JONES, J (University of Exeter), HASLAM, C (University of Exeter), IYER, A (University of Queensland), & HASLAM, S. A (University of Exeter).

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Recent research suggests that multiple group memberships can be a source of resilience in the face of various life challenges (e.g., illness, injury, life transitions). In a series of studies we examined the nature of this relationship on different indices of resilience. Among students entering university and patients recovering from a stroke, we found that multiple group memberships predicted life-satisfaction and well-being. In two further studies, we found that belonging to multiple groups quelled stress: multiple group membership was associated with faster heart-rate recovery for novice athletes. We also found that the salience of multiple groups impelled action: the salience of a greater number of groups led to greater persistence on a cold-pressor task. The implications of these findings for health and well-being are discussed. We propose that multiple group membership can provide an important social cure when faced with life challenges.

NOTES

11.55am to 12.15pm, Saturday

Symposium: Social Identity

The balancing act: The roles of support and fairness in building a balance between social identities at work and reducing turnover intentions in new staff

SMITH, LAURA (University of Queensland) with AMIOT, C. E (University of Montreal), CALLAN, V. J (University of Queensland), SMITH, J. R (University of Exeter), & TERRY, D. J (University of Queensland).

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In two studies, we aim to identify the processes by which new employees identify with and develop a sense of commitment to their organization. In Study 1 (N=569) we investigate the impact of perceptions of support and fair treatment on social identification with the work team and organization; and the mediating impact of these different levels of identification on reducing turnover intentions. Analyses reveal that social support by the team and team leader and fairness of treatment differentially predict increased identification with both the organization and the team, which mediate decreased turnover intentions. However, an imbalance between identification at these levels increases turnover intentions. In Study 2, interviews (N=57) support these findings. We conclude that organizational identities can form at multiple levels in a supportive and fair workplace. However, these levels should be balanced in order for staff to maintain a commitment to their organization.

NOTES

12.15am to 12.35pm, Saturday

Symposium: Social Identity

Discussant: Social Identity, Health and Well-being

HASLAM, NICK (University of Melbourne).

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Haslam leads a final discussion covering the implications of this symposium's research on social identity

NOTES

11.15am to 12.45pm, Saturday

Thematic Session in Carnac Room

11.15am to 11.35pm, Saturday

**Personality and Liberal-Conservative Political Orientation:
A Meta-Analysis and Theoretical Review**

SIBLEY, CHRIS with DUCKITT, J (Auckland University).

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In order to synthesize the growing literature on personality and political orientation, we reviewed and meta-analyzed 73 samples from 10 nations (N = 71,895) examining the association between Big-Five personality and single-item self-placement ratings as politically conservative versus liberal. Openness to Experience was moderately negatively ($r = -.18$), and Conscientiousness weakly positively ($r = .10$), correlated with political conservatism. These associations held controlling for sample differences in personality inventory, publication status and demographics. However, the effect of Openness (but not Conscientiousness) was moderated cross-nationally by indicators of systemic threat and instability. We propose a Threat-Constraint Model (TCM) of Openness and Political Orientation that explains this person x situation interaction. As predicted, low Openness was strongly predictive of political conservatism when systemic threat was low ($r = -.42$ at 1 homicide per 100,000 and 5% national unemployment) but not high ($r = .03$ at 6 homicides per 100,000 and 10% unemployment).

NOTES

11.35am to 11.55am, Saturday

Thematic Session

The Expression of Marginalizing Racist Views as a Function of Naturalness and Entitative Essentialist Rhetoric

PLATOW, MICHAEL (Australian National University) with
GRACE, D. M (University of Canberra), SMITHSON, M. J
(Australian National University) & CRUWYS, T (Australian
National University).

