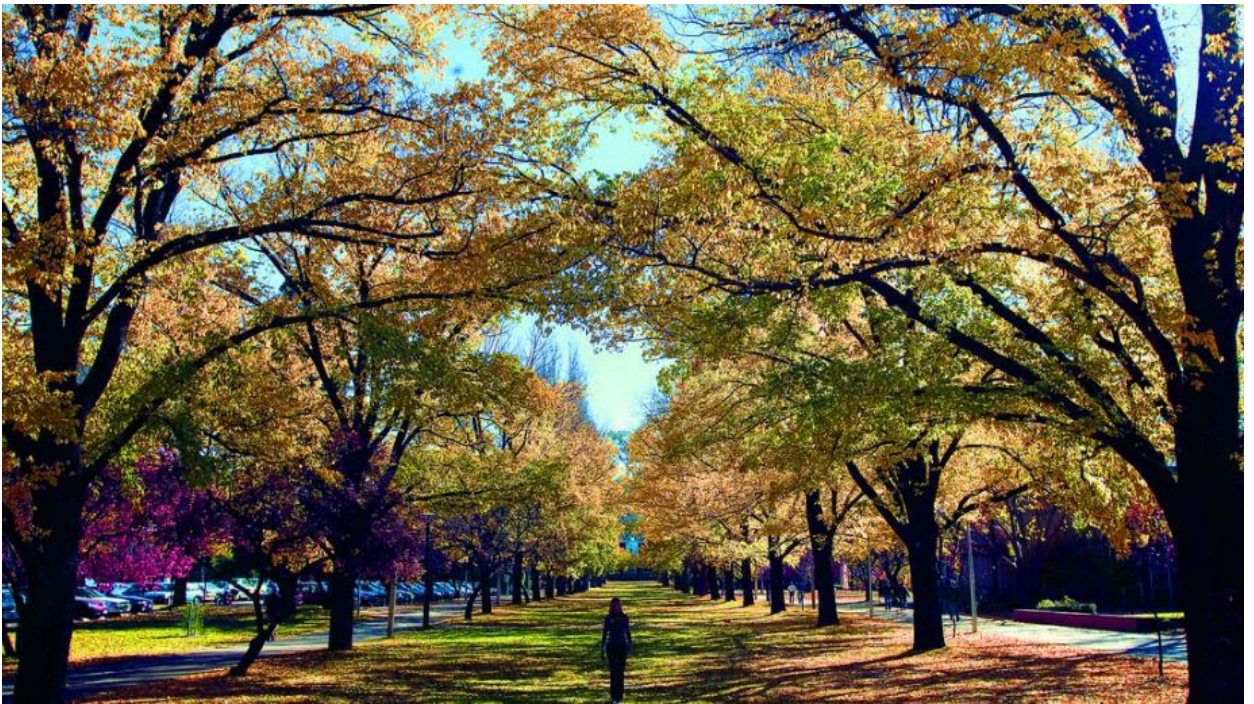


SASP 2024

Ngunnawal & Ngambri Country

Australian National University, Canberra

24th – 27th November



Australian
National
University

**THE GLOBAL
INSTITUTE
FOR WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP**


UNIVERSITY OF
CANBERRA

Welcome to SASP 2024

We're thrilled to welcome you to SASP in Canberra! Our aim this year was to make SASP affordable, accessible, inclusive and sustainable. In fact, we established these as our core values from Day 1. To keep costs down, we decided to forgo the traditional keynote speakers and were fortunate to secure our fantastic on-campus venue, the Marie Reay Teaching Centre. We also tried to ensure we had equitable registration and event ticket options for varied budgets. With an eye toward sustainability, we opted for sustainable catering (vegetarian and non-disposable plates), we won't have conference bags or notebooks, and the program will be entirely digital (which will be sent directly to all attendees and available for download at various QR stations around the venue). We also ask you to please bring your own water bottles ☺

This year, we have a fantastic line up of symposia, individual presentations, blitz talks, posters, and some really exciting plenary sessions. In place of keynotes, we have lined up two expert panel discussions on timely and significant topics: decolonisation in social psychology and making an applied impact with our research. These are not to be missed!

We are optimistic that our vision of SASP 2024 has been well received, with a record number of attendees (over 230) and speakers from over 40 institutions.

In this booklet, you'll find all the crucial info for this year's conference, so be sure to give it a thorough read.

We hope you have a fantastic conference, and we appreciate the hard work from everyone involved in making SASP 2024 a reality this year. Thank you for being a part of it.

Warmly,

Charlie Crimston, Michelle Ryan and the SASP 2024 Organising Team.

Alex Fisher, Alysia Robertson, Ho Huynh, Joanne Rathbone, Michael Platow, Olivia Evans, Tegan Cruwys & Veronica Sheanoda.



Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people as the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which we meet. We pay our respects to their ancestors and descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country. Sovereignty was never ceded: this was and always will be Aboriginal land.

Our official **Welcome to Country for SASP 2024 will be performed by Paul Girrawah House**, a senior Ngambri-Ngunnawal custodian and Senior Community Engagement Officer at The Australian National University.

Organising Committee: Alex Fisher, Alysia Robertson, Charlie Crimston (Chair), Ho Huynh, Joanne Rathbone, Michael Platow, Michelle Ryan (Chair), Olivia Evans, Tegan Cruwys & Veronica Sheanoda.

Special thanks to our SASP 2024 volunteers: Aron Harold Pamoso, Ella McNiece, Georgina Lee, Guangyu Zhu, Jessica Reid, Khatijatusshalihah, Romany McGuffog, Samira Heidari, William Whitecross.

And to Léan O'Brien, Caroline Ng Tseung-Wong, Tricia Brown for organising our Welcome to Country.

SASP Executive: Liz Summerell (U of Adelaide, Secretary); Sarah Ratcliffe (U of Sydney, Communications Officer); Brock Bastian (U of Melbourne, Past-President); Brianne Hastie (Murdoch, Treasurer); Maddy Slegers (Flinders Uni, postgraduate representative); Anna Klas (Deakin Uni, Digital Officer); Michelle Ryan (ANU; President-elect); Tom Denson (UNSW, President).



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SASP 2024 - Code of Conduct

The SASP 2024 organising committee is committed to bringing everyone a friendly, safe, supportive, inclusive, and harassment and discrimination-free environment for all delegates, regardless of sex, gender identity, gender expression, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, citizenship status, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, socioeconomic status, veteran status, or their intersections. These expectations are in place for all delegates at SASP 2024, and extend to electronic (e.g., email, social media) and in-person interactions (e.g., presentations, social events).

Expected Behaviour

The expected, professional behaviour of delegates includes, but is not limited to:

- Professional and constructive communication, in-person and online; using welcoming and inclusive language; courtesy and civility in handling dissent or disagreement; respect and consideration when providing feedback; and openness to alternate points of view.
- Being proactive to help mitigate or avoid harassment or harm to other participants.
- Speaking up and taking action when these values are not adhered to and recognise that power differences and hierarchies inherent to academia may inhibit many parties (including students and junior scholars) from feeling free to object to or report problematic behaviour.

Unacceptable Behaviour

We will not tolerate discrimination or harassment of members in any form. Prohibited behaviours include, but are not limited to:

- Intimidating, harassing, lewd, demeaning, bullying, or threatening speech or actions.
- Persistent and unwelcome solicitation of emotional or physical intimacy, including but not limited to that which is accompanied by real or implied threat of professional harm.
- Physical assault, including unwelcome touch or groping.
- Any real or implied threat of physical harm.
- The use of abusive, sexual, or offensive imagery, photography, or recording, except when presented for research or teaching purposes. In these latter instances, the presenter should warn members prior to presenting material.
- Discrimination based on sex, gender identity/expression, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, citizenship status, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, socioeconomic status, veteran status, or their intersection.
- Retaliation against an individual for reporting harassment or prohibited conduct or for participating in an investigation of a claim of harassment or discrimination.
- Disruption of presentations during sessions or at other events organised by SASP throughout the conference (including pre-conferences). All participants must comply with the instructions of the moderator and any SASP event staff.
- Making allegations in bad faith.

What to do

If you have something you would like to discuss or anonymously report, please speak to one of conference organisers, volunteers and/or members of the SASP executive.



SASP 2024 Important Info

INFORMATION FOR ALL ATTENDEES

- 1) Bathrooms can be found all on floors of the MRTC (apart from Level 2).
- 2) You will find water bottle refill stations on Level 6 and outside the MRTC in the Kambri Precinct.

INFORMATION FOR PRESENTERS

To ensure the timely completion of each session, we ask that all presenters:

- 1) Ensure your presentation is uploaded and ready prior to the session's scheduled start time.
- 2) Each room will have a PC and standard teaching/presentation facilities. Please load your presentation via USB or download from the cloud onto the desktop of the provided computer.
- 3) No slide clickers will be available. Please BYO if you would like to use one.
- 4) Delete your presentation from the computer at the end of your session.
- 5) Poster presentations will take place on Level 6. Presenters can get specific instructions when they pickup their name badge at the Welcome Desk.

INFORMATION FOR CHAIRS

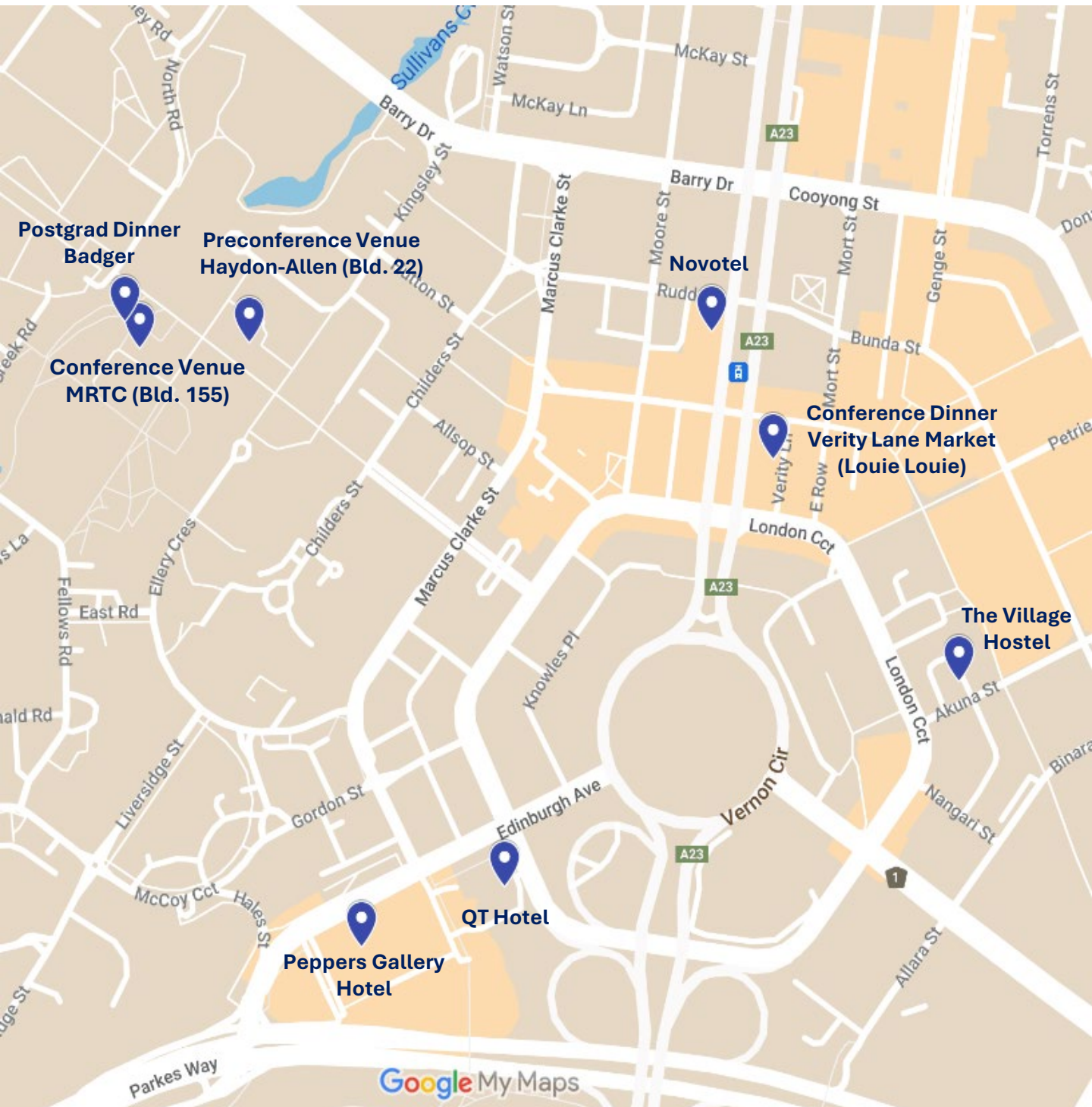
Each session has a designated chair (noted in the brief program). The chair's responsibilities include:

- 1) Opening the session and introducing each presenter.
- 2) Providing 3-minute, 1-minute, and time's up warnings during each presentation using the provided timer cards.
- 3) Politely stopping presenters when their time is up.
- 4) Facilitating Q&A time after each presentation (ensuring both individual presenters and sessions as a whole don't go over the allotted time).

Reminder: Standard talks (both symposia and IPs) are 10 mins for presentations and 5 mins for questions.



Key Locations SASP 2024



Note: Close to the conference venue in the Kambri Precinct you will find plenty of café options, food outlets, a supermarket, pharmacy, and a bookstore ☺

Venue Layout: The Marie Reay Teaching Centre

- Level 6 (Superfloor): Plenary Sessions, Welcome Drinks & Posters, Lunch, Morning & Afternoon Tea
- Level 5 Stream 1 (Rm 5.02), Stream 2 (Rm 5.05), Stream 3 (Rm 5.06), Volunteer's Room (Rm 5.04)
- Level 4: Stream 4 (Rm 4.04) & Stream 5 (Rm 4.05)
- Level 2 – Welcome & Registration Desk, Meeting & Quiet Spaces



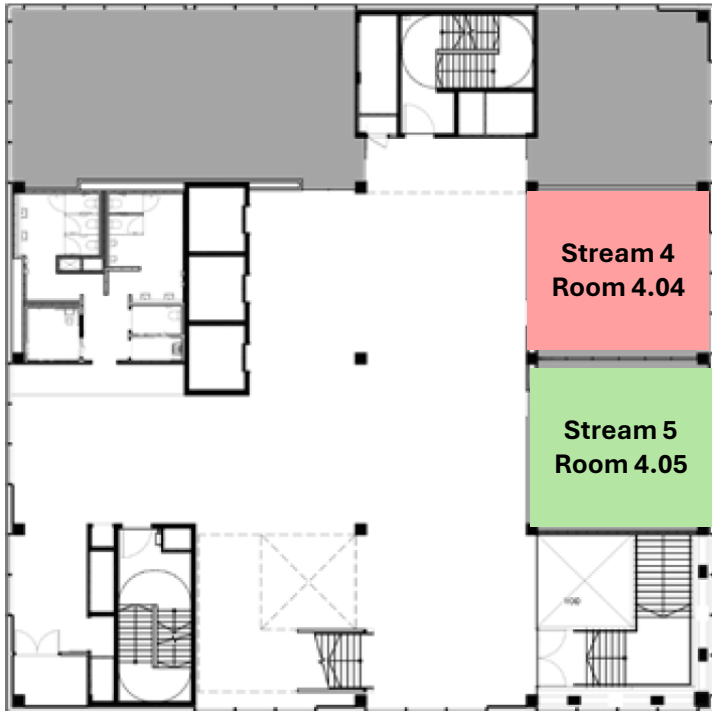
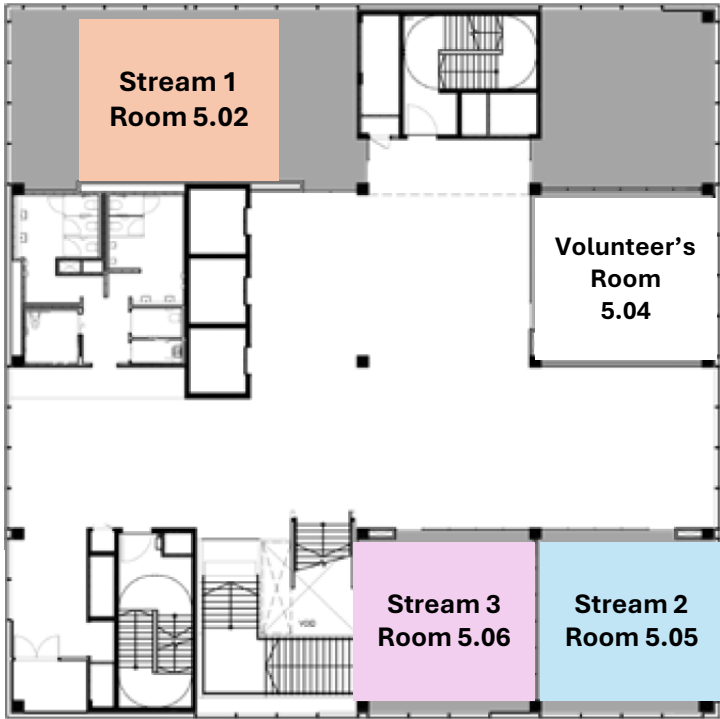
[A full guide to the MRTC is downloadable here.](#)

Superfloor

Plenary Sessions,
Welcome Drinks &
Posters, Lunch, Morning
& Afternoon Tea

Level 5

Stream 1, 2, & 3
Volunteer Room



Level 4

Stream 4 & 5

Level 2

Welcome & Registration
Desk, Meeting & Quiet
Spaces

Pre & Post Conferences

Gender and Sexuality

When: Sunday 24th November 2024, 1:00PM-4:30PM.