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Marginalizing racism is the simultaneous acceptance and rejection of others into one's in-group. This form of racism has been expressed from the time (at least) of the Spanish Inquisition when Jewish converts to Catholicism were officially 'in', but were still seen as out; to contemporary Australia, where Muslim Australians are recognized as Australians, 'but not really.' In the current study, we test the hypothesis that the normative content of a social category will determine, in part, the expression of marginalizing racist views. Toward this end, we primed the normative meaning of the category 'Australia' by manipulating naturalness and entitative essentialist rhetoric. We examined the correlation between the endorsement of inclusionary and exclusionary views, and show variability in these correlations as a function of our manipulations, from a slight positive relationship to a highly negative relationship.

NOTES

2.00pm to 3.30pm, Saturday

Thematic Session: Rottnest Room

2.00pm to 2.20pm, Saturday

**Overcoming barriers to positive social change through
group interaction and solidarity**

MCGARTY, CRAIG (Murdoch University).

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The paper discusses the barriers that stand in the way of people coming together to produce social change. A series of experiments demonstrates the power of interaction in small groups to boost commitment to positive social change by intensifying opinion-based group memberships. Opinion-based groups involve social identities based around shared opinions. Experimental research in the area of attitudes towards global warming and other domains suggests that the self-investment component of social identity, in particular, solidarity or ties with other ingroup members, may be the critical process in producing bolstered commitment to take action to achieve social change.

NOTES

2.20pm to 2.40pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

Burn, baby, burn: Effects of environmental and health threats on punitiveness and the moderating role of perceived control

GREENAWAY, KATHARINE (University of Queensland) with JONES, J. M (University of Exeter) & LOUIS, W. R (University of Queensland).

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Modern societies face an increasing number of global-level threats, including health threats like human swine flu and environmental threats like climate change. A large body of work suggests that people often respond to heightened threat with increased prejudice and punitiveness. The present research introduces the novel suggestion that negative intergroup reactions are not inevitable responses to threat, but depend on levels of perceived control. In two experiments control is shown to interact with threat, qualifying the established threat-to-punishment relationship. In Experiment 1 (N=79), environmental threat increased punishment when perceived control over the threat was low. In contrast, when perceived control was high threat had no effect on punishment. The same pattern of results was observed in Experiment 2 (N=134): health threat increased punishment when perceived control was low, but not when control was high. These effects could not be explained by negative affect generated by thinking about societal threats. We discuss control restoration motivation as a possible new mechanism through which societal threats increase punitiveness.

NOTES

2.40pm to 3.00pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

The changing climate of public opinion on nuclear power

FARRUGIA, MATTHEW with CRITCHLEY, C & HARDIE, E
(Swinburne University of Technology).

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Australia currently has no nuclear power plants, but nuclear power has been proposed as a solution to reducing carbon emissions and meeting future energy needs. Over time, numerous surveys have been conducted to gauge Australian public opinion on nuclear power. This study examines the results of 15 national polls conducted between 1975 and 2009. The polls were obtained from market research companies (e.g., Nielson; Roy Morgan) and the Swinburne National Science and Technology Monitor. Early polls suggested that most Australians disapproved of nuclear power, but recent polls suggest that support for nuclear power may be on the rise. This study closely examines survey methods, sampling, wording of questions and results of the 15 available polls to explore whether Australian public opinion has actually changed over time, and if methodological factors may be partly responsible for the apparent shift in attitudes. In addition, it is of interest to explore the link between nuclear power and concerns about climate change and clean energy in the driving of public opinion.

NOTES

3.00pm to 3.20pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

Perceptions of control of space as a factor in responsibility attribution and behavioural intent towards another person's litter.

WOOLRYCH, TRACEY (Murdoch University) with KURZ, T
(University of Exeter).

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This study investigates two factors that have been demonstrated to influence pro-environmental behaviours but have previously received little attention - responsibility attribution and perceptions of control of space. Using responses (n=193) from 1000 questionnaires responsibility attributions (RA) and behavioural intent (BI) were explored across three control of space conditions (yard, street, and local park). Repeated measures ANOVAs reveal control of space influencing both self RA and BI measures in similar manner. Multiple regression analysis reveal that RA to self (relative to council) and place attachment (PA) both influence behavioural intent measures. Meditational regressions found that RAs mediated BI and PA for only one control of space condition (yard). Overall, the factors involved in personal RA and BI were quite distinct, suggesting further investigation is necessary. Control of space is discussed as a potential new direction for research.