Where: Haydon-Allen Building, Room G053

Who: Organised by *Jordan Hinton, Joel Anderson, Natalie Amos, Emily Harris, Michael Thai.*



Social Identity in the Workplace

When: Sunday 24th November 2024, 1:00PM-4:00PM

Where: Haydon-Allen Building, Room G052

Who: Organised by *Andrew Frain & Blake McMillan.*

Upscaling Environmental Psychology

When: Wednesday 27th November 2024, 1:30-5:00pm.

Where: Marie Reay Teaching Centre, Room 5.02

Who: Organised by *Samantha Stanley, Zoe Leviston, Jamin Wang, Anna Klas, Teaghan Hogg, Iain Walker*



SASP 2024 OPRA Finalists

Monday 25th of November, 11:30am
MRTC, Superfloor (Level 6)

Jordan Hinton (La Trobe University):

“Understanding the role of identity centrality on psychosocial health: Evidence from those with sexual minority and/or gender-diverse identities”.



Christienne Javier (The University of Queensland):

“To be whole: Medical and social determinants of transgender and gender diverse adults’ psychological wellbeing”.

Georgina Lee (Australian National University):

“A social identity analysis of working alliance”.



Kieren Lilly (The University of Auckland): “The “Haves” and the “Have-nots”: Antecedents, consequences, and the development of perceived relative deprivation over time”.

Lisette Yip (Flinders University): “Feeling good, looking good or doing good? Exploring how the quality of motivation predicts the quantity, longevity, and persistence of collective action”.



2024 SASP Award Winners

Tuesday 26th of November, 11:15am
MRTC, Superfloor (Level 6)

SASP 2024 Early Career Award

Dr Jonathan Bartholomaeus, The University of Adelaide



Jonathan is a lecturer in the School of Psychology at the University of Adelaide. He works at the nexus of personality and social psychology with a specific focus on, and passion for, the moral psychology topics of justice, power, and forgiveness. Much of his research centres on how people's perception of their just treatment drives their attitudes and behaviours in personal, relational, and political spheres. He also has an interest in psychometrics and latent variable structural equation modelling which he integrates into many of his research projects. Currently, he is working on improving self-report measures of the belief in a just world, a framework for validating manipulation checks, and developing a measure of the psychological experience of divine forgiveness.

SASP 2024 Outstanding Career Award

Prof Jolanda Jetten, The University of Queensland



Jolanda earned her PhD from the University of Amsterdam in 1997. She joined the University of Queensland in 2007 and currently serves as the Head of Psychology. Her research focuses on group processes, social identity, and intergroup relations, with applications to mental health, economic inequality, and resilience in collective change. Jolanda has held prestigious fellowships, including the ARC Future and Laureate Fellowships, and was awarded the 2018 Belgian Francqui Fellowship. Her notable awards include the British Psychological Society Spearman Medal, and the Kurt Lewin Medal & Lifetime Achievement Award from EASP. She is a Fellow of the Association of Social Sciences in Australia, a former President of SASP, and has served on the ARC College of Experts. Jolanda also serves

as an expert on the academic panel of Behavioural Economics Team of the Australian Government and collaborates with the UQ Sustainable Minerals Institute on leadership and reliability in the mining industry.

Plenary Panels

Decolonising and Diversifying Psychological Science

Monday 25th of November, 4pm

MRTC, Superfloor (Level 6)



Ligia Oliveira-Silva
(host), Universidade
Federal de Uberlândia



Olivia Evans
Australian
National University



Hema Preya
Selvanathan
University of
Queensland



Taylor Winter
University of
Canterbury

Applied Social Psychology: Making an Impact with Policy & Industry

Tuesday 26th of November, 5pm

MRTC, Superfloor (Level 6)



Michelle Ryan
(host), Australian
National University



Hanne Watkins
BETA, Australian
Government



Claudia Schneider
University of
Canterbury



Blake McMillan
University of
Queensland

SASP 2024 - BRIEF PROGRAM

DAY 1 - MONDAY

9am	Welcome – Superfloor (Level 6)				
	Stream 1 Room 5.02 (Level 5)	Stream 2 Room 5.05 (Level 5)	Stream 3 Room 5.06 (Level 5)	Stream 4 Room 4.04 (Level 4)	Stream 5 Room 4.05 (Level 4)
10am	Gender (IP4)	Conspiracies (IP11)	Pro-Social Behaviour (IP17)	Climate (IP1)	Polarisation (IP14)
	Austin Hill Cone Langley Peng (Chair)	Quarisa Douglas Broodryk Cosgrove (Chair)	Lim, D. Moloney Howe Smolarek (Chair)	Schneps Pearce Fielding Mackay (Chair)	Lee. A Danielson Pucci Crimston (Chair)
11am	Morning Tea (30 mins)				
11:30am	Outstanding Postgrad Research Award (OPRA) - Superfloor (Level 6)				
12:30pm	Lunch (1 hour)				
1:30pm	Symp (S6): Navigating Identities: Understanding Gender, Culture, and Politics in the Workplace	Symp (S13): Truth and Consequences Pt 1	Morality (IP6)	Climate Change (IP2)	Relationships & Interpersonal Violence (IP13)
	Khatijatushshalihah Ruggieri Chemke-Dreyfus (Chair) Liao	Smithson Tay Jiang Wang, C.	Ali Baker Kurz (Chair)	Disney O'Brien, L. Leviston Stanley (Chair)	Wong Minto Ver Maas (Chair)
2:30pm	Symp (S18): Voices from the Margins: How Minority Groups Experience and Challenge Social Norms	Symp (S14): Truth and Consequences Pt 2	Morality and Prosociality (IP7)		Loneliness, Anxiety and Grief (IP10)
	Fisher Harris Angelopoulos Weaving (Chair)	Andrews Felice Platow (Chair) Reynolds (Discussant)	Vonasch Rabinovich Bastian Philipp (Chair)		McCuaig-Walton La Rue Chen, J. Liu (Chair)
3:30pm	Afternoon tea (30 mins)				
4pm	Panel Discussion 1: Decolonising and Diversifying Psychological Science - Superfloor (Level 6)				
5pm – 6.30pm	Poster Session, Welcome Drinks & OPRA Announcement Superfloor (Level 6) Poster Presentations: Smith, Costelloe, Kilgannon, Harrison, Punchihewa, Ji, Kim				
6.30pm	Postgrad Dinner – Badger & Co				

DAY 2 – TUESDAY

	Stream 1 Room 5.02 (Level 5)	Stream 2 Room 5.05 (Level 5)	Stream 3 Room 5.06 (Level 5)	Stream 4 Room 4.04 (Level 4)	Stream 5 Room 4.05 (Level 4)
9am	Symp (S1): Navigating Prejudice and Affirmation: Trans Health and Wellbeing in a Complex Social Landscape Chair: Anderson	Symp (S8): Understanding Mistrust as a Barrier to a Sustainable Society	Symp (S15): Identity and Belonging in Higher Education Pt 1	Symp (S20): Social psychology & COVID-19: Learnings and insights post-crisis Pt 1	Symp (S17): Social-psychological influences on effort and performance during sport and exercise
	Ryan Amos Kadi Javier	Huynh Eom (Chair) Hornsey (Chair) Pearson	Knezovic Mavor Fulton Pala	Reynolds (Chair) Li, W. Dar-Nimrod Jetten (Discussant)	Stevens (Chair) Davies Guillermo-Tregoning McCluskey
10am	Symp (S2): Understanding Sexual Minority Stress and Maltreatment of LGBTQ+ Australians	Symp (S5): Shift Happens: Navigating Eco-Anxiety and Pro-Environmental Behaviour for a Greener Future	Symp (S16): Identity and Belonging in Higher Education Pt 2	Symp (S21): Social psychology & COVID-19: Learnings and insights post-crisis Pt 2	Symp (S19): Stigma and Prejudice reduction: The future benefits and uses of intergroup contact
	Clarke Saunders Mercieca Thai	Hogg McNiece Robinson Blackburn (Chair)	Dunstone Walker, S. Hardacre Smyth (Chair & Discussant)	Zhou, H. O'Brien, A. O'Donnell Jetten & Panel (Discussant)	Shi Wan Chen, R. White (Chair & Discussant)
11am	Morning Tea (15 mins)				
11:15am	Early Career Award & Outstanding Career Award - - Superfloor (Level 6)				
12:30pm	Lunch (1 hour)				
1:30pm	Symp (S3): Enhancing Mental Health, Inclusion, Social Support, & Authenticity for LGBTQIA+ Communities	Symp (S10): Social change and gridlock in the climate context Chair: Louis, Fielding, Wibisono	Stigma and (In)Equality (IP16)	Health Stigma (IP21)	Identity and Wellbeing (IP29)
	Ho & Chan Zhou, T. Roberts	Bird Acevedo Pittaway Wang, J.	Pamoso Maunder Buhl (Chair)	Fardouly McGuffog Bizumic (Chair)	Robertson Oliveira-Silva Craig (Chair)
2:30pm	Symp (S4): Exploring Relationship and Sexual Satisfaction Across Diverse Sexual Identities and Relationship Orientations	Symp (S11): Social change and gridlock Pt 2: How do things change? Chair: Louis, Fielding, Wibisono	Social Identity and Group Processes (IP30)	Health and Stigma (IP8)	Forgiveness (IP20)
	Bondarchuk-McLaughlin Hinton Newton	Wibisono Haines Thomas Louis	Haslam Matthews Scarf Skorich (Chair)	Sheppard Kijima Schuurs Ratcliffe (Chair)	Walton Quinney Lim, A. Bartholomaeus (Chair)
3:30pm	Afternoon tea (30 mins)				
4:00pm	Symp (S7): Challenging Stereotypes: A Multi-Level Analysis of Transgender and Gender-Diverse Representation and Lived Experiences in Australia	Symp (S26): Introducing the Expression Regulation Scale (ERS): A Comprehensive Tool for Individual Differences, Cross-Cultural, Relational, & Dev Research	Blitz Talks	Identity and Physiological Health (IP27)	Technology (IP9)
	Tan Jackson Rosa Crone (Chair)	Monaghan (Chair) Dawel (Chair) Findlay Tarring	Schneider, Villoresi, Burman, Campbell, Yang, Varma (Chair)	Foran Cruwys Wergin (Chair)	Liew Nitschinsk Bingley (Chair)
5:00pm	Panel Discussion 2: Applied Social Psychology: Making an Impact with Policy & Industry - Superfloor (Level 6)				
7:00pm	Conference Dinner – Louie Louie (upstairs @ Verity Lane Market)				

DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY

	Stream 1 Room 5.02 (Level 5)	Stream 2 Room 5.05 (Level 5)	Stream 3 Room 5.06 (Level 5)	Stream 4 Room 4.04 (Level 4)	Stream 5 Room 4.05 (Level 4)
9am	Symp (S23): Social psychological investigations of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament Referendum: 1 Chairs: Hastie & Callaghan	Symp (S22): Factors affecting legal outcomes in sexual violence cases	Organisational Contexts (IP19)	Symp (S9): Motivated emotion regulation in everyday life	
	Olabode Callaghan Baram Walker	Zhang Cullen (Chair) Nitschke	de Gilder Barnoth Wang, Z. (Chair)	Kalokerinos (Chair) Zeira Stariolo	
10am	Symp (S24): Social psychological investigations of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament Referendum: 2	Conservative Beliefs (IP25)	The Workplace (IP5)	Symp (S12): The Complexity of Emotions and Emotion Regulation in Everyday Life	Theory and Methods (IP15)
	Selvanathan Evans Gipey Wenzel	Montgomery-Farrer Osborne Lilly Yan (Chair)	Peters Alba Ellemers Heidari (Chair)	Uchida Bianchi Tran O'Brien, S. (Chair)	Basarkod Watkins Ip (Chair)
11am	Morning Tea (30 mins)				
11:30am	Symp (S25): Social psychological investigations of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament Referendum Pt 3	Identity, Relationships, and Social Needs (IP24)	Theory of Mind & Perspective Taking (IP26)	Emotions (IP23)	Collective Action (IP12)
	White Hastie Sahib Augoustinos (Discussant)	Northrope Tisdell Arthur (Chair)	Deschrijver Lloyd (Chair)	Summerell Moeck Denson (Chair)	Kranenborg Radke Nylund (Chair)
12:30pm	Lunch/AGM (1 hour) - Superfloor (Level 6)				
1:30pm	Post Conferences				

FULL ACADEMIC PROGRAM & ABSTRACTS

Monday, 25/11/2024 - 10 AM

Gender (IP4)

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Male Privilege and Meritocratic System Threat

Darren Austin, La Trobe University; Mathew Marques, La Trobe University; Arthur Stukas, La Trobe University

d.austin@latrobe.edu.au

Although social psychology has produced volumes of work on sexism, relatively little has examined the other side of the coin: male privilege. Privilege is an unearned advantage conferred based on group membership (in this case, men). Presenting men with evidence of male privilege can cause meritocratic threat, a defensive reaction arising from the implied suggestion that they did not earn their accomplishments entirely through effort and ability. In this presentation I will speak briefly about a series of six studies on male privilege. In Studies 1 and 2 I failed to replicate previous studies finding that evidence of privilege causes the privileged to report greater life hardship. In Studies 3 and 4 I found that anti-egalitarianism predicts denial of male privilege, when controlling for the facets of social dominance orientation and right-wing authoritarianism. In Studies 5 and 6 I develop and test a typology of domains of gendered privilege using qualitative and quantitative methods. The results will be discussed in the context of system justification theory. I suggest that presenting people with evidence of male privilege can cause a meritocratic threat to the distributive system (suggesting that capitalism is unfair) rather than just to the individual.

What is toxic? Using latent profile analysis to identify profiles of toxic masculinity

Deborah Hill Cone, University of Auckland ; Elena Zubielevitch, University of Auckland, Chris G. Sibley, University of Auckland, Danny Osborne, University of Auckland.

dhil006@aucklanduni.ac.nz

Despite being frequently discussed both in mainstream discourse and academic scholarship, little empirical work defines toxic masculinity as a scholarly construct. We address this oversight by estimating the prevalence of toxic masculine response patterns to measures of gender identity centrality, sexual prejudice, disagreeableness, narcissism, benevolent and hostile sexism, opposition to domestic violence prevention initiatives and social dominance orientation. Latent profile analysis of a nationwide random sample of heterosexual men (N = 15,806) identified five profiles. The largest profile (35.3%), "Atoxics", scored low across all focal measures, whereas two other profiles (totalling 53.6%) expressed moderate support across indicators. The remaining two profiles reflected distinct forms of toxic masculinity but exhibited contrasting forms of sexism: "Benevolent toxics" (7.6%) and "Hostile toxics" (3.1%). Interestingly, gender identity centrality was a weakly-informative indicator of toxic masculinity

across profiles. We thus demonstrate the need to further investigate problematic masculine identities as distinct from identifying as a man.

Women's Relational Position in Rural Bangladesh. A Qualitative Investigation of Gendered Power Dynamics

Madeline Langley, University of Groningen; Nina Hansen, University of Groningen; Farhana Tasnuva, Give Bangladesh Foundation

m.g.langley@rug.nl

Globally, women face lower power than men. This is particularly prevalent in contexts with strong traditional gender norms, such as Bangladesh. Current women's empowerment interventions frequently take an individualistic approach to women's empowerment, for example by encouraging individual participation in a capitalist economy. The current research aimed to investigate women's understanding of empowerment, experiences of power dynamics and envisioned pathways to positive change. We conducted in-depth semi-structured interviews with 11 mothers in rural Bangladesh who were between 17 and 35 years old. All women had low socioeconomic status; most lived far below the international extreme poverty line. All women were part of a microfinance program. We thematically coded the data in Atlas.ti. Findings show that women experienced empowerment as deeply rooted in relationships. The key factors women identified as perpetuating their low power position lie at both societal and relational levels. Societal factors include male force and consensual ideologies, while relational factors include asymmetric social obligations, husband's resource control, and collective female force through gossip and judgment. Women identified pathways to empowerment through husband and family support, and social ties with other women. Women mentioned they can increase each other's power by being role models, confident mothers, and supportive sisters, by advocating for women's rights and through knowledge exchange. Taken together, the findings demonstrate power as a continuously evolving pattern in women's social fabric, rather than a characteristic within an individual. The study reports pathways to change based on women's voices and lived experiences. Practical implications will be discussed.

Confirm or Confront: How Women Respond to Gender Inequality

Shengrui Peng, The University of Queensland; Dr Christoph Klebl, The University of Queensland; Professor Jolanda Jetten, The University of Queensland; Dr Miriam Yates. The University of Queensland

shengrui.peng@student.uq.edu.au

Gender inequality might lead women to be more feminine or more masculine. This question is not yet fully understood. Existing literature suggests that gender inequality can either trigger a salient gender identity, causing women to align more with feminine prototypes, or result in individual mobility that leads them to be and behave more masculinely. One experimental study investigated this effect. One hundred and ninety-five U.S. female participants were recruited and randomly assigned to imagine living in a country with high or low gender

inequality. They then indicated who they want to be, how they are expected, how they would like to be perceived, how they would like to behave, how they wish someone they closely work with would behave, and what leadership style they prefer in terms of femininity and masculinity under each condition. The results suggest that gender inequality significantly predicts how the participants would like to be perceived by others and how they would like to behave. Under conditions of high gender inequality compared to low gender inequality conditions, they prefer to be perceived more masculinely and to behave more masculinely. These results show that under higher gender inequality, women tend to adopt individual mobility techniques, wishing to behave and be perceived more like the advantageous group, "men".

Conspiracies (IP11)

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Conspiracy-based social movements: examining the connection between conspiracy theories and reactionary social action

Cassandra Quarisa, Flinders University ; Emma Thomas, Flinders University

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Some conspiracy theories are apolitical in nature. Sometimes, however, conspiracy beliefs can become the basis of an organised social movement inspired by their messages. Said movements often seek to subvert or oppose progressive changes. While there are numerous studies exploring what shapes conspiracy beliefs, relatively few have examined their outcomes. We therefore draw on both collective action and conspiracy literature to offer a conceptualisation of politically relevant, 'conspiracy-based' social movements. Such movements are underpinned by three inter-related elements; a conspiracy belief, an opinion-based identity, and a propensity to act for desired changes. We suggest that these beliefs become collectivised, facilitating the formation of an identity structured around a shared opinion, prompting negotiation of norms for action to advance the cause of the opinion-based group. We provide a test of these ideas in the context of tweets (N=764,908) which have been collected based on the QAnon conspiracy (a theory espousing belief in the 'deep state'), which has often been associated with intentions for radical action and, specifically, support for and participation in the January 6th capitol insurrection. Tweets were collected over a 16-month period leading up to and immediately following the US presidential election. Natural language processing provides a means of mapping the psychological concepts of collectivisation, identity, and norm negotiation to gain insight as to how conspiracy theories contribute to inciting hostile, reactionary action. We conclude that conspiracy theories can become the foundation of attempts at effecting broader social and political change.

Discomfort explains the link between climate change attitudes and subsequent misinformation endorsement

Heather E Douglas, The University of Newcastle; Eamon Gibbon

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The Continued Influence Effect (CIE) describes the phenomenon whereby people continue to believe misinformation even after it has been corrected. Emerging evidence suggests that discomfort explains the link between prior attitudes on a variety of social topics and the subsequent endorsement of misinformation post-retraction (Susmann & Wegener, 2021). We tested the link between prior climate change denial attitudes, discomfort, and misinformation endorsement. Consistent with Susmann and Wegener (2021), we also experimentally introduced a second source of discomfort to explore whether this would weaken the relationship between prior attitudes and subsequent misinformation endorsement post-correction. Participants (N = 787) from the UK completed our study online. All participants completed a measure of climate change attitudes, then read a scenario in which climate change relevant misinformation was presented and then later corrected. Participants were randomly allocated to an experimental condition where they experienced a second source of discomfort, or a control condition where no such source was included. Participants then rated their discomfort after the misinformation was corrected, and their endorsement of the original misinformation. We found that attitudes reflective of climate change denial predicted stronger misinformation endorsement, an effect that was explained by increased discomfort when misinformation was corrected. Contrary to our expectations, we did not identify any change in the strength of the relationship between prior attitudes and misinformation endorsement when an alternative source of discomfort was provided. The implications of these findings for the value of discomfort as an anti-scientific belief intervention lever will be discussed.

Feelings over facts: Emotion regulation and conspiracy theory belief during the 2023 New Zealand General Election

Terise Broodryk, Victoria University of Wellington; Kealagh Robinson, Massey University; Marc S. Wilson, Victoria University of Wellington

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While recent theorising around conspiracy theory belief identifies emotion as central, we know very little about the nature and extent of the role of emotion. The few studies to investigate their role rely on trait measures of subjective emotional responses, while neglecting assessments of broader emotional process or state measures within specific political contexts. Focusing on the entire process of the emotional experience, as consistent with an affective science approach, may provide better insights into how emotion contributes to conspiracy theory belief. Here, we use national community data collected in the month before the 2023 New Zealand General Election (N = 4738). Participants identified a recent political event they had been thinking about, and rated their subjective emotional response. Participants reported their emotion regulation goals, emotion regulation strategies they used, and whether they considered their regulatory efforts to be successful. Participants also completed the Conspiracy Mentality Scale (Stojanov & Halberstadt, 2019), and rated their endorsement of specific conspiracy theories. My presentation will explore potential differences in how individuals who score highly on either measure of conspiracy theory belief

(compared to the remainder of the sample) experience and regulate their emotions in response to political stimuli. My findings contribute to current debate regarding how we measure conspiracy theory belief, as well as informing theoretical models regarding how specifically emotion may contribute to conspiracy theory belief, in a way that is consistent across both social psychology and affective science.

When is Education Protective Against Conspiracy Theories and Misinformation? Investigating Narcissism and other Thinking Styles

Tylor Cosgrove, Monash University/Bond University

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Narcissism is found consistently as a predictor of belief in conspiracy theories, with the relationship showing resistance against common protective factors such as education. Recent studies show that as education increases, the relationship between narcissism and conspiracy beliefs can indeed strengthen. Relatively little research has been undertaken to completely understand the relationship between narcissism and conspiracy beliefs, however it is commonly thought that this relationship is explained by factors including dichotomous thinking, need for cognitive closure, and need for uniqueness. Across two studies (Ns = 354, 301), the relationship between narcissism and conspiracy beliefs is found to strengthen among the highly educated. The same interaction is also observed for susceptibility to misinformation, in that those who are highly educated and score highly on narcissism scales tend to perform no better than those who have low levels of education in discriminating true from false stimuli. Further analyses suggest that these relationships may be best explained by a need for closure and cognitive inflexibility among other factors. The findings suggest that although education is a salient protective factor in susceptibility to conspiracy thinking and misinformation, the protective qualities may only be present for certain individuals.

Pro-Social Behaviour (IP17)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Understanding the role of benevolence beliefs in adversity-prosociality link.

Daniel Lim, University of Newcastle; Michael J. Poulin, University at Buffalo; C. Dale Shaffer-Morrison; University of Essex; Lauren M. Ministero, MITRE Corporation; Roxane Cohen Silver; University of California, Irvine

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Does experiencing adversity engender kindness, and if so, for whom? In two studies, we tested the hypothesis that experiencing adversity predicts increased prosocial outcomes and that this relationship is moderated by benevolence beliefs, the view that others are good and trustworthy, or benevolent. We conducted two studies to test our hypotheses (total n = 1516). In Study 1, a cross-sectional survey design was utilized, and in Study 2 a longitudinal survey was conducted. In Study 1 (N=?359), we discovered that the number of lifetime adverse life

events was associated with increased prosocial outcomes and their related emotions (i.e. empathic concern). We also found evidence to support the notion that benevolence beliefs moderate this positive link between adversity and prosociality, and that those who have higher levels of benevolent beliefs demonstrated greater levels of prosociality following experiences of adversity. In Study 2 (N = 1157), benevolence beliefs were assessed, and in subsequent years, adverse life events were reported alongside measures of prosociality. The number of past-year adverse life events predicted more volunteering and charitable involvement, but only among people with high benevolence beliefs. In sum, exposure to adversity may be associated with increased prosocial behaviour among those with higher benevolence beliefs. We speculate that these effects could be, in part, explained by benevolence beliefs increasing the expectation that one's efforts will be appreciated and reciprocated.

What is the process for change: Sydney's Bangladeshi community and organ donation

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Inequalities in health care are a feature of social exclusion. Communities that are socially excluded from health care are often described as hard to reach, a phrase that suggests the problem is with the community. We consider this in relation to organ donation and the Bangladeshi community in Sydney. Organ transplants save lives, but success rates can increase when the transplants occur within similar ethnicities. In Australia, registration is pivotal to donation consent. Drawing from social representations theory and within a co-creation methodology, we explored how organ donation and registration were understood in Sydney's Bangladeshi community. Stage one involved a co-created survey with and disseminated by members of a Bangladeshi Advisory panel. In Stage Two, survey results were presented to members of a second Bangladeshi Advisory panel, followed by a focus group discussion that asked what others in the Bangladeshi community might understand about organ donation and registration. The transcripts were thematically analysed. Registration rates were very low compared to the NSW average. Organ donation was viewed positively and as a noble act, coupled with significant concerns and fears stemming from ambiguity, uncertainty, and not knowing. Three themes emerged from the discussion: the strength of the Bangladeshi identity, the boundary between the community and others, and that information about the processes of organ donation in Australia was not in the community. Mainstream information about organ donation and registration is not in this community, creating inequities and raising the question of what is the process for change.

Attitudes, beliefs, knowledge and organ donation registration behaviour among young adults from culturally diverse communities: a scoping review

Juliet Howe, Southern Cross University; Gail Moloney, Southern Cross University; Marie Hutchinson, Southern Cross University; Iain Walker, University of Melbourne

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Organ donation registration rates among young adults from culturally diverse communities in Australia remain low. Understanding the attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours surrounding organ donation within this demographic can inform targeted interventions to increase registration. This scoping review mapped the existing literature on organ donation registration behaviour among young adults from culturally diverse communities. Cultural, social, and personal factors associated with organ donation behaviour were explored, with a specific focus on research conducted within the Australian context. Additionally, the review examined the use of theoretical frameworks and their impact on the substance and value of findings. A systematic search of databases and grey literature was conducted. Studies examining organ donation registration behaviour, attitudes, beliefs, and knowledge in young adults (18-25 years) from culturally diverse communities were included. Data extraction focused on study characteristics, factors influencing registration behaviour, interventions, and theoretical frameworks. The review synthesised findings from a range of studies, highlighting key factors associated with organ donation registration. Analysis delved into specific evidence available within the Australian context, identifying areas for further research and intervention development. This scoping review provides a comprehensive overview of the current state of knowledge regarding organ donation registration behaviour in young adults from culturally diverse communities. The findings will inform the development of culturally sensitive and targeted interventions to promote organ donation registration and address disparities in this demographic."

Self-Compassion and Prosociality: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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If you filled your own cup first, would you have more capacity to help others? Or, if you showed yourself kindness, would you indulge in selfishness and egotism? The literature on self-compassion and prosociality is broad and largely inconsistent, with varied conceptualisations of what it means to be self-compassionate, what constitutes prosociality, and what theoretical mechanisms might underpin these relationships. Through a systematic review and quantitative meta-analysis of approximately 200 studies with over 70,000 participants, we aimed to clarify the relationship between self-compassion and prosociality. Our multilevel meta-analysis revealed a significant small to moderate positive correlation between self-compassion and general prosociality, and found that self-compassion was uniquely related to nested constructs such as compassion, affective empathy, perspective taking, and helping behaviour. Moderation analyses found limited effects for age, gender, culture, and profession. Additionally, a separate meta-analysis of experimental studies and a narrative review of longitudinal research provide a rich context to the possible causal role of self-compassion on prosociality. Understanding the nature of these relationships is an important step toward reconciling conflicting evidence, identifying key gaps in the literature, and developing a clearer and more cohesive view of this complex area of research.

Climate (IP1)

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

Understanding the Role Subjective Attributions of the 2019/2020 Bushfires Plays in the Relationship Between Australian Identity and Climate Outcomes: A Registered Report

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It is anticipated that extreme weather events, such as bushfires, will become more severe and prolonged in Australia due to climate change. Yet direct experience of extreme weather has been found to have little impact on climate emotions and actions when compared to other psychological variables such as identity and subjective attribution. Given Australians have had a long history with bushfires, bushfires events themselves may form a unique aspect of Australian identity. Therefore, those with stronger Australian identity may be less likely to subjectively attribute bushfires to climate change, and in turn, may be less likely to engage in climate action and/or experience negative climate-related emotions (e.g., climate anxiety). In this pre-registered, cross-sectional study, we use a representative Australian sample (N = 5110) to investigate the relationships between Australian identity, subjective attributions, and climate related emotions and action (e.g., policy support and anxiety/worry). Specifically, we explore the potential mediating role that the subjective attribution of the 2019/2020 bushfires to climate change may play in the relationship between Australian identity and climate policy support and anxiety/worry. This project is currently in progress, as such results will be discussed in the presentation. This study will help us to understand the social-psychological processes through which Australians respond both emotionally and behaviourally to extreme weather events. Understanding these factors, will in turn, allow policy makers to develop stronger public climate messaging for targeting Australian audiences, specifically.

Exploring Eco-Fatigue

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Individuals experience a range of responses to climate change, from denial to optimism and eco-anxiety to eco-grief and eco-shame. One term, eco-fatigue, however, has received limited attention despite numerous online and public mentions. In the public sphere, eco-fatigue has been used to describe the idea that people have become weary of discussions about sustainability and climate change, pessimistic and fatalistic about the future, and or distrustful and exhausted by communication and business claims (including green washing). Despite this growing public sentiment, the available research is very limited with only two empirical studies currently published (Mayer & Smith, 2019; Strother & Fazal, 2011). The existing discussions of eco-fatigue often confuse the phenomenon with its components. The present study sought to identify the core components of eco-fatigue as described in the

public sphere and compare it to the existing psychological arguments to identify whether the phenomenon exists separately to what is already known. This study utilised a questionnaire developed from statements made online about eco-fatigue. A convenience sample of university students from a rural Australian university completed the questionnaire. Using factor analysis three factors were identified including 1) Eco-optimists who don't experience a fatigue 2) self-efficacy linked to external locus of control and 3) an eco-fatigue characterised by fatalism. These findings suggest that there is something more to this concept than an individual's personality and their situation, leading to further examinations of the phenomenon.

Do experiences of extreme weather events predict conservation intentions?

Kelly Fielding, University of Queensland; Nanda Kaji Budhathoki, University of Queensland; Md Sayed Iftekhar, Griffith University; Jonathan R. Rhodes, Queensland University of Technology

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Private landholders manage most of the land in Australia, making biodiversity protection on private land a national priority. Although research to date has identified a range of motivators and barriers to landholder uptake of conservation efforts, we currently do not know whether landholders' experiences of extreme weather events and their perceptions of future climate threats relate to their intentions to engage in conservation efforts such as adopting a conservation covenant on their land. To investigate this, we applied an extended Protection Motivation Theory to explore whether the experience of extreme weather events (i.e., drought, fire, and flood) and climate change risk perceptions predicted intentions to adopt a conservation covenant. We conducted a survey of landholders in New South Wales, Australia with properties greater than 2 hectares (N = 294) and analysed the data using structural equation modelling. Consistent with protection motivation theory, we found that landholders' beliefs in the effectiveness of conservation covenants (response efficacy belief) were positively associated with conservation adoption intentions. The effect of experiences of extreme weather events on conservation intentions was mediated through perceptions of the severity of future extreme weather events. That is, landholders with greater experiences of extreme weather events perceived that future extreme weather events would be more severe and this in turn positively predicted conservation adoption intentions. The same pattern emerged for the effect of environmental values on conservation adoption intentions. Financial incentives, past conservation behaviour, conservation network membership, and land characteristics did not significantly predict conservation covenant adoption intentions.

Using Qualitative Data and Coping Appraisals to Enhance Fear and Hope-based Appeals in Australia

Matthew I. Mackay, Deakin University; Dr Anna Klas, Deakin University; Dr Julian Fernando, Deakin University

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The catastrophic consequences anticipated by climate change create uncertainty about future circumstances. Future-oriented emotions like fear and hope align with climate change's temporal and uncertain nature, potentially motivating action. However, fear and hope-based appeals may be more effective if they resonate with the specific fears and hopes of the target audience. Combining fear and hope with coping appraisals from Protection Motivation Theory (PMT), such as perceived response costs and response efficacy, may enhance the likelihood of successful behaviour change. This research program conducted two parallel experiments to test fear and hope-based appeals in promoting individual (limiting household heating and cooling) and collective climate actions (writing to a local MP) among Australians. The appeals incorporated qualitative data to enhance their emotional impact. PMT constructs were integrated with fear and hope to assess their combined effect. In the heating and cooling experiment (n = 408), combining response costs with fear and hope did not translate into significant differences in intentions between conditions despite successfully manipulating fear and hope (but not the PMT construct response costs). Similarly, in the letter-writing experiment (n = 366), combining response efficacy with fear and hope did not result in significant differences in intentions or behaviour (letter-writing task). However, we successfully manipulated the PMT construct response efficacy, as well as fear and hope. Furthermore, the results suggest that pairing hope with response efficacy may increase perceived response efficacy more effectively than pairing it with fear, particularly in political actions like letter-writing.