NOTES

2.00pm to 3.30pm, Saturday

Thematic Session in Garden Room

2.00pm to 2.20pm, Saturday

Identity talk in the political rhetoric of Barack Obama

AUGOUSTINOS, MARTHA with DE GARIS, S (University of Adelaide).

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The election of the first African-American President of the US is a significant historical milestone that represents opportunities for social psychological examination. Given the interest Obama's racial and social identity has generated, this paper examines how he rhetorically manages issues pertaining to his identity and the public interest over contested versions of 'who he is'. The analysis examines a corpus of political speeches he delivered during his candidacy for Presidency. Using discursive analytic techniques that focus on the rhetorical organisation of identity talk, the analysis examines the range of self-categories Obama mobilises to define himself and his social location within contemporary multiracial America. The analysis demonstrates how Obama portrays himself as a prototypical American through the deployment of social identity categories that emphasise his cultural and racial diversity and that appeal to repertoires of national unity and togetherness.

NOTES

2.20pm to 2.40pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

Media bias during intergroup conflicts: the naming bias

NESIC, MICHELLE (University of Queensland) with HORNSEY, M. J (University of Queensland), ARIYANTO, A (University of Indonesia) & BARRACLOUGH, P (University of Queensland).

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Charges of media bias are numerous and frequent. However, measuring actual bias, as apposed to perceived bias, has proven to be difficult. Applying an intergroup perspective to media bias as it emerges in relation to intergroup conflicts reveals the existence of a “naming bias” whereby the outgroup is more frequently named as the perpetrator of violence in reports on intergroup conflicts. A content analysis of accounts of the Christian-Muslim conflict in Ambon, Indonesia as reported in both Christian and Muslim newspapers supports the existence of a “naming bias”. A second study examines the incidence of naming bias in reports that appeared during the same time period in Indonesian and international newspapers on the sepratist movement in Aceh, Indonesia (GAM). In line with social psychology theories of intergroup relations, ingroup bias was found in the Indonesian press, but not the international press.

NOTES

2.40pm to 3.00pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

Impression management through self-disclosure: A group-based perspective

LIM, LI with PLATOW, M (ANU).

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Most self-disclosure research have looked at personal interests motivating self-disclosure. In this study, we propose that self-disclosure can also be motivated by group-based interests, i.e. portraying a positive ingroup image to outgroup members. We examined several factors that may influence people's willingness to disclose: identifiability of participants' own social group membership, identity salience, risk in self-disclosing, group membership of the disclosure recipient, and whether or not the self-disclosure topic was relevant to participants as unique individuals, or as group members. Results indicate that when participants' social identities were salient and their own social group memberships known to the disclosure recipient, there was significantly less willingness to disclose on a high-risk, group related topic to an outgroup than an ingroup member. On the other hand, willingness to disclose on a high-risk, personal topic did not differ significantly between ingroup and outgroup recipients for participants in these same conditions. Correlations between willingness to disclose and fear for ingroup embarrassment will be further discussed.

NOTES

3.00pm to 3.20pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

Effects of opinion change and reintegration on evaluations of deviates promoting negative change

CHAN, MARC with BARLOW, F (University of Queensland).

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How do group members respond to a deviant agent for change who succeeds in shifting group opinion towards their disliked position? Queenslanders (N=137) completed a study ostensibly on enforcing Internet censorship within the state. A politician who strongly endorsed censorship was initially marginalized for advocating the unfavourable opinion. Over time, the Queensland Parliament endorsed/rejected imposing Internet censorship (Group opinion changed/unchanged); and popular support for the deviant politician also increased/remained the same (Reintegrated/not reintegrated). Results showed that when reintegration occurred in the absence of opinion change, there was a positive relationship between members' identification and target ratings. However, this relationship reversed when opinion change and reintegration co-occurred. Both effects were mediated by perceived target destructiveness. How the group supports change can differentially affect group members' responses to change-agents.