Polarisation (IP14)

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

Us vs. them, right vs. wrong: Unpacking moralistic thinking and polarization across 44 countries

Amy S.G. Lee, University of Melbourne; Dr Kelly Kirkland, University of Queensland; Professor Brock Bastian, University of Melbourne

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In recent years, there have been growing concerns about the impact that political polarization could have on the healthy functioning of democracies around the world. Political views grounded in moral convictions are theorized as a key driver of these societal divisions. Moral convictions are typically experienced as objective and universally applicable truths that are central to one's identity. As a result, moral disagreements can create the perception of irreconcilable group differences and can be seen as an existential threat. At the same time, polarized contexts could be experienced as environments that threaten individuals' fundamental needs, motivating them to double down on their moral beliefs to re-establish a sense of order and control. Despite such theorizing, few studies have empirically investigated the relationship between moralistic thinking and polarization. The present study examines this relationship in a multinational dataset spanning 44 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania, and South America (N = 8917). Specifically, this research explores

whether polarized contexts may be associated with harsher moral judgments and stronger cognitive and emotional attachments to one's moral beliefs. This research contributes to our understanding of how facets of moralistic thinking relate to the nuanced ways in which people perceive and experience ideological and affective polarization in societies around the world.

Burning bridges to build bridges: How polarized social climates incentivize anti-social acts

Scott Danielson, University of Canterbury; Kumar Yogeeswaran, University of Canterbury; Andrew Vonasch, University of Canterbury

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We're often told that doing the right thing leads to success, and research confirms that a good moral reputation is key to how others perceive us—more so than friendliness or competence. But why, then, do unethical, divisive, and antisocial individuals frequently rise to power and popularity? We explain this paradox by presenting a novel model of intergroup behavior: the “Burning Bridges” model. Burning bridges involves deliberately damaging one's reputation with one group to gain trust and loyalty from another, especially through bold, antisocial actions. In three studies (N=1,369), we found that in polarized environments, when someone acts against their own group and burns bridges—creating new divisions—they are perceived as more trustworthy and committed by rivals of that group. The more dramatic the bridge burning, the greater the trust and loyalty it inspires. We show that this pattern emerges across various contexts, including crime, law enforcement, and politics. Our research reveals that people might engage in intergroup conflict not just out of hostility, but to strategically boost their reputation within their new group. This insight highlights a dangerous dynamic in deeply divided societies, where individuals may be incentivized to enhance their standing by creating new divisions. As a result, antisocial behavior is not only tolerated but rewarded, creating a toxic incentive structure that perpetuates conflict and division.

When identity matters: the role of opinion-based social identity in online communication and affective polarisation

Viola Pucci, The University of Melbourne; Andrew Perfors, The University of Melbourne; Yoshihisa Kashima, The University of Melbourne

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With rising polarisation, especially online, it is crucial to understand how people share information and interpret it in cyberspace. Although the social identities of senders and receivers are critically implicated in this, how they influence what information individuals share with whom and why remains understudied. Furthermore, it is unclear whether receivers can accurately interpret the intentions behind shared information, especially when the sender's social identity is ambiguous. To address this gap, we constructed an experimental paradigm in which the communication processes between senders and receivers can be investigated across two studies. In Study 1 (N = 326), participants acted as senders, choosing which statements to share and reasons for doing so in hypothetical online forums belonging

to their opinion-based ingroup and outgroup. In Study 2 (N = 307), participants received the statements and reported their impressions of the sender as well as of their opinion-based ingroup and outgroup. The senders reported motivations to express an inclusive identity or persuade others to create common ground, or simply to position themselves, when sharing to both forums. However, receivers showed some reluctance to classify the sender as an outgroup member unless the sender signalled a strong outgroup identity. In instances where an outgroup identity was inferred, receivers tended to attribute more negative intentions to the sender and, consequently, formed negative impressions of them. Indeed, most interactions intensified ingroup liking and outgroup dislike. As such, this suggests that the receivers' reluctance to label a sender as an outgroup has important implications for affective polarisation.

Beyond the political binary: Party systems, polarisation, and political stability.

Charlie Crimston, Australian National University

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To what extent does our awareness of political systems influence perceptions of polarisation within society? A popular narrative among politicians in established two-party systems suggests that the emergence of multiparty politics is something to fear and a potential risk to political stability. Across two experimental studies conducted in Australia (n = 298) and Canada (n = 299), we tested this narrative. Participants were primed to perceive their country's political system as either a dominant two-party system or an emerging multiparty system. These primes significantly influenced perceptions of polarisation in both Australia and Canada, with those in the two-party condition reporting greater political polarisation in their society. In turn, heightened perceptions of polarisation predicted greater collective angst, perceptions of political instability, and support for populism and strong leaders. These findings have important implications for the perceived stability of multiparty political systems, suggesting that (in Australia and Canada) voters may experience reduced political anxiety if the dominance of two-party systems were to diminish.

Monday, 25/11/2024 - 1:30PM

Symp (S6): Navigating Identities: Understanding Gender, Culture, and Politics in the Workplace

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chair: Axel Chemke-Dreyfus

These presentations enhance a deeper theoretical understanding of how identities intersect in workplace structures, offering new perspectives on fostering inclusive and equitable work

environments. This symposium advances theory and practice in addressing the complexities of identity, culture, and politics at work.

Breaking Barriers: Intersectional Identity and Work Experiences of Muslim Women in Australia

Khatijatussalihah Khatijatussalihah, ANU; Michelle K. Ryan, Australian National University ; Tegan Cruwys, Australian National University; Alexandra N. Fisher, Australian National University

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Despite Australia's high ranking in global gender equality indices, progress often excludes minority groups such as Muslim women. Muslim women who are visibly identifiable through their faith, particularly those wearing hijabs, face unique challenges in public and professional spaces because of cultural differences and the visible expression of their religion. This identity—predominantly linked to gender—often results in a disparity between how individuals view themselves as professionals and how employers and colleagues perceive them. The intersection of Islamophobia, racism, and gender further complicates access to employment and adversely shapes workplace experiences. While existing literature has documented workplace discrimination against Muslim women, limited research has explored how these experiences intersect with their multiple identities. This study addresses this gap by investigating how intersectional identity impacts the working experiences of Muslim women in Australia. Qualitative semi-structured interviews were conducted with 23 self-identified migrant Muslim women working in the formal sector in Australia. Using reflexive thematic analysis, the findings reveal three key themes: My religion goes with me, discrimination and marginalisation, and responses to discrimination. This research contributes to a deeper understanding of how intersectional identities influence the career progression of Muslim women in Australia and highlights the need for more inclusive gender equality initiatives that account for the unique challenges faced by marginalised groups.

When perfection is not an aspiration: Female leaders who excel in multiple domains are perceived as unattainable role models

Denise Ruggieri, University of Bologna; Monica Rubini, University of Bologna; Michela Menegatti, University of Bologna

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Recent research shows that women aspiring to leadership face unfair evaluations throughout their careers: while men are assessed primarily on competence, women are judged by multiple criteria. This research examined whether women must meet more requirements than men to attain high-level positions and whether exceptional female leaders are viewed as attainable role models by other women. Three studies with a between-subjects design were conducted with Italian workers and university students. In Study 1, 168 participants described characteristics required to appoint either a man or a woman to a leadership position. In Study

2, 205 participants selected from a list of 50 pretested characteristics that an organisation might consider when appointing a leader. Both studies revealed that more criteria were listed for female than male candidates, particularly relating to attractiveness and private life. In Study 3, 267 adult female employees of an Italian public administration were presented with descriptions of a manager who was either competent or competent with additional work-unrelated characteristics. Participants perceived the simply competent manager as a more attainable role model. These findings suggest that female leaders face higher standards and are seen as less attainable role models, potentially hindering leadership attainment for women and damaging the aspirations of junior women. This calls for applying equal standards to both male and female candidates during appointment decision-making processes."

The persuasive power of interpersonal ties: Rethinking men's advocacy for workplace gender equality

Axel Chemke-Dreyfus, University of Queensland; Charlie Crimston, Australian National University; Hema Preya Selvanathan, University of Queensland; Jolanda Jetten, University of Queensland

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Recent evidence suggests that the interpersonal ties argument, which involves reflecting on the women in men's lives—such as daughters, mothers, wives, or sisters—can be a powerful motivator for men's support of workplace gender equality. However, this approach has been critiqued for potentially promoting support for the 'wrong' reasons. This research adopts a mixed-methods approach to explore the prevalence and impact of this argument among Australian men. In Study 1 (N = 167), we found that one-third of male participants cited the interpersonal ties argument when asked which strategies would most effectively convince the average Australian man to support workplace gender equality. Study 2 (N = 425) experimentally tested the persuasiveness of interpersonal ties compared to economic and moral arguments. Our findings reveal that both men and women find the interpersonal ties argument more compelling than economic or moral appeals. Notably, women perceive men who use this argument as more genuinely supportive of workplace gender equality, which enhances its effectiveness. These findings challenge the notion of a 'right' or 'wrong' way to advocate for workplace gender equality, highlighting the potential of interpersonal ties to foster genuine and widespread support among both genders.

Political identity and well-being at work: The interplay of power and numerical status

Yuan-Hsi Liao, Exeter/ANU; Alexandra Fisher, Australian National University; Michelle Ryan, Australian National University

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Previous research has shown that political identity dissimilarity can trigger negative workplace interactions. My research further explores the interplay between political identity, power status (winning or losing an election), and numerical status (being a political majority in a workgroup) and their combined effects on coworker interactions and employee well-being.

In Study 1 (N = 168), we tracked coworker interactions across four waves during the 2022 Australian Federal Election cycle. We found that a double majority/minority effect interacts with political identity. Conservatives exhibited the highest level of harmful behavior towards out-group coworkers when they held a double majority—both numerical and power majority. In other words, their harmful behavior increased when they were the numerical majority, and holding power further exacerbated this tendency. Study 2, conducted after the 2021 Canadian Federal Election (N = 180), revealed that numerical status alone was sufficient to influence employees' well-being at work, even when the outcome is job satisfaction—a variable generally regarded as non-political. These findings indicate that political dissimilarity leads to harmful coworker interactions and that the interplay of minority statuses significantly influences outcomes. Becoming a majority or minority, whether at the national level or within a workgroup, alters interaction patterns and impacts well-being."

Symp (S13): Truth and Consequences Pt 1

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chair: Michael J. Platow

Successful social relations necessitate, at minimum, shared understandings of reality among the individuals and group members in those relations. Even if, in some objective sense, the consensus understandings of reality are false, the consensus will still facilitate coordinated actions and minimize disputes by providing a common frame of reference. A breakdown of truth consensus, by comparison, will enhance conflict and discord. Unfortunately, there are claims by many that this breakdown in consensus is a prominent and dangerous feature of contemporary social relations, leading to characterizations of a “post-truth” era. The research in this symposium is set within this social-psychological and historical context, and draws heavily (but not solely) upon social identity processes. The first two papers (by Smithson and Tay) provide conceptual and methodological critiques of truth research in contemporary cognitive and social psychology. These are followed by three papers (by Jiang, Wang, and Andrews) examining the social and cognitive processes by which truth judgements are made. The final two papers (by Felice and Platow) examine the consequences of truth judgements specifically in the context of prejudiced attitudes. Our hope is that the papers in this symposium can provide some insight into the social and psychological processes by which truth is subjectively determined, what the possible consequences are of this truth determination, as well as provide avenues for promoting positive and productive social relations.

Why a Psychology of Misinformation Needs a Psychology of Ignorance

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The burgeoning psychological research on misinformation has largely neglected ignorance or doubt, focusing instead on false belief and how to prevent or correct it. Neglecting ignorance

and doubt is a mistake, for three reasons. (1) They are common mental states. Conflicting information, especially from trusted sources, often induces uncertainty or doubt and may even induce a sense of ignorance (i.e., absence of knowledge and/or belief). (2) Even when mentioned, researchers in this area don't recognise that ignorance is socially constructed, and that people can be "ignorant" in different ways. Researchers also neglect the possibility that belief may coexist with an awareness of incomplete knowledge or a sense of uncertainty. This is not hair-splitting. It is arguable that the greatest harms arise from strong belief reinforced by meta-ignorance. Third, nudging people to shift from certainty or strong belief to conscious ignorance or doubt is an important but neglected research topic in misinformation research: (a) Doubt, uncertainty, or conscious ignorance often is a necessary mental state prior to rejecting a belief, learning, or seeking new information; (b) Unlike belief, self-aware ignorance, doubt, or uncertainty are mental states that are unlikely to result in extremist behaviour; and (c) There are diverse types of unknowing, some less susceptible to persuasion by misinformation than others. This is a call to research on misinformation addressing when, how, and why people attribute doubt, uncertainty, or ignorance to themselves and to others.

Refining Misinformation Research with Natural Language Processing and Meta-Analytical Methods

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Psychological research has provided important insights into the processing of misinformation and how people make judgements of truth. However, a significant challenge in this field is the lack of consensus regarding the definitions of misinformation and the absence of standardized guidelines for stimuli development. Current studies often make use of stimuli that are either derived from real-world examples or constructed by researchers, yet these choices are rarely explicitly justified and what tends to be taken as "true" vs. "false" information can vary widely across dimensions beyond veracity (e.g., valence and coherence). This variability complicates the interpretation of research findings. Combining natural language processing and meta-analytical methods, I outline a novel approach for research synthesis in general and for investigating theoretically relevant but underexplored factors within misinformation research specifically. Through two case studies, I demonstrate how linguistic features of study stimuli can be used to predict effect sizes. I discuss the strengths and limitations of this approach, along with some critical considerations researchers should make when developing and interpreting misinformation studies.

How Attitudes Shape Sensitivity to Familiarity in Assessments of Truth

Yangxueqing (Mary) Jiang, The Australian National University; Norbert Schwarz, University of Southern California; Katherine J. Reynolds, The University of Melbourne; Michael J. Platow, The Australian National University; Eryn J. Newman, The Australian National University

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The illusory truth effect (ITE) is a robust cognitive bias where repetition alone can increase the perceived truth of a trivia claim, through shifts in familiarity. The broad body of work on the ITE has largely focused on conditions under which people evaluate innocuous trivia or general knowledge claims. Little is known about the extent to which repetition influences truth for claims that directly (mis)align with people's prior beliefs and attitudes, for which alignment typically works to polarize belief. Six studies investigated the role of repetition in assessments of truth in counter-attitudinal contexts. On the topic of climate change, we found that climate science endorsers showed a counter-attitudinal illusory truth effect for sceptic-aligning claims. Yet, the impact of repetition was mitigated when we increased attention to attitudinal alignment for climate science endorsers. Extending this work to examine the role of political groups in shaping sensitivity to familiarity, we found that while Republicans showed a consistent ITE for political sentiments regardless of attitudinal alignment of claims, this effect did not consistently replicate for Democrats who showed a smaller effect of repetition in evaluating the same claims. Overall, these findings highlight the critical interaction between attitudes and context in moderating the extent to which repetition influences judgments of truth.

A Social Identity Analysis of Directional and Accuracy Motivated Reasoning: The Mediation Role of Identity-Relevant Epistemologies

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Although truth judgements may be influenced by people's social identities, these identities are often neglected in models of truth determination. When identity processes are considered, they are implicated primarily as a basis of bias or error emerging through directional motivated reasoning (e.g., concluding as true what one wants to believe). But Kunda's (1990) original analysis identifies accuracy as an alternative reasoning motive. Through this motivation, social consensus can emerge when identical epistemologies are adopted. Even with an accuracy motive, however, social identities can lead people to adopt one or another identity-relevant epistemology. For example, scientists are likely to choose scientific methods in their accuracy-motivated truth pursuit, but religious scholars may choose hermeneutics. Our proposition, then, is that social identities may lead to divergent truth conclusions even when all actors pursue accuracy. We tested this in a correlational study measuring participants' (1) science and religious social identification, (2) embrace of science and religious epistemologies, and (3) judgements of truthfulness of scientific and religious truth claims. Statistical modelling revealed directional motivated reasoning through direct paths from identification to truth judgements. It also provided evidence for accuracy motivated reasoning, with the identification-truth relationship being mediated by endorsement of the relevant epistemology. We discuss these results with reference to the social-psychological processes by which so-called "partisan truths" emerge.

Morality (IP6)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Natural vs. Man-Made: The Influence of Naturalness on Moral Standing Perceptions

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Prior research has identified a variety of characteristics which contribute towards the moral standing individuals place on various entities, such as perception of mind, beauty, and purity. Moral standing refers to the perception that an entity morally matters for its own sake rather than for the interests of others, and is thus deserving of protection from harm. We propose that that perceptions of 'naturalness,' also contribute to positive moral standing evaluations of entities, particularly those which are non-sentient. An entity may be thought to possess the attribute of naturalness if it has come to existence completely independent of human involvement or intervention. In a series of studies, we investigated whether people attributed greater moral standing to natural, as compared to man-made, entities. We utilised a between-subjects experimental design employing surveys, where participants were randomly assigned to one of two conditions, natural and man-made. Participants were presented with either natural or man-made systems, such as a forest, lake, beach, and wetlands, and were also presented with either natural or man-made non-consumable products, such as diamonds and pearls. Participants rated the moral standing of those entities within their respective conditions. Across all studies, we found that participants attributed greater moral standing to entities within the natural (vs man-made) condition. We additionally found that factors such as perceptions of rareness, purity, and beauty, mediated the effect of naturalness on moral standing, suggesting that naturalness may increase moral standing via prompting moral intuitions linked to such factors. In this presentation we will discuss our research findings and their implications.

A Shift in Moral Values as a Pathway to Moral Injury for Veterans

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Killing during wartime can cause veterans to experience moral injury as it violates many people's core moral values of protecting human life. Human life can be considered a sacred moral value, and to sacrifice human life for any other value is a taboo trade-off (Tetlock, 2003). However, active military personnel may not perceive human life as sacred due to the normalisation of killing within a combat environment. Upon leaving the military, veterans may re-evaluate the sacredness of human life, which could lead to increased moral injury symptoms. The present study aimed to identify if context influences the sacredness of human life and perceived moral injury symptoms among active service personnel, $n = 68$, retired veterans, $n = 99$, and civilians, $n = 124$. Participants were recruited from the five eyes nations using specific selection criteria on Prolific. The sacredness of human life was measured using vignettes, which asked participants how much money they would be willing to accept for

killing in a military versus civilian context. Participants were also asked to indicate perceived moral injury symptoms from killing in both contexts. The results revealed a medium significant effect between groups regarding the amount of money people are willing to accept for killing, $F(2,288) = 19.70, p < .001, \eta^2 = 0.10$. Retired veterans and civilians generally required significantly more money than active service personnel in both contexts. The study found a medium significant effect between groups concerning perceived moral injury symptoms, $F(2,288) = 10.80, p < .001, \eta^2 = 0.06$. Retired veterans and civilians considered killing for money in a military context as significantly more morally injurious than active service personnel. The cognitive dissonance experienced when re-evaluating a previous moral transgression from a civilian perspective, which reappraises the sacredness of human life, means veterans are at risk of increased moral injury symptoms once they leave the military.

Pragmatism over purity? The impact of moral rebels' espoused behavioural standards for self and others on their ability to inspire outgroup behavioural change and ingroup followership

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Many behavioural practices considered advantageous to environmental sustainability are currently only engaged in by a small minority of the population. Examples include meat-free diets, cycling to work, avoiding non-essential air travel and zero waste practices. Those who adopt these moralised minority practices are often referred to in the literature as moral rebels. There is a growing body of work demonstrating that the majority can experience a sense of moral threat from such morally rebellious individuals and groups, which can often lead to processes of 'do-gooder derogation' in which antagonistic sentiment is directed towards them, limiting their ability to influence. In such a social environment, understanding the potential for such rebels to (individually and collectively) exert social influence on the majority becomes an interesting and important consideration. In the current work, we focus on examining how such influence might be affected by the types of moral standards espoused by such rebels. We compare the adoption of strict/minimum standards (e.g., "any meat is wrong") with more relaxed/maximal standards (e.g., "every little bit less helps") in relation to both the moral rebel's own conduct and that of the non-practicing outgroup. Across two experiments, we show that an ideal cocktail may be the use of strict standards for the self but relaxed standards for others – both in terms of a moral rebels' ability to influence the outgroup and their ability to get other ingroup members to join their collective action attempts to influence the outgroup majority. We consider the implications of these findings for environmental advocacy and processes of broader social/behavioural change.

Climate Change (IP2)

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

Exploring types of environmental (dis)engagement across social groups

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Individuals are crucial to addressing major environmental problems like climate change – through their personal and collective pro-environmental actions, and also through their support for pro-environmental policies. It is important to understand who is disengaged from environmental issues and how they are disengaged. Thus, we aimed to identify the different types of environmental (dis)engagement and which social groups are associated with each type. Using secondary data from the 2020-21 International Social Survey Programme, we conducted a series of latent profile analyses (LPAs) to identify the patterns of environmental (dis)engagement across four countries: Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and Great Britain. Within the Australian sample, we found four profiles, two of which show very low levels of pro-environmental actions. One of these inactive profiles – who we call the Disengaged Skeptics – are disengaged across their beliefs, attitudes, and actions. The Disengaged Skeptics are more right-leaning, older, more likely to be White, and more likely to be male than the average participant. The other inactive profile – the Inactive Believers – are disengaged in terms of actions while simultaneously holding pro-environmental beliefs and attitudes. The Inactive Believers are younger, have more children, are less likely to be White, and are more likely to have immigrant parents than the average participant. In my talk, I will discuss the implications of our findings, and highlight the similarities and differences in profiles across countries.

Utopian thinking for a greener future: I see the need for change, I'm not alone and I can do this

Léan V. O'Brien, University of Canberra; Angus Faul, University of Canberra; Melanie Steele-Hick, University of Canberra; Ebony Blyton, University of Canberra

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Collective global efforts are required to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Emerging research shows that thinking about a future utopia can motivate action in pursuit of that desired society. Here we discuss three recent studies exploring the nature of utopian motivation, particularly for pro-environmental behaviour. Study 1 (N=250) found that positively evaluating a green utopia predicted pro-environmental outcomes, mediated by perceiving the status quo to be less legitimate. However, positively evaluating a sci-fi utopia also predicted pro-environmental outcomes, mediated by perceiving cognitive alternatives to the status quo. When self-generating a utopian vision, Study 2 (N=109) found that sense of social identity with people who share the same utopian vision predicted behavioural intentions, both directly and in interaction with the perceived difficulty and importance of behaviours. Finally, Study 3 (N=115) found that envisioning a green utopia had more motivational power when an episodic future thinking approach was used, partly as a function of a greater sense of environmental efficacy. Implications and future directions are discussed.

Exploring potential mediators between engagement in collective environmental action and wellbeing

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The link between engaging in individual environmental action and positive wellbeing outcomes is now well-documented, but associations between collective action and wellbeing are less clear. Recent empirical evidence suggests engaging in group environmental actions have both positive and negative wellbeing consequences for the individual. We explore potential mediators between collective environmental action and wellbeing with a sample of Australians sourced from Prolific (N=351) and members of social media groups involved in environmental action (N=58). Participants' responses to a series of wellbeing indicators (including loneliness, social isolation, depression, anxiety, and stress) were recorded, as well as their self-reported levels of engagement in a broad range of collective environmental actions. We report on the mediating role of ingroup and outgroup social exclusion, perceived social stigma, pride, and meaning associated with collective action engagement, in explaining associations between action and wellbeing.

The first 'climate refugee' resettlement pact? Analysing media portrayals of climate migration surrounding the Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union

Samantha Stanley, UNSW Institute for Climate Risk & Response, University of New South Wales; Iain Walker, University of Melbourne; Mitchell Osborne

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Climate change is displacing people from their homes and increasing migration pressures. There is little research on public understanding of and attitudes towards climate migration. One possible influence on public opinion is the way in which this issue is presented in the media. In 2023, Australia and Tuvalu announced the Falepili Union, which was widely reported as the first climate migration pathway. As a topic with limited media attention, the media coverage surrounding the announcement of the Union represents a context of heightened discussion about climate change and migration. We collate coverage of the Union (n = 100 news articles) and analyse the framing of climate-related displacement and those displaced. We discuss the ways in which these frames are used to mobilise support for or opposition to the Union and advocate for alternative policy solutions.

Relationships & Interpersonal Violence (IP13)

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

How insecure attachment leads to burnout and secondary traumatic stress among mental health professionals working with intimate partner violence victims and/or

perpetrators: An Exploratory Investigation of the Mediating Roles of Caregiving Representations and Cognitive Schema Disruption

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Insecure attachment is a risk factor for burnout and secondary traumatic stress among mental health professionals, yet no one knows why. The purpose of the present study was to examine the mediators underlying the association between insecure attachment and burnout and secondary traumatic stress among mental health professionals who work with victims and/or perpetrators of intimate partner violence (IPV). We proposed that caregiving representations (i.e., perceived ability to recognize needs and provide help, perceived people's worthiness of help, and egoistic and altruistic motives to help) and disruptions in cognitive schemas about self and others would serially mediate the associations.

Participants (N = 358) who were providing services to IPV victims and/or perpetrators completed an online survey. Path analyses showed that some caregiving representations and disrupted cognitive schemas mediated the relationship between avoidant, but not anxious attachment, with burnout and secondary traumatic stress. Avoidantly attached mental health professionals who perceived people as not being worthy of help and had low altruistic motives to help were more likely to experience disrupted cognitive schemas about others, which increased their risk for burnout and secondary traumatic stress. Our findings highlighted the mediating role of caregiving representations in the association between insecure attachment and burnout and secondary traumatic stress, and the vulnerability of avoidantly attached mental health professionals in experiencing burnout and secondary traumatic stress when working with victims and/or perpetrators of IPV.

Centring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Understandings of Health in a Scoping Review of school and community-based relationships and sexuality education programs for young people in Australia

Kiara Minto, UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health; Minnie Hazell, University of Queensland; Jane Wallace, University of Queensland

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The majority of young people will experience their first romantic and sexual experiences prior to leaving school with 50% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous young people reporting their first vaginal or anal sex experience at age 16 or earlier. As such, effective relationships and sexuality education in primary and secondary school students has considerable potential for primary prevention of relationship and sexual violence, and STIs and BBVs. Young people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are disproportionately impacted by these adverse experiences and the subsequent health impacts and there is a clear need to understand the characteristics, barriers, and enablers of effective relationships and sexuality education programs in these populations. It is also essential to recognise and consider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being, and doing when considering these programs. This presentation outlines the key

methods and findings of a scoping review to achieve two key aims 1) identify evaluations of community and school-based relationships and sexuality education programs for young people in Australia and 2) explore these evaluations centring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander understandings of health and quality research.

“You need to get out. There’s no if’s or but’s about it”: Social Reactions to Simulated Disclosures of Non-Physical Intimate Partner Violence.

Ryan Ver Maas, The University of Queensland; Kari Jones, The University of Queensland; Barbara Masser, The University of Queensland; Fiona Barlow, The University of Queensland; James Kirby, The University of Queensland

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This study investigates how people respond to disclosures of non-physical intimate partner violence (IPV), which is often perceived as less severe and typical of IPV compared to physical abuse. Victims often disclose to friends or family whose social reactions to disclosures may impact the victim’s subsequent behaviour and ongoing health. However, most research relies on self-report data and descriptions of social reactions participants may have previously provided or received, mostly relating to physical IPV or sexual assault. Australian participants, recruited via Prolific Academic, recorded their verbal responses to simulated disclosures of non-physical IPV from either a male or female victim. Transcripts of these recordings were then analysed using inductive Reflexive Thematic Analysis with a contextualist approach to identify participants strategies for providing support. We observed two broad types of support present in all responses to some degree; 1) Practical Support, & 2) Relationship Building or Affirming Support. Practical Support is defined by providing an assessment of the abuse to help the victim understand and process the situation, and problem solving to help victims cope with or end the abuse. Relationship Building or Affirming Support consisted of responses that demonstrated allegiance and investment with the victim’s situation and facilitated compassionate support. Our results indicate that practical support is typically the priority when responding to disclosures of non-physical IPV. However, we also observed that how participants labelled abusive behaviours may reflect their attitudes or schemas of non-physical IPV, which we are investigating in further studies.

Monday, 25/11/2024 - 2:30

Symp (S18): Voices from the Margins: How Minority Groups Experience and Challenge Social Norms

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chair: Morgan Weaving

Social norms, typically established and reinforced by majority groups, profoundly shape societal expectations and behaviours. Underrepresented and minority groups often find themselves navigating these norms from an outsider perspective, sometimes conforming,

sometimes challenging, and sometimes developing their own alternative norms. This process can be fraught with difficulties, including social pressure, discrimination, and internal conflict, but can also lead to the development of innovative, more inclusive norms that challenge outdated traditions and foster resilience. This symposium brings together four talks that examine how various minority groups experience, respond to, and sometimes redefine societal norms across diverse contexts. Fisher investigates the impact of heteronormative pressures on singles' experiences of romantic desire and loneliness, demonstrating how dominant relationship norms can shape the psychological experiences of those who don't conform to them. Exploring sexual consent norms in diverse sexual communities, Harris illuminates how BDSM communities have developed strong norms around consent that differ from majority practices, potentially because they are not beholden to traditional heterosexual scripts. Angelopoulos tests prevailing assumptions about body image norms among lesbian women, exploring the complex ways sexual minority women experience and internalize societal beauty standards. Finally, Weaving examines the experience of 'lived tightness' among minorities in majority-dominated environments, revealing how underrepresented individuals experience and respond to perceived social surveillance and judgment in spaces where their identity is non-normative. Collectively, these studies offer nuanced insights into the challenges and strategies of minority groups in navigating mainstream norms and developing their own, with important implications for fostering diversity and inclusion.

Heteronormative pressure to partner informs romantic desire and loneliness among singles

Alexandra Fisher, Australian National University; Lisa C. Walsh, University of California, Los Angeles; Victor A. Kaufman, University of California, Los Angeles; Yuthika U. Girme, Simon Fraser University

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Singles are notoriously stereotyped as lonely (e.g., Greitemeyer, 2009). While there may be some truth to this stereotype (e.g., Adamczyk, 2016), relatively little research has considered how broader societal norms—specifically heteronormative pressures to be in a romantic relationship—may fuel singles' sense of loneliness. In the current research, we collected a representative sample of American singles (N = 4,835; 57.5% female, 42.5% male, 0% nonbinary; 83.83% Straight, 7.05% Bisexual, 3.91% Gay, 1.57% Lesbian, 0.7% Queer; Walsh et al., 2021) to examine their experiences of pressure to partner, desire to partner, and loneliness. We hypothesize that perceiving greater pressure to partner from friends, family, and society will be associated with a greater desire to partner among singles, which in turn will engender a greater sense of loneliness. We also explore the extent to which the pathway between pressure to partner and desire varies by gender and sexual orientation. We test our confirmatory and exploratory hypotheses using structural equation modeling. As expected, pressure to partner predicted greater desire to partner and, in turn, greater desire to partner predicted greater loneliness. Exploratory multigroup analyses also revealed that the association between pressure and desire was stronger for women than men, suggesting that pressure to partner may inform women's desire to a greater extent. There were no differences

across sexual orientation. Together, these findings shed light on how societal pressures to be in a romantic relationship may serve to perpetuate the deficit narrative and experience of singlehood.

Sexual Consent Norms in a Sexually Diverse Sample

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Sexual consent has received increased attention in mainstream media, educational, and political settings since the rise of the #MeToo movement in 2017. However, long before #MeToo, sexual consent has been a core practice among people who engage in Bondage and Discipline, Dominance and Submission, Sadism, and Masochism (BDSM). This study examined sexual consent norms among a sexually diverse sample, including people who practice BDSM (n = 116), people who identify with another sexual minority group, such as swingers and sex workers (n = 114), and people who did not identify with a sexual minority group, termed sexual majority group members (n = 158). Explicit consent for both BDSM- and non-BDSM-related activities was rated as more common (descriptively normative) among people who were a member of the BDSM community compared to majority participants. Further, BDSM participants rated consent discussions as less sexually disruptive compared to majority participants. We found no significant group differences in the extent to which people thought sexual consent should be discussed. We also discuss findings from an open-ended question asking participants to recall a recent sexual experience with a new partner. This study demonstrates variability in consent norms between groups and points to the potential to shift sexual consent behaviours among majority participants.

Lesbian Women's Body Image and Weight Bias

Felicity Angelopoulos, The University of Melbourne

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Research on lesbian women's body image is relatively limited. This may be due to two prominent assumptions held about lesbian women; namely, that they are a body-positive community, and that they are protected from the 'male gaze' and associated appearance pressures. However, findings surrounding lesbian women's body satisfaction are mixed, and their anti-fat attitudes remain understudied. The scarcity of research on lesbian women is concerning, given that they have previously been identified as an at-risk community for developing eating disorders. This study aims to test the assumptions surrounding lesbian women's body image by comparing body satisfaction and anti-fat attitudes among lesbian, gay men, and heterosexual men and women. We recruited 1,548 participants from Prolific (n = 387 per group). A series of two-way ANOVAs will be conducted to determine whether the four groups vary in their level of anti-fat attitudes and body satisfaction. Our study will shed light on whether lesbians differ from other groups in their levels of body satisfaction and body positive attitudes.