NOTES

2.00pm to 3.30pm, Saturday

Thematic Session in Carnac Room

2.00pm to 2.20pm, Saturday

Innaccurate but not biased: Anxiety reduces global recognition accuracy, but does not increase the own-race bias.

CURTIS, GUY (Murdoch University) with LEES, C (University of Western Sydney).

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The own-race bias (also called the cross-race effect) is the tendency for people to remember faces of their own racial or ethnic group better than the faces of members of other groups. It has been suggested that anxiety should increase the own-race bias. We presented participants with a standard cross-race facial-recognition task. Anxiety was induced in half of the participants. The own-race bias was evident for all participants via reduced accuracy for other-race faces. The bias was driven by a higher “false alarm” rate for other-race faces. Anxious participants were more inaccurate than control participants; however anxious participants did not commit the own-race bias to a greater extent than control participants. These results have implications for eyewitness testimony and for theories of anxiety and social cognition.

NOTES

2.20pm to 2.40pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

Stereotype content as a function of perceived causality: towards a perceptual theory of stereotype formation

OLDMEADOW, JULIAN (University of York, UK) with WAGONER,
B (Aalborg University, Denmark).

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Many groups are stereotyped as competent but not warm, or warm but not competent. Explaining these patterns, theorists foreground perceivers' motives over their perceptions. We propose a perceptual theory of these stereotypes based on Fritz Heider's ideas about social perception. It is argued stereotypes of competence and warmth reflect two underlying capacities: agency (the capacity to act) and experience (the capacity to be acted upon). These stereotypes are organised around perceptions of causality in morally significant acts. Competence is tied to perceptions of causality, and warmth to the morality of the act. These ideas fit with reliable patterns of existing data and are illustrated in an experiment using Heider and Simmel type animations. A perceptual theory offers exciting new ways to think about the origins, functions, and dynamics between dimensions of stereotype content.

NOTES

2.40pm to 3.00pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

Bottoms-up to categorical processing! Top-down individuation and bottom-up categorization in the context of cognitive load.

SKORICH, DANIEL with MAVOR, K. I (Australian National University).

Daniel.Skorich@anu.edu.au

It has long been accepted that human cognition is limited by its functional capacity, which impacts on the way in which the world is processed and perceived. Specifically, it has consistently been shown that stretching cognitive resources will lead to categorization (using group memberships), while having plentiful cognitive resources allows for individuation (the use of person information). We argue, however, that this result is due to a confounded conceptualization of categorization and individuation: categorization is said to be both group-level perception and a top-down form of processing, and individuation is said to be both person-level perception and a bottom-up form of processing. We present a study which removes the confound by allowing for bottom-up group-level processing and top-down person-level processing. Results suggest that individuation can occur under high cognitive load and categorization can occur under low cognitive load. These results have implications for stereotyping, impression formation and the categorization process more broadly.

NOTES

3.00pm to 3.20pm, Saturday

Thematic Session

The effect of immediacy and expectations: In anonymous situations, proselves keep more money in response to their partners' selfish expectations

TREMAYNE, KELL (University of Western Sydney) with CURTIS, G. J (Murdoch University).

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The present study examined the effects of physical distance and expectations on cooperation in a trust game. Social value orientations were also measured. Participants (N = 218) were exposed to a selfish or altruistic expectation associated with trust. Participants were seated 10 feet (face-to-face condition) from a confederate, or participated in separate buildings (anonymous condition). Selfish expectations resulted in more compliance for proselves in the high-immediacy condition. In the altruistic-expectation condition, there was no significant difference between the high and low immediacy conditions for proselves and prosocials. This study provides support for social impact theory in a social dilemmas context, with more immediate sources having a greater influence on behaviour, but only when such behaviour is incongruent with the motivations of the participant.

NOTES

Keynote Address by Shinobu Kitayama

Rottnest Room

4.00pm to 5.00pm, Saturday

Cultural Neuroscience of the Self: Understanding Social Grounding of the Brain

KITAYAMA, SHINOBU (University of Michigan)

Cultural neuroscience is an interdisciplinary field of research that investigates interrelations among culture, mind, and the brain. Drawing on both the growing body of scientific evidence on cultural variation in psychological processes and the recent development of social and cognitive neuroscience, this emerging field of research aspires to understand how culture as an amalgam of values, meanings, conventions, and artifacts that constitute daily social realities might interact with the mind and its underlying brain pathways of each individual member of the culture. In this talk, following a brief review of studies that demonstrate the surprising degree to which brain processes are malleably shaped by cultural tools and practices, I discuss cultural variation in brain processes involved in self-representations, cognition, emotion, and motivation. I then propose 1) that primary values of culture such as independence and interdependence are reflected in the compositions of cultural tasks (i.e., daily routines designed to accomplish the cultural values) and, further, 2) that active and sustained engagement in these tasks yields culturally patterned neural activities of the brain, thereby laying the ground for the embodied construction of the self and identity. Implications for research on culture and the brain are discussed.

NOTES

Individual Presentation Abstracts: Symposia
and Thematic Sessions

Sunday 11th April

9.00am to 10.45am, Sunday

Thematic Session in Rottneest Room

9.00am to 9.20am, Sunday

A Functional Approach to Understanding Anti-Intellectualism in Higher Education

MARQUES, MATHEW with TAYLOR, J (La Trobe University).

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A devaluation of Higher Education (HED) may be conceptualised as a form of Anti-Intellectualism; that is, a hostility towards ideas that may be critical or creative, and towards those persons who harbour or communicate these ideas. Recent discussions on funding to HED in Australia provided a backdrop to an investigation of public attitudes towards HED and its funding, by examining the relationship between values and attitudes using a functional approach. A community-based sample (N=171) completed an online survey of several existing measures of values, political orientation, and attitudes towards intellectual activities, as well as newly developed scales measuring attitudes towards universities roles, as well as attitudes towards HED funding. Results provide support for the conceptualisation of HED as serving one of three functions: intellectual, utilitarian, and benevolent. Implications are discussed in relation to both the support for different HED roles and activities and for HED funding.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Sunday

Thematic Session

How to publish: Publication practices associated with scientific impact among social psychologists

HASLAM, NICK (University of Melbourne) .

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Are some publication practices or strategies associated with greater scientific impact than others? This paper presents an intensive study of the publication records of 85 social psychologists, collected ten years into their post-doctoral careers. Analyses address four key questions relating to the achievement of greater impact: 1) Is it better to take the lead on publications or to take a subordinate role?; 2) Is it better to publish alone or in groups?; 3) Is it better to pursue quality or quantity?; and 4) Is it better to be broad or narrow in one's scientific range? Findings germane to each question will be discussed.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Sunday

Thematic Session

Experts' Judgments of Journal Quality: The Role of Identity Concerns in a Contested Domain

PETERS, KIM (University of Exeter) with DANIELS, K (Loughborough University), HODGKINSON, G (University of Leeds), & HASLAM, S. A (University of Exeter).

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A number of lists have appeared that purport to gauge the quality of peer-reviewed journals in the management and organization science (MOS) field. Many of these lists are based on judgments of experts in the MOS field. Drawing on social identity theory, we examined whether experts' judgments of MOS journals were associated with experts' personal and social identity-based concerns. A sample of 168 editorial board members of MOS journals rated up to 44 MOS journals. As expected, ratings of journal quality were associated with the number of papers an expert had published in that journal, whether the expert was an editorial board member of that journal and whether the journal reflected the experts' disciplinary background (psychology or sociology). US-oriented experts rated non-US-oriented journals as of generally lower quality than non-US based experts, although all experts rated US-oriented journals as of generally higher quality. We discuss the implications for compiling journal quality lists.