Lived Tightness and Its Impact on Minorities: Stress and Self-Censorship in Underrepresented Groups

Morgan Weaving, Stanford; Dr Michele Gelfand, Stanford University

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Past research has shown that minorities face harsher penalties for norm violations in majority-dominated environments. However, the impact of this phenomenon on minorities' subjective experience remains understudied. To address this gap, we introduce the concept of "lived tightness"—the feeling of being surveilled, judged harshly, and fearing excessive punishment for wrongdoing—and examine its consequences for minorities. We hypothesize that increased lived tightness among minorities is associated with higher stress levels and self-censorship in environments where they are chronically underrepresented. Three studies support this hypothesis. In Study 1 (n = 500), female STEM employees reported significantly higher lived tightness compared to males, which partially accounted for women's higher levels of stress and self-censorship at work. Study 2 (n = 400) employed a recall paradigm, finding that participants recalling minority situations reported significantly greater lived tightness, higher stress, and more self-censorship compared to those recalling majority situations. Study 3 analyzed survey data from over 18,000 US STEM college students, finding that female students reported greater self-censorship compared to male students, and this effect was stronger in US states with greater gender tightness—i.e., stronger norms and penalties for women compared to men. This finding is consistent with the notion that biased tightness exacerbates self-censorship among minorities. Together, these findings suggest that lived tightness is an important concept in explaining patterns of self-censorship and stress among minorities. More generally, this research provides a novel perspective on the challenges faced by underrepresented groups and offers potential avenues for intervention to promote diversity.

Symp (S14): Truth and Consequences Pt 2

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chair: Michael J. Platow; Discussant: Katherine J. Reynolds

Successful social relations necessitate, at minimum, shared understandings of reality among the individuals and group members in those relations. Even if, in some objective sense, the consensus understandings of reality are false, the consensus will still facilitate coordinated actions and minimize disputes by providing a common frame of reference. A breakdown of truth consensus, by comparison, will enhance conflict and discord. Unfortunately, there are claims by many that this breakdown in consensus is a prominent and dangerous feature of contemporary social relations, leading to characterizations of a “post-truth” era. The research in this symposium is set within this social-psychological and historical context, and draws heavily (but not solely) upon social identity processes. The first two papers (by Smithson and Tay) provide conceptual and methodological critiques of truth research in contemporary

cognitive and social psychology. These are followed by three papers (by Jiang, Wang, and Andrews) examining the social and cognitive processes by which truth judgements are made. The final two papers (by Felice and Platow) examine the consequences of truth judgements specifically in the context of prejudiced attitudes. Our hope is that the papers in this symposium can provide some insight into the social and psychological processes by which truth is subjectively determined, what the possible consequences are of this truth determination, as well as provide avenues for promoting positive and productive social relations.

Do Memory Interference and Social Identity Processes Interact to Impact Truth Judgments on Social Media?

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Vast amounts of conflicting information are now available with just the click of a button and the distinction between “fake” and “real” news can often be unclear. This study (N = 585) investigated how political identity interacts with memory in shaping truth judgements of social-media content. We presented US-based social-media users who self-identify as either Democrats or Republicans with a series of social-media posts containing false claims (e.g., “In 2023, 93% of customer service operations used AI to replace employees and reduce costs”) and experimentally manipulated (1) whether the claims came from participants’ in-group, out-group, or politically neutral sources, as well as (2) whether participants underwent a memory-interference phase (i.e., exposure to unrelated posts) prior to making truth judgements. As expected, participants, particularly those randomly allocated to undergo the memory-interference phase, judged the false claims as more truthful if they came from in-group sources. However, this effect diminished for claims later in the sequence, suggesting a more nuanced (likely accuracy-driven) process at play than directional motivated reasoning.

Social Influence, Subjective Truth and Prejudice Expression: The Case of the Israel-Hamas War and Anti-Jewish Attitudes

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This study (N = 682) examined the extent to which individuals’ perceptions of truth and prejudice are dependent on the group membership of the person making a truth claim. In an online experiment, participants were presented with a supposed social media post containing an anti-Israeli statement. This statement was described as being written by a fellow in-group member or an out-group member, followed by an in-group or out-group comment stating that the original post was true or false. Subsequent prejudiced attitudes were measured, including anti-Jewish attitudes, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia and Social Dominance Orientation (SDO). The findings did not provide support for the initial experimental hypotheses. Contrary to relationships outlined in previous theory and research between group membership and subjective truth judgements, our study showed no effect of in-group social influence, even

after controlling for participants' level of social identification. Subsequent exploratory path analyses found support for a model in which the original truth interpretation positively predicted participants' perceived truth which, in turn, positively predicted their anti-Israeli attitudes. Critically, these anti-Israeli attitudes then positively predicted anti-Jewish attitudes (controlling for SDO and political orientation). These results will be discussed in the context of the development and expression of prejudice, with a focus on social identity and justification-suppression processes.

Whence Prejudice? A Truth Response-Curve Analysis of Prejudice Judgements

Michael Platow, The Australian National University; Li Qian Tay, The Australian National University; Daniel P. Skorich, The Australian National University; Michael Smithson, The Australian National University; Eryn J. Newman, The Australian National University; Katherine J. Reynolds, The University of Melbourne; Russell Spears, Groningen University

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Implicit in both formal and informal characterizations of prejudice is the assumption that it is the outcome of error-based psychological process. Recent research has confirmed this characterization by demonstrating negative correlations between people's judgements of intergroup claims as relatively prejudiced and their judgements of the same claims as relatively true. If a claim is seen to be true, even a negative one, it is also seen to be not prejudiced. With this starting point, the current research introduces a novel research paradigm akin to psychophysical and dose-response paradigms. In three experiments, we present positive and negative intra- and intergroup claims, each associated with variable truthfulness; participants then identify the claim as either prejudice or not prejudiced. For example, participants are asked, "If it were 30% true that Asians are reliable, would it be prejudiced or not prejudiced to say this?" Overall, we find the expected negative relationship between truth and judgements of prejudice. However, the relationship is not linear, with different inflection points representing differences in tolerance for untruths. Differences also emerged between the valence of the claims, different participant populations (Asians & non-Asians in Australia), and between the means by which truth is said to be determined (relative scientific vs. in-group consensus). We reflect on these results with respect to both psychological processes assumed to be associated with the expression of prejudice, as well as their applied implications for prejudice reduction.

Morality and Prosociality (IP7)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Phantom costs in attraction: Why people reject dates with people who are too attractive

Andy Vonasch, University of Canterbury; Jessica Maxwell, McMaster University; Victoria Loginova, University of Canterbury; Charlotte Bush, University of Canterbury; Amelia Wise, University of Canterbury

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Past research showed that offering too good a deal to someone without sufficient explanation for it leads recipients to infer hidden "phantom costs" in it. The current research applies this to romantic attraction, wherein potential romantic partners who are "too attractive" for recipients of the attraction can be rejected because people infer "phantom costs." A series of in-person and online experiments ($N > 1400$) shows that both men and women infer phantom costs when the approacher is highly attractive but the approached is not. Phantom costs imagined included: The approacher has a terrible personality, is dangerous, is only interested in sex, or will not even show up to the date. However, people were less likely to imagine phantom costs when a reason was provided for the asymmetry in physical attraction: e.g., the approached partner has invisible positive qualities such as a great sense of humour. The key to phantom costs in this context is a perceived discrepancy in mate value. When participants imagined someone highly attractive "hitting on" them, participants who believed their own level of attraction was extremely high did not imagine phantom costs. When people were randomly assigned a mate value, they were suspicious of others with higher mate values approaching them. And when they judged third party interactions, they imagined phantom costs when they perceived a discrepancy in physical attractiveness—but only when another positive quality was not present to explain the interest in the less physically attractive person. Overall, the results show that people infer that showing too much interest in another person can be viewed with suspicion, potentially leading a person to reject a date with someone because they think they are too attractive for them and therefore infer ulterior motives for asking them on a date.

Cooperation around shared resources: Collective identities are linked to pastoralists' willingness to protect communal land

Anna Rabinovich, University of Sussex, UK; Thomas Currie Affiliations, University of Exeter; Vlad Zhischenko, University of Exeter; Stacey Heath, Open University; Lindsay Walker, University of Exeter; Kelvin Mtei, NM-AIST; Deepali Gohil, Converge catalysts

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Cooperative management of shared natural resources is one of the most urgent challenges the world is facing today. Addressing this challenge requires understanding of group process involved in willingness to cooperate around shared resources. Here, we address this issue in the context of shared land management in pastoralist communities of Tanzania and Kenya. In Study 1, we conducted a qualitative exploration of pastoralists' experiences of managing shared land that suffers from degradation. The key factors that make communities vulnerable to sub-optimal shared land management included lack of social cohesion, lack of alternative livelihood opportunities, and weak governance structures. We have then developed a predictive model of willingness to cooperate around shared land protection, based on the social identity approach, and tested it among Maasai communities in Tanzania (study 2, $N=297$) and within pastoralist conservancies in Kenya (study 3, $N=607$). The results demonstrated that collective identification (at a community or conservancy level) was linked to willingness to cooperate via development of cooperative group norms. The results also

point towards several parameters that may be conducive to developing stronger identification with pastoralist conservancies: transparency of purpose, motive alignment, sense of ownership, and demonstrated benefit. The present research responds to calls for extending work on cooperation in shared resource dilemmas beyond laboratory contexts, offering practical implications for addressing lack of cooperation around environmental resources.

Replicating and extending the meat-paradox: Mindless furry test-tubes

Brock Bastian, University of Melbourne; Brock Bastian, University of Melbourne; Kevin Vezirian, Université Grenoble, Laurent Begue-Shankland, University Grenoble

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The meat-paradox has received significant attention, with a particular focus on the role of mind denial to food animals. In this talk, I will present research that replicates and extends this finding, first demonstrating that the mind denial effects appear to replicate in a direct replication attempt (Chalmers, , and then discuss recent findings showing this effect extends to the contexts of lab-animals. Specifically, I will discuss four preregistered and high-powered online studies (total N = 3405) revealing that categorizing animals as being lab-subjects, in a context where people are also reminded of the implications of their own consumer choices, leads to their mind denial. The findings reveal that participants consistently denied mind to animals used for product testing compared to those same animals presented outside of this context. Manipulating the perceived suffering experienced by laboratory animals and the responsibility of individuals, however, did not affect the extent of mind denial. The findings will be discussed in terms of different processes through which mind-denial occurs, in order to rationalize our exploitation of animals across different contexts.

Rethinking Animal Mind Perception: A New Framework for Moral Insights

Michael Philipp, University of Canterbury, NZ; Michael Philipp, University of Canterbury, NZ; Brandon McMurtrie, Massey University, NZ

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Understanding how animal minds are perceived is essential for shaping the moral considerations and welfare policies that influence everything from our stance on meat consumption to support for animal protection laws. However, existing methods to assess animal mind perception often lack nuance, treating these perceptions as overly simplistic or conflating them with perceptions of human minds. This can lead to inconsistent and sometimes misleading conclusions. The Perception of Animal Minds Scale (PAMS) addresses these limitations with a more refined assessment of the distinct constellations of mental capabilities human perceive in animal minds and their moral implications. Across four studies with more than 2000 participants, supplemented with secondary analysis of published research, we identify three consistent clusters of mental capabilities: sociality, autonomy, and primitivity. While these facets somewhat parallel previously identified dimensions such as experience and agency, the mental capabilities within the PAMS cluster differently. Each facet also shows distinct associations with moral concern about animal use,

such as the acceptability of population management euthanasia. This talk demonstrates how the PAMS can enhance understanding of the ethical foundations and consequences of human-animal interactions, offering a more precise tool for future research and policy development.

Loneliness, Anxiety and Grief (IP10)

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

The Unexplored Role of Social Identities in Grief Interventions: A Scoping Review

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Social identities, derived from group memberships, support us through various life transitions. Yet, despite extensive evidence that significant loss can have profound impacts on an individual's identity, the role of social identities during bereavement remains underexplored. We conducted a scoping review to explore whether current grief interventions specifically address issues of social connection, social support, or identity. We screened over 5000 papers and identified 29 studies that met inclusion criteria. The findings indicated that existing grief interventions that have a social component have shown effectiveness in reducing grief-related outcomes (e.g., grief, depression and anxiety). However, only a minority of interventions explicitly addressed social support, social connection, or identity in their content or evaluation criteria. A significant number of the interventions identified also lacked a clear theoretical framework guiding their design and implementation; and no interventions had applied social identity theorising. Our findings suggest that current grief interventions may not adequately address the disruptions to social connection, support, and identity commonly experienced during bereavement. This presents a critical avenue for future research and intervention development to support the health of people experiencing grief following significant loss.

A social belonging intervention to prevent loneliness among young people

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Loneliness is a pervasive public health challenge that is reaching epidemic proportions globally. Research shows that young people aged 11 to 24 are more likely to experience loneliness than any other age group, and rates of youth loneliness are increasing rapidly around the world. For example, loneliness among Australian school students has risen more than three and a half times in less than a decade. Despite more than forty years of research in this field, efforts to prevent and manage loneliness continue to fall short. Yet, a promising

development is GROUPS 4 HEALTH (G4H) – a social-identity focused intervention designed to help people develop and maintain group memberships and social identities in ways that support their health and wellbeing. G4H has proven effective in reducing loneliness among vulnerable populations; however, its potential to prevent loneliness, especially among adolescence, has not yet been explored. Our research fills this gap by providing the first interrogation of G4H in a prevention context within schools. In this talk, we present G4H@School, a bespoke translation of GROUPS 4 HEALTH tailored to meet the needs of Year 7 students. We describe how this adaptation was achieved through co-design with educators and their students. Moreover, we describe findings from an initial pilot with a cohort of ~140 Year 7 students (aged 11-13) who have recently transitioned to high school. Findings from this study will pave the way for ongoing integration of G4H@School into the school curriculum, building the social capability of future generations of students for years to come."

Social Withdrawal ('Hikikomori') in Australia: From a Social Rank Theory Perspective

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This study investigated the existence of prolonged social withdrawal ('hikikomori') in Australia, and its characteristics, from the perspective of Social Rank Theory. It was proposed that a maladaptive self-reinforcing cycle of shame and withdrawal, initiated by core shame, and facilitated by interpersonal sensitivity, shame-proneness, and low social connectedness, may be involved in the development and maintenance of hikikomori. Two hundred and forty-seven Australian adults completed an online survey. Of these, 46 met the criteria for hikikomori (currently, or in the past). Hikikomori reported significantly higher core shame, interpersonal sensitivity, and shame-proneness, and significantly lower social connectedness, at the time of withdrawal, compared to non-hikikomori. Further, a logistic regression revealed strong associations of high core shame and low social connectedness with hikikomori, while controlling for agoraphobia. These findings demonstrate the existence and characteristics of hikikomori in Australia and provide initial cross-sectional evidence that social Rank Theory may be applicable to understanding the development and maintenance of hikikomori. Future research should further examine the roles of core shame and social connectedness in hikikomori to contribute to the development of targeted interventions for this condition.

Sociocultural Influences on Social Anxiety among Asian Diasporas in the West: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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This systematic review and meta-analysis aimed to identify the range of sociocultural factors that have been studied in relation to social anxiety in Asians residing in Western societies and

synthesise research findings on the relationship between these sociocultural factors and social anxiety. A systematic search was conducted in PsycINFO, PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science and ProQuest (last searched in March 2024). Thirty-five studies were identified and qualitatively synthesised. Five broad themes of sociocultural factors emerged in the current review: (1) self-concept influenced by cultural beliefs: self-construal (independent and interdependent) and loss of face; (2) bicultural experiences: acculturation, enculturation, and bicultural identity integration; (3) discrimination; (4) family and peer influences; (5) social situations. Meta-analyses were run for variables that had more than four independent effect sizes (Pearson's r) reported in identified studies: independent self-construal ($n = 8$), interdependent self-construal ($n = 8$), acculturation ($n = 7$) and enculturation ($n = 5$). The review identified independent self-construal, acculturation and bicultural identity integration as potential protectors against social anxiety in this group and suggested that greater discrimination and out-group social interactions are linked with greater social anxiety. However, results on interdependent self-construal, enculturation and family or peer influences were mixed and require further elucidation. Findings from the review suggest that sociocultural factors are an important influence on social anxiety among Asian people living in the West. A better understanding of how sociocultural processes present unique challenges and buffers for Asian migrants is critical to the development and implementation of culturally responsive interventions.

Poster Session – Monday, 25/11/2024 - 5PM

Superfloor (Level 6)

Campus green spaces in Australian universities: A qualitative study of students' interactions, experiences and suggestions for improvement.

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The current study sought to better understand how Australian university students experience and interact with and within their campus green space(s). This research further investigated students' recommendations for improving their campus green space(s) with the aim of reporting instructive suggestions and potential implementation. A qualitative methodological approach was applied to advertise an online survey to Australian university students. The questionnaire included original prompts that encouraged students to discuss their relation to campus green space(s) and provide suggestions for improving the area(s). Participants ($n = 70$) responses underwent a thematic analysis via NVivo. The analysis found five themes that

highlighted students' experiences and interactions with and within campus green space(s) as being social, supportive of well-being, mental health and a sense of belonging, enjoyable and relaxing whilst still fostering academic engagement. Principles from the biophilia hypothesis, stress reduction theory and attention restoration theory were used to interpret the identified themes. The discussion contributed new insight on how university students perceive their campuses' green space(s) to the field of environmental psychology. The study concluded with a succinct report which outlined students' recommendations that addressed collectively expressed issues such as noise pollution, lack of privacy or shade, and limited plant diversity. An added summary indicated how the recommendations could be practically implemented into university policy and procedure. This research recognised that there is great potential for similar future research or resulting implementations that benefit both students and green space(s).

A longitudinal analysis of the mediating effect of perceived family support in the relationship between social class and wellbeing

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The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted wellbeing across Australia, with individuals from lower social class backgrounds experiencing the most significant impacts. The present study proposes a model of wellbeing based on one of the key risk factors identified from the pandemic – family support. Recent research underscores the heightened importance of family social support in shaping wellbeing outcomes, particularly due to the isolation enforced by lockdowns. However, while the relationship between wellbeing and family support has been shown to vary by age, the intersection with social class remains underexplored. The present study proposes a moderated mediation model, using perceived family support as a mediator, and age as a moderator. Utilising a nationally representative dataset collected in three waves across 2023 (N = 3,860), we examined two key indicators of wellbeing: life satisfaction and psychological distress. Social class generally predicted higher levels of perceived family support. Perceived family support, in turn, predicted more positive wellbeing outcomes. Contrary to expectations, the moderating effect of age was not significant, suggesting that the relationship between perceived family support and wellbeing does not vary across different age groups. The mediating effect of perceived family support is discussed in light of past research evidence. Overall, this study contributes to the understanding of social determinants of health following a global crisis and discusses the implications for policy and targeted interventions to address the needs of vulnerable populations.

Reasons to Protect Nature: A Qualitative Exploration of Australians' Avoidance/Approach Motivations and Emotions

Lyndal Kilgannon, Deakin University; Anna Klas, Deakin; Olivia Jones, Deakin; Kate Barford, Deakin, La Trobe University

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Significant changes to Australians' behaviours toward the natural environment are needed to mitigate a climate emergency. Yet, Australian's existing concerns for the natural environment have not translated into meaningful action. To address this, a qualitative analysis explored Australians' avoidance/approach motivations and negative and positive emotions when reporting reasons to protect the natural environment. A qualitative secondary data analysis was employed with a sample of 482 Australians aged 18-84 years ($M = 45.55$, $SD = 15.76$) recruited via an online survey. Utilising a content analysis methodology, results showed that participants reported avoidance motivations of loss, destruction, death and suffering. Approach motivations were also reported with anthropocentric and eco-centric drivers. Negative emotions of fear, contempt and hopelessness were identified, while positive emotions of compassion, gratitude, awe, beauty, and enjoyment were also conveyed. These findings illustrate the diversity of pro-environmental motivations in Australia, suggesting a multi-pronged approach may be beneficial for environmental communications.

Impacts of Conspiracy Mentality and Susceptibility to Misinformation on Climate Change Beliefs and Attitudes Towards Climate Action

Madeline Harrison, Monash University; Tylor Cosgrove, Monash University

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Despite overwhelming scientific evidence for anthropogenic climate change and its consequences, there remains a significant percentage of people who continue to resist taking climate action. Research suggests that a general conspiracy mentality, as well as a susceptibility to believe misinformation may contribute to this widespread climate inaction. In order to properly understand the relationships between these variables, it should be considered whether belief in anthropogenic climate change affects the way in which they interact. Thus, this study aimed to investigate how conspiracy mentality and susceptibility to misinformation each predict attitudes towards climate action, and the extent to which belief in anthropogenic climate change may explain these relationships. The sample was made up of 305 participants aged between 18 and 88 ($M = 50.87$, 46.6% male) recruited from the general United States population via CloudResearch. All participants completed measures of conspiracy mentality, susceptibility to misinformation, belief in anthropogenic climate change and attitudes towards climate action. Unexpectedly, standard regression indicated that the relationship between conspiracy mentality and willingness to take climate action was nonsignificant ($p = .053$). Mediated regression indicated that the relationship between susceptibility to misinformation and willingness to take climate action was significant, and further, was fully mediated by belief in anthropogenic climate change. The mediation model accounted for significant unique variance ($R^2 = .16$, $p < .001$) in willingness to take climate action. These findings reveal that a predisposition to believing people act in secret for malevolent reasons does not explain resistance to climate action, however a tendency to believe in misinformation does.

Realistic Conflict, Modern Racism and the Defeat of the Voice to Parliament Referendum

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In 2023, the Australian public voted against a referendum to enshrine an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament in the constitution. The current study sought to analyse the referendum result through the lens of two prominent, but untested social psychological theories in the contemporary Australian context: modern racism and realistic conflict theory. People high on modern racism measures tend to perceive racial minorities as violating cherished majority group values, such as hard work, individualism and meritocracy. In contrast, people high on realistic conflict measures perceive out-groups as representing realistic threats to concrete or abstract resources that the in-group hold, such as political power, economic opportunities etc. We utilised a large, nationally representative, longitudinal dataset ($N = 4,942$), which captured non-Indigenous Australians' attitudes towards the Voice, Indigenous Australians and other measures taken just before and shortly after the referendum was held. Using structural equation modelling, we modelled the influence of modern racism and perceptions of realistic conflict on both voting intention and voting choice, whilst controlling for conservative ideology. Preliminary results suggest that modern racism and perceptions of realistic conflict both had a significant influence on voting intention and choice in the 2023 referendum, over and above that of conservatism ideology. Theoretical and practical implications of these results will be discussed.

Being transgender and/or non?binary in mainland China: A qualitative exploration

Sue Ji, University of Sydney; Mr. Michael Kassara, University of Sydney; Associate Professor Ilan Dar-Nimrod, University of Sydney; Dr James Morandini, University of Sydney; Dr Sarah E. Ratcliffe, University of Sydney.

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Research increasingly emphasises the stigmatised social-cultural status of Chinese transgender and gender non-binary (TGNB) people, but how they identify their gender under such status remains unexplored. This study uses qualitative methods to explore TGNB people living in mainland China experiences of gender identification. Chinese TGNB individuals were recruited via LGBT+ organisations in China and snowball sampling. Semi-structured interviews were conducted via Zoom in Mandarin and included questions about gender identity development, interactions with others, well-being, and unmet needs. Interviews were transcribed in Mandarin and translated into English for analysis. Data were thematically analysed. From March to June 2024, sixteen TGNB adults living in mainland China, aged 18 to 38 ($M = 25.6$, $SD = 5.29$) were interviewed. Interviews lasted 60 to 120 minutes ($M = 86$ minutes). Preliminary analysis developed five -themes about Chinese TGNB people's gender identification and related experiences: Exploring identity; Understanding identity; Being me; Surviving; and Looking forward. Participants shared how their experiences of gender identification are intertwined with their social-cultural environment, well-being, and sexuality. This study provides novel insights into identity-related experiences among Chinese TGNB

people, highlighting how minority individual narratives and dominant socio-cultural factors co-develop Chinese TGNB people's identities in mainland China. The findings indicate the importance of considering cultural and social discourse and identity utility in Chinese TGNB people's gender identity development and well-being. Future research should investigate feasible methods for improving the well-being of Chinese TGNB people.

Acting on Momentary Emotions: Surface Acting in Daily Life

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Modulating emotional responses plays a crucial role in individuals' intrapersonal and interpersonal lives. Among various response modulation strategies, this study aims to examine surface acting, which refers to the behaviour of faking and/or displaying affective expressions that are not consistent with, or even contradict, inner feelings, in daily life. Using ecological momentary assessment (EMA) with a college student sample (n=82), we examined when individuals use surface acting and how surface acting is associated with affective well-being (negative affect) in everyday contexts. In addition, since response modulation has consistently shown cultural variation, we investigated whether the patterns of surface acting use and its affective consequences differ across cultures (Easterners vs. Westerners). By conducting multilevel modelling, we found that individuals use more surface acting with non-close others (vs. close others) and when they perceive situations as more subjectively significant. Additionally, surface acting was positively associated with negative affect. While being East Asians marginally predicted higher levels of surface acting (vs. Westerners), this effect became non-significant when contextual factors were considered. The positive relationship between surface acting and negative affect did not differ across cultures. This study is novel in examining surface acting across various daily contexts beyond work settings, revealing contextual variations. We believe it contributes to expanding the emotion regulation literature on response modulation, which has predominantly focused on expressive suppression.

Tuesday, 26/11/2024 - 9 AM

Symp (S1): Navigating Prejudice and Affirmation: Trans Health and Wellbeing in a Complex Social Landscape

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chair: Joel R Anderson

This symposium brings together four presentations that explore unique challenges that transgender Australians face in navigating their health and wellbeing. Ryan's presentation will critically examine the relationship between feminist movements and transgender inclusion, questioning whether contemporary feminist ideologies extend to embrace trans identities. This analysis will shed light on the broader implications of exclusionary practices within feminist spaces. Amos will delve into the various ways trans people are supported in gender-affirming contexts, exploring the significance of access to affirming healthcare, social

recognition, and supportive environments. This presentation will highlight how such support systems are crucial in mitigating the negative effects of societal prejudice. Kadi will focus on the direct link between gender affirmation and the health and wellbeing of trans individuals. By examining the psychological and physical benefits of gender-affirming care, this talk will underscore the importance of affirmation in fostering positive health outcomes. Finally, Javier will explore the connection between community connectedness and the psychological health of trans people. This presentation will demonstrate how strong community ties can serve as a buffer against the harmful effects of prejudice, promoting resilience and overall wellbeing. Together, these presentations will provide a comprehensive overview of the intersection between transgender experiences of prejudice and the critical role of affirmation and community in promoting health and wellbeing.

Sex wars and TERF wars: The divisiveness of who is included in feminism

Michelle Ryan, The Australian National University; Thekla Morgenroth, Purdue University; Teri Kirby, Purdue University; Miriam Zehnert, University of Exeter

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An increasing number of people identify as feminists, but there is disagreement about whom and what feminism should be fighting for. Using a multi-method approach, across three studies (total N=3,387), we examine (1) disagreements in today's feminist movement and how these disagreements come together to form different ideological groups as well as (2) psychological variables associated with different feminist beliefs and ideologies. In doing so we establish a nuanced picture of contemporary feminism in the UK and the US. Study 1 used open-response data to identify topics on which today's feminists disagree. Study 2 used exploratory factor analyses to examine how views on these topics hang together, resulting in eight feminist beliefs scales. Finally, Study 3 used cluster analysis to determine what ideological groups of feminists exist in quasi-representative samples from the US and the UK and explored the associations of these beliefs with relevant psychological constructs. Transgender issues, sex work, and the importance of marginalized perspectives were the most polarizing issues across studies, highlighting that feminists are more divided on the issue of who feminism should fight for, than what feminism should fight for. These studies show the heterogeneity of feminist ideologies and the continued barriers to a truly inclusive and intersectional feminist movement.

Trans young people who are supported to affirm their gender in the ways that they wish to are not just surviving, they're thriving.

Nat Amos, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University; Ruby Grant, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University; Adam O Hill, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University; Ken Pang, The University of Melbourne; Rachel Skinner, The University of Sydney; Ashleigh Lin, Telethon Kids Institute; Teddy Cook, ACON; Anthony Lyons, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University; Adam Bourne, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University.

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Trans young people of all genders experience disproportionately high rates of poor mental health and wellbeing outcomes. These outcomes are exacerbated by experiences of discrimination, abuse, family rejection and poor access to affirming care. Data was analysed from 1,697 trans young people who participated in the Writing Themselves In 4 (WTI4) national survey of LGBTQA+ young people in Australia. Trans young people who indicated that they had ever hoped to affirm their gender medically, legally or socially, further reported whether they had felt supported to do so or if they felt their access had been denied, delayed or controlled by others. Analyses were performed to identify associations between feeling supported to affirm gender and mental health and wellbeing outcomes. Trans young people who felt supported to affirm their gender, whether medically, legally or socially, were less likely to report suicidality or self-harm in the past 12 months. These young people also reported lower levels of psychological distress and generalized anxiety, they were happier, less likely to have experienced homelessness and less likely to have experienced verbal abuse in the past 12 months. The findings suggest that supporting trans young people to affirm their gender in the ways that are meaningful to them is key to their health and wellbeing. Families and others who are in a position to support trans young people to affirm must be encouraged and supported to do so.

Supporting the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Transgender People Through the Process of Gender Affirmation: A Social Identity Approach

Isabella Kadi, Australian National University; Isabella Kadi, Australian National University; Tegan Cruwys, Australian National University; Joanne Rathbone, Australian National University; Charlie Crimston, Australian National University

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Transgender people are disproportionately affected by mental ill-health due to the discrimination that they experience. Social support and connection to the transgender and LGBTQ+ communities consistently arise as protective factors that support the health of transgender people. However, little is known about how these connections come to support health. For this reason, this study sought to investigate social identity processes. Drawing on the Rejection Identification Model and Social Identity Model of Identity Change, we surveyed 311 transgender people about their health, experiences of discrimination, transgender identity, and group memberships. Using mediation analyses, we found that discrimination was associated with increased identification as transgender, which had divergent impacts on health in line with the different dimensions of social identification. Further, we found that group memberships may have protective benefits for transgender people's health to the extent that they are able to maintain existing group memberships and foster new ones in the context of gender affirmation. This study provides evidence that groups and social identities can have both positive and negative pathways to health among trans and gender diverse populations. We discuss implications for clinical practice with transgender clients as well as social identity research in highly stigmatised populations.

A Longitudinal Investigation on the Associations Between Community Connectedness and Psychological Wellbeing in Australian Transgender and Gender Diverse Adults

Christienne Javier, University of Queensland; Christienne Javier, The University of Queensland; Alexander W. O'Donnell, The University of Tasmania; Charlie R. Crimston, Australian National University; Mala McHale, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital; Sally Price, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital; Fiona Kate Barlow, The University of Queensland.

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Extensive research has shown that social connections can provide transgender and gender diverse people with support and a sense of belonging, which, in turn, improves wellbeing. Much of this research is limited by cross-sectional designs, precluding investigations of how changes in their social connections over time relate to wellbeing (and vice versa). In this talk, I present findings from a year-long longitudinal study that explored the associations between connectedness with cisgender and transgender communities and wellbeing in transgender and gender diverse patients who accessed the only dedicated public gender clinic in Queensland. Data was collected at four waves from September 2022 to August 2023. Results from random-intercept cross-lagged panel models show that transgender and gender diverse participants who are highly connected to their transgender and/or cisgender communities reported higher levels of life satisfaction, as well as lower levels of gender dysphoria, dissociation, depression, anxiety, and stress, than those who are less connected. Additionally, participants who experienced an increase in gender dysphoria at one wave reported higher levels of connectedness to the cisgender community at a subsequent wave. However, those who were highly connected to their own transgender community at one wave reported lower levels of life satisfaction at a later wave. The implications of these findings will be discussed, with particular attention to the potential importance of support from the cisgender community for transgender and gender diverse people's wellbeing

Symp (S8): Understanding Mistrust as a Barrier to a Sustainable Society

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chairs: Kimin Eom and Matthew J. Hornsey

Together, these works shed light on diverse key factors explaining mistrust and scepticism regarding environmental issues and provide insights on how to overcome these barriers to move toward a more sustainable society.

Intellectual Humility Predicts Climate Change Scepticism and Trust in Science and Scientists

Ho Phi Huynh, Australian National University; Samanthan K. Stanley, UNSW Institute for Climate Risk & Response; Zoe Leviston, Australian National University; Malin K. Lilley, Texas A&M University

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Public attitudes about climate change vary widely despite clear consensus among climate scientists. Understanding predictors of these attitudes may inform ways to foster greater support for climate action to reduce climate change and its effects. Intellectually humble people can typically separate their knowledge from their egos; they are more open to revising their viewpoints, respect others' viewpoints, and reject intellectual hubris. As such, they may be able to navigate climate change science with more agility. We examined whether intellectual humility predicts climate change scepticism and trust in science/scientists beyond demographic factors and political orientation. We recruited participants living in the United States ($N = 322$, 53.8% female, $M_{age} = 39.93$, $SD_{age} = 12.83$) using Prolific. Intellectual humility was associated with lower climate change scepticism and higher trust in science/scientists. Regression analyses demonstrated that intellectual humility predicted climate scepticism and trust in science and scientists above and beyond participant demographics (i.e., SES, gender, age, education) and, importantly, political orientation. In particular, respect for others' viewpoints and lack of intellectual overconfidence drove the association with climate scepticism, whereas willingness to revise one's viewpoints and lack of intellectual overconfidence drove the association with trust in science/scientists. These findings demonstrate the potential role of intellectual humility in predicting climate change attitudes and trust in science and scientists.