NOTES

10.00am to 10.20am, Sunday

Thematic Session

Methodology, theory and questioning in social psychology

WILLIAMS, ANITA (Murdoch University).

Anita.Williams@murdoch.edu.au

In social psychology there are predominantly two positions that are adopted within the qualitative-quantitative debate. On the one hand, some social psychologists contend that we should move towards analysing actual interactions rather than statistics. On the other hand, some social psychologists suggest that qualitative and quantitative methods can be fruitfully combined in a single research project. In this paper, I will argue that when we critically engage with the theoretical framework from which both qualitative and quantitative methods proceed we find that there is an important similarity between these two broad approaches to research. Both quantitative and qualitative researchers focus upon the methodological procedure often at the expense of the research question. In concluding the paper, I will suggest that the research question should be foregrounded but, in order to do so, social psychologists need to question their understanding of methodology.

NOTES

9.00am to 10.45am, Sunday

Thematic Session in Garden Room

9.00am to 9.20am, Sunday

Identity and elite-athletes: A discursive analysis of sport psychology consultations

COSH, SUZANNE (University of Adelaide).

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Elite athletes are a unique social group, specifically vulnerable to experiencing certain psychopathology during and after their sporting careers. Within sport psychology research athlete identity has been extensively linked with a range of psychological and behavioural problems experienced by athletes. However, within this literature identity has been conceptualised as identification with, and adherence to, a social role. This study explores athlete identity within a discursive psychological framework, exploring the ways in which identities are worked up and accomplished within interaction. The data for investigation are sport psychology consultations with elite-athletes occurring within the context of a sport institute. Analysis explores patterns in the ways that notions of athlete identities are constructed and drawn upon within these interactions, particularly the ways in which athletes accomplish “problem talk”, whilst simultaneously attending to their identity as athletes.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Sunday

Thematic Session

Does donor status mediate what we think about blood donation? A social representations analysis

MOLONEY, GAIL with WILLIAMS, J (Southern Cross University).

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Only 3.5 % of the eligible Australian population donate blood (Reid & Wood, 2007) yet over 30% of the Australian population will need donated blood at some stage in their lives. These figures are further exacerbated by the statistic that many donors will only give blood once or twice in their lives (Masser, White, Hyde, Terry, & Robinson, 2009). Conceptualised within social representation's theory (Moscovici, 1984) two studies investigated firstly, whether blood donation could be understood as a social representation that is, whether there was a socially derived understanding of blood donation and secondly, whether the structure of these social understanding of blood donation evidenced a dichotomous Functional and Normative split (Guimelli 1998), mediated by donor status. Sixty-five participants completed a Word Association Task in the first study. Multidimensional scaling and cluster analysis reveal a consensual core contradictory in affect. The second study used a self-report questionnaire to investigate the contradictory nature of the consensual responses found in study 1 and found support for Guimelli's normative and functional split. Differential scores by donors and non-donors on the normative and functional scales indicated the affective contradictory nature of the consensual responses was mediated by donor status with non-donors reporting higher scores on the Functional scale than donors. Theoretical and applied implications for research and intervention are discussed.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Sunday

Thematic Session

Self-regulation during bushfire decision-making

FRYE, LISA with WEARING, A. J (The University of Melbourne).

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Decision making during a bushfire involves increased time pressures, a high degree of complexity, and high levels of uncertainty. These conditions also increase cognitive load, yet previous research has found that superior fire commanders report feeling cognitively in control under these conditions, while their peers report feeling cognitively overloaded (McLennan, Pavlou & Omodei, 2005). Consequently, this project used three studies to investigate how cognitive control is achieved during bushfire decision making. In the first study, fire commanders were interviewed as they finished their shift at an Australian bushfire. Their descriptions of bushfire events and their consequent decisions were then used to build a command post simulation exercise for studies two and three. In the two simulation studies experienced fire commanders attempted to control a computer generated bushfire, and afterwards they described their decision processes during visual cued-recall interviews. Superior fire commanders seemed to achieve cognitive control by switching their focus of attention between global and local perspectives.

NOTES

10.00am to 10.20am, Sunday

Thematic Session

Prediction of prejudice against Muslim Australians: Values, gender and other social-psychological variables

HARTLEY, LISA with PEDERSEN, A (Murdoch University).

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In our study, we analysed data from a Perth community survey ($n = 189$) examining the antecedents of prejudice against Muslim Australians. First, using thematic analysis, we investigated the specific values our participants reported regarding their perceptions of Muslim Australians and Islam. We then investigated the relationship between prejudice against Muslim Australians, the most important value priorities given by our participants, and other prejudice-related independent variables. After entry into a regression analysis, we found that participants high in prejudice were significantly more likely to have lower educational levels and higher levels of nationalism. They were also significantly more likely to report concern about gender equality with respect to Muslim Australians and that Muslims were not conforming to Australian values. High prejudiced participants also scored higher in the reporting of negative media-related beliefs, were more likely to perceive higher support in the community for their views than was the case, and were more negative towards Muslim men than Muslim women. The implications for anti-prejudice interventions are discussed; in particular, the role of the gender of Muslim Australians.

NOTES

9.00am to 10.45am, Sunday

Thematic Session in Carnac Room

9.00am to 9.20am, Sunday

CAD or klutz? The unilateral lip curl is associated with innocent mistakes, not moral violations.

FIDDICK, LAURENCE with BUSHELL, S (James Cook University).

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Rozin et al.'s (1999) CAD triad hypothesis proposes that there are three moral codes: Community, Autonomy, and Divinity, each associated with a characteristic other-condemning emotion: contempt, anger, and disgust, respectively. Support for this proposal was weakest for the contempt / community code association. We propose that community code violations are not moral violations, but social convention violations viewed as innocent mistakes. We present two studies, both conducted in Australia and Singapore. The first demonstrates that participants do not view community code violations as moral violations. The second demonstrates that the unilateral lip curl (used by Rozin et al. as a contempt expression) is associated more with innocent mistakes than moral violations. The results cast doubt on the CAD triad hypothesis and suggest that the unilateral lip curl "the interpretation of which as a signal of contempt is highly disputed" appears to be associated more with innocent mistakes.

NOTES

9.20am to 9.40am, Sunday

Thematic Session

Social psychological influences on the formation of self-identity: A survey of adult life narratives

RAGGATT, PETER (James Cook University).

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Positioning theory, popular in the social psychological analysis of discourse, has been invoked to account for the dynamics of conflict in representations of self-identity. Different I-positions may have origins “inside” in terms of dynamic conflicts (e.g., over self esteem, personal agency, or communion needs), and “outside” in terms of social constructions (e.g., arising from role conflicts and from embedding in power and status hierarchies). The paper reports findings from a study of positioning in life narratives that demonstrate interactions between personal and social factors in the formation of self-identity. Some interesting gender differences emerging from this analysis are highlighted. When the self is conceived as a polyphony of conflicting I-positions, new light is shed on both the internal psychological and external social influences that produce individual differences.

NOTES

9.40am to 10.00am, Sunday

Thematic Session

Mortality salience and the task representation in a joint coordination task

KASHIMA, EMI with POURLIAKAS, A (La Trobe University).

e.kashima@latrobe.edu.au

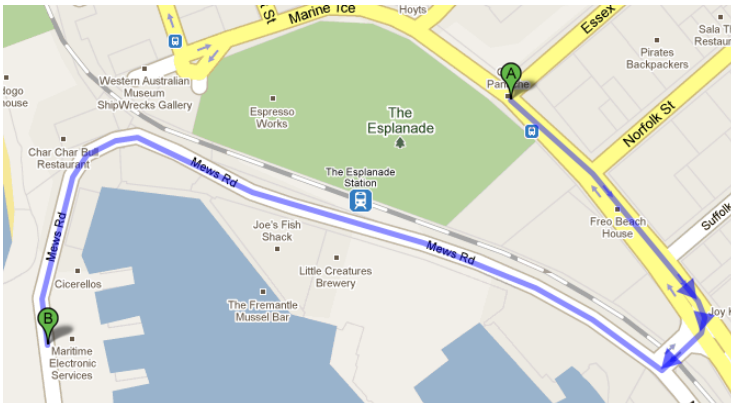
Research on Terror Management Theory implies that mortality salience (MS) tends to accentuate the individuals' personality tendencies; exaggerating, for instance, the preference for high coherence and structure among people high on personal need for structure, the willingness to support violence against out-groups among people high on right-wing authoritarianism, the perceived discomfort of unpleasant medical procedures among people high on neuroticism, and zealous reactions among people high on self-esteem. New evidence, from two studies, suggests that MS leads individuals high on independence (vs. interdependence) to adopt a more autonomous representation of the task, when engaging in a joint task on a single computer with a partner. Such evidence supports the notion that effects of MS go beyond the symbolic domains and reach the province of implicit cognition and automatic behaviour. It is proposed that threats may play a role in the maintenance of personalities.

NOTES

Directions

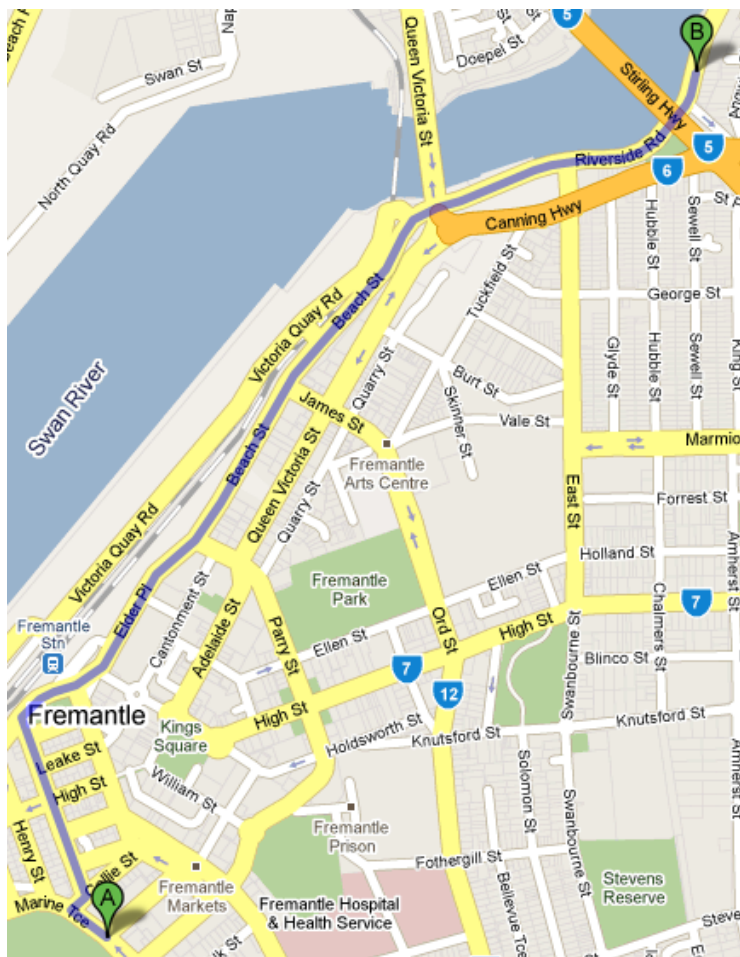
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