Perceived Motives of Scientists Moderate Persuasive Power of Scientific Consensus

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Across two studies ($N = 2,603$), we exposed participants to different information about the primary motives of why scientists conduct research—control, financial motives, and prosocial motives—and examined the persuasive power of scientist consensus in increasing positive attitudes toward cultured meat. Scientific consensus (i.e., information that most scientists agree on the safety of cultured meat) generally increased positive attitudes toward cultured meat. However, such positive effects depended on the perceived motives of scientists. Exposure to information about scientists' financial motives weakened the effect of scientific consensus on increasing positive attitudes toward cultured meat because it undermined trust in scientists. Interestingly, information about scientists' prosocial motives did not change the scientific consensus effect (compared to the control condition). This may be because the public generally perceives scientists as conducting research for prosocial reasons by default. Taken together, our findings suggest that perceived motives can shift trust in experts, thereby affecting their influence on public attitudes.

The mainstreaming of conspiracy theories and misinformation about wind farms

Matthew Hornsey, University of Queensland; Kevin Winter, University of Hohenheim; Kai Sassenberg, Leibniz-Institute for Psychology; Lotte Pommerer, University of Bremen

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Across 10 studies totalling >10,000 participants, we examined the prevalence and psychological underpinnings of misinformation about wind farms. Studies in Germany showed that opposition to wind farms was most strongly predicted by the conspiracist worldview, which explained 5 times more variance than political orientation and 20 times more variance than education. Furthermore, representative samples in the U.S., U.K., and Australia revealed widespread suspicion and misinformation about wind farms. For example, over 40% of Americans and Australia “agree” or “strongly agree” with the notion that “The government has secret arrangements with energy companies that would make both sides profit financially from the extension of wind energy”, and a third believe that the disposal of wind farms causes more CO₂ than is saved by their operation. Agreement with logically unrelated claims was highly correlated, which suggests that they are reflections of an underlying belief system directed at wind farm rejection. This interpretation was corroborated by the fact that endorsement was best predicted (positively) by the conspiracist worldview and (negatively) by a pro-ecological worldview. In contrast, science literacy and education were weak predictors. We conclude that wind farm contrarianism is a mainstream, ideologically rooted phenomenon that might be difficult to challenge via informational campaigns alone.

A link between climate scepticism and CO₂ emissions

Samuel Pearson, UQ Business School; Matthew Hornsey, UQ Business School; Belinda Wade, UQ Business School; Saphira Rekker, UQ Business School; Chris Greig, Princeton University

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Analyses of over 2 million geo-located tweets in the U.S. showed that climate scepticism - and the aggressiveness of climate-related tweets - was greater in states with higher per capita carbon emissions. This pattern remained significant after controlling for political conservatism, GDP per capita, education, and gender, and was replicated across 126 nations from around the world. The findings are consistent with a vested interest hypothesis—misinformation around climate change is most likely to be distributed in regions where there is high fossil fuel reliance, and where the economic stakes of acknowledging climate change are high.

Symp (S15): Identity and Belonging in Higher Education Pt 1

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Chair: Lillian Smyth

Social identity and sense of belonging are important for both shaping behaviour and for bolstering lived experience and wellbeing. Given the high-stakes at play in the context of higher education- higher education outcomes have a significant influence on long term quality of life, but are also uniquely vulnerable to social difficulties- the social perceptions and experiences of university students are a valuable applied context to explore these effects. The current two-part symposium presents a wide range of new evidence on these constructs

in the higher education settings. The symposium includes analysis of rich qualitative data on student experience and perceptions, alongside analysis of large existing datasets, intervention trials, and cross-sectional quantitative surveys. As a body of evidence, the symposium underscores the critical import of social connection and integration for students, while also highlighting a range of nuances. These include: the level at which we need to consider the student identity (e.g. institutional identities, field of study identities, identities constructed through interpersonal interaction), the conceptual differentiation between social identification and sense of belonging, tracking these effects over times, opportunities for intervention and approaches to those interventions and, importantly, the experiences of students from “non-traditional” or marginalised backgrounds.

Which identity are we talking about? A qualitative study of student perceptions of what identities are relevant when making decision about educational behaviour

Mila Knezovic, School of Medicine and Psychology, Australian National University; Lillian Smyth (Australian National University), Michael J. Platow (Australian National University)

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When examining social identification in higher education, focus is often placed upon “student” or “discipline” identities. Using these, we have constructed an evidence base for social identification’s impact on approaches to learning, academic outcomes, retention, and more. But as researchers we often stop short of questioning whether “student” is the psychologically meaningful identity in the contexts that we are interested in. Instead, our findings are built upon the assumption that our understanding of students’ as “students” is congruent with student self-perceptions, and therefore the reality being experienced and reported by students themselves. We aim to interrogate this assumption through qualitative data collection, asking university students to identify relevant others in the study context, describe their own social identities, how these function, and when and whether these govern student behaviours. With this knowledge we stand to gain a better understanding of how social identities contribute to beneficial outcomes in education and which level of identity may be worth focusing upon in research and interventions. The project is in three phases: a focus group, qualitative survey, and interviews - an iterative process in which each step is informed by the last. The current presentation reports on phases 1 and 2, data from which indicate recurring themes in how students describe the people they associate themselves with, the sources of identity content, its dynamic nature, and the importance of small and familiar groups of people.

Discipline-based social identity and organizational identity as predictors of approaches to learning and evaluation of teaching

Kenneth Mavor, School of Psychology and Neuroscience, University of St Andrews; Ewan Bottomley, University of Aberdeen; Brenda Marin, University of St Andrews; Lillian Smyth, Australian National University

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The present research aimed to tease apart the meaning of the “student” identity in higher education by distinguishing the concepts of discipline-based social identity and organizational identity. Across three studies we examine discipline-based and organizational social identities’ relations to educational outcomes and student experience. Our first study (n=203) examines the relationships between identity, engagement, and satisfaction with the course and university. The results suggest that discipline identity predicts students’ commitment to their study and their degree satisfaction. Students’ organizational identity predicted their university and degree satisfaction. In Study 2A (n=240), we examined organizational and discipline identity in relation to deep and surface learning, as well as performance undermining behaviours. Organizational identity failed to explain variance in deep learning beyond that explained by discipline identity. Moreover, discipline, but not organizational identity, indirectly reduced performance undermining behaviour. In Study 2B (n=109) we replicated Study 2A, but also used a cross-lagged longitudinal design. Discipline identity in one semester predicts both changes in discipline and organizational identity in the following semester. In contrast, organizational identity predicts organizational identity in the following semester, but fails to predict discipline identity. Taken together, our studies suggest that there is benefit in understanding both discipline-based and organisational social identities.

Making the case for physical appearance congruence as factor shaping social identification and sense of belonging as a student

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Identification and belonging affect student outcomes, but there is limited evidence differentiating these two constructs and their specific effects. In a broad student population, this is non-problematic, as evidence suggests identity and belonging are moderately correlated. However, the experiences of specific groups of students are not as easily mapped with this approach. Non-majority students can be marginalised on a range of dimensions, but one aspect often reported in qualitative data, but not systematically explored quantitatively, is Perceived Visible Physical Appearance Congruence (PVPAC). That is, the extent to which students feel they look like- and are perceived to look like- the typical student in their context. Given that early contact with other students is often in large-group settings with limited opportunities for interaction (e.g. lectures), these appearance-based perceptions shape the ways in which students identify in the critical first semester of university. The current study provides pilot evidence that PVPAC is psychologically meaningful for students, often construed in terms of wealth and ethnicity, and related to student demographics, identification and belonging. Qualitative data from an online survey, pooled from two thesis projects on students at Australian Go8 universities (N = 229) were analysed through reflexive thematic analysis. In particular, descriptions of the “typical student” were analysed through reflexive thematic analysis. Descriptions of the “typical student” were analysed to explore perceptions of prototypical physical appearance

The impact of physical appearance congruence on identity, belonging and wellbeing in two samples of marginalised students

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This project examines the role of Perceived Visible Physical Appearance Congruence (PVPAC), within a larger model of student identification, belonging and well-being. We expected that PVPAC would be associated with both identification and belonging and would interact to predict student wellbeing. We further hypothesized that these effects might be of different strengths, particularly in different sub-populations. Using a quantitative dataset derived from an online survey pooled from two thesis projects on student populations at Go8 universities (N=250), we tested a moderation model looking at the effects of PVPAC on the relationship between identification and belonging respectively on two different forms of well-being (recent mental wellness and general satisfaction with life). The model was further investigated in two subgroups of minoritised student populations: second-generation immigrants (N=103) and students from lower social class backgrounds (N=147). Findings indicate that there is a significant negative moderating effect of PVPAC on the relationships between identification and belonging on well-being respectively, with different effects for identification and belonging. These results indicate that the well-being of students with low social identification and belonging is impacted by reduced PVPAC. The data also shows that social identification and belonging are two different constructs and should be studied concurrently to provide a more nuanced understanding of student experiences.

Symp (S20): Social psychology & COVID-19: Learnings and insights post-crisis Pt 1

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

Chairs: Haochen Zhou & Kate Reynolds; Discussant: Jolanda Jetten

In this joint symposium, the first group of talks focuses on health behaviours, including how group norms influenced COVID-19 health practices, changes in sexual behaviour during the pandemic, and the role of mindfulness and resilience in mitigating mental distress. The second group of talk explore the effects on young people, highlighting the protective roles of school climate, identification, and social connectedness in supporting student wellbeing and engagement during the pandemic. Each speaker will identify implications of their work relevant to times of stability and during crises.

Does COVID-19 herald a new era for the psychology of behaviour change?

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A silver lining of COVID-19 may be an awareness of the importance of behaviour change and the contribution of psychology. Different countries engaged with psychology and social psychology in different ways and adopted different 'theories' of the human subject and behaviour change (e.g., with an individual approach there was an emphasis on attitudes, risk perception, behavioural fatigue, loneliness and mental health, crowd fear and panic, incentivisation). In some areas there was an increased and novel openness towards group-based processes (social identity and group norms, collective responsibility, aid and solidarity, leadership and social influence). Internally within the field debates emerged about whether psychology was ready for "prime time" and the crisis of generalisability. In this presentation the focus will be on how COVID-19 offers a disciplinary opportunity to advance 'social' psychology.

The relationship between mindfulness and mental distress in Chinese people during the COVID-19 pandemic: Moderating effects of infection severity of region and mediating effects of resilience and self-efficacy

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The current study investigated the moderating effects of COVID-19 infection severity of region of residence, and the mediating effects of resilience and self-efficacy, on the relationship between mindfulness and mental distress during the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 1,220 participants from 107 cities in China took part in a cross-sectional survey. The data were collected during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic (from April 10 to June 10, 2020). The final sample comprised of 1,201 participants with a mean age of 29.62 (SD = 12.72; Range = 18-78). Participants were categorized into high, moderate, and low infection-severity areas according to the numbers of infected people and deaths in their residential areas as of April 16, 2020. The findings showed that mindfulness, resilience, and self-efficacy were negatively associated with the mental distress indicators of stress, anxiety, and depression and that mindfulness, resilience, and self-efficacy positively correlated to one another. COVID-19 infection severity in one's region of residence did not moderate the negative associations between mindfulness and stress, anxiety and depression, while resilience and self-efficacy mediated the negative relationship between mindfulness and mental distress. This study therefore sheds light on some of the mechanisms by which mindfulness helps individuals maintain good mental health in times of adversity. The inclusion of mindfulness, resilience, and self-efficacy in the design and implementation of mental health intervention in response to the pandemic and future public health crisis may help mitigate some of the mental problems related to the COVID-19 and future pandemics.

Changes in sexual behaviours among students during the COVID-19: An 18-country examination

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The Behavioural Immune System (BIS) theory posits that certain behavioural changes are motivated by the presence of pathogens. As pathogens are often transmitted interpersonally, behaviours that necessitate direct contact should be particularly sensitive to temporal changes in pathogens. Sexual interactions represent behaviours that have traditionally required direct interpersonal contact, making a pathogenic rise, such as in the case of a pandemic, an important environment to assess changes in such behaviours. The present study explored changes in various sexual behaviours during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the extent these changes were predicted by the prevalence of disease and lockdown severity. Participants (N = 11,310) across 18 countries reported the frequency of common sexual behaviours before and during the pandemic. Results revealed a broad decline in all such behaviours. Changes in sexting and solitary behaviours were associated with historical prevalence of disease, whereas intercourse frequency was more related to lockdown stringency. Findings provide some support for the BIS, but also highlight the importance of examining newly emergent factors in a pandemic.

Symp (S17): Social-psychological influences on effort and performance during sport and exercise

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

Chair: Mark Stevens

Understanding the factors that shape people's effort and performance during sport and exercise tasks has been a key focus of research in sport and exercise psychology for several decades. In recent times, growing evidence has pointed to the key role that social factors can play in this regard. However, this research has tended to use survey methods and measure key outcomes subjectively, precluding confident conclusions regarding causal effects. This symposium will showcase a collection of three experimental studies that examined the effect of social factors on people's objectively assessed effort and performance during a range of sport and exercise tasks. Studies 1 and 2 speak to the effect that social norms—a prevailing feature of many sport and exercise contexts—can have on people's effort and performance during exercise tasks. They also shed light on the pathways through which the normative influence effects occur and highlight the importance of getting norm messages 'just right' to maximise their positive influence. Study 3 demonstrates that social support can be a powerful motivator during sport and exercise tasks and highlights the role it can play in helping people to 'bounce back' from setbacks—a key determinant of sporting success.

Key considerations for research examining social-psychological influences on sport and exercise outcomes: Prevailing issues and potential solutions

Mark Stevens, The Australian National University

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In this talk, I will highlight several commonalities in research that has focused on how social-psychological factors affect people's effort and performance during sport and exercise tasks,

as well as their physical activity behaviours more broadly. Several of these commonalities, I argue, limit the strength of the conclusions that can be drawn from extant research and mean that new and more rigorous examinations are required. To set the scene for the empirical studies that will be described in the symposium, I will describe the ways through which we have sought to address some of the limitations that we perceive are shared by a large proportion of research in this area. This includes through (a) using experimental designs, (b) incorporating baseline assessments of key dependent variables, and (c) minimising reliance on self-report measures in favour of using varied approaches to obtain objective measurements of key dependent variables. During the talk, I will draw on examples from our other research in this area to demonstrate the importance of taking steps such as these to enhance confidence in empirical findings.

The Effect of Descriptive Norms on Exercise Outputs During a Video-Guided Workout

Olivia Davies, The Australian National University; Mark Stevens, The Australian National University; Tegan Cruwys, The Australian National University

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Evidence from observation studies suggests that people's exercise behaviours are shaped by their perceptions of descriptive norms (the typical behaviours of others). Building on this, the present study examined the causal effects of manipulating people's perceptions of descriptive norms on objective indicators of their exercise output and exertion during a specific exercise task: a video-guided workout. Participants (N=102) first completed a baseline trial in which they were asked to complete a workout to the best of their ability. Prior to and during Trial 2, participants in the experimental group were presented with feedback, which indicated that the number of exercise repetitions they completed during Trial 1 was 10% below average. Participants in the control group received no normative feedback. Experimental group participants improved their repetition count to a significantly greater extent than control group participants during Trial 2. Those in the experimental group also demonstrated increases in their maximum and average heart rate from Trial 1 to Trial 2, while control group participants demonstrated reduced exertion. Moderation and mediation analyses demonstrated that the effect of the norm messages on participants' exercise output and exertion were (a) greater among participants who more strongly identified with the norm reference group and (b) underpinned by increases in participants' task motivation. Findings suggest that descriptive norm messages may be a fruitful way for exercise professionals to motivate exercisers to maximize their exertion and outputs.

The effect of varying levels of descriptive norm feedback on effort and performance during an exercise task

Gabrielle Guillermo-Tregoning, The Australian National University; Mark Stevens, The Australian National University

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Growing evidence suggests that manipulations of descriptive norms—people’s perceptions of the typical behaviours of others—can affect people’s effort and performance during exercise tasks. However, this research has typically compared the effects of feedback indicating that participants have performed a fixed amount (e.g., 10%) below the norm to no feedback. No research has systematically varied the differential with a view to identifying the optimal degree of ‘aspiration’ for stimulating improvements in effort and performance. In a pre-registered experiment (N=105) with a pre-post between-subjects design, we examined the comparative effects of norm messages which indicated that participants had performed 10%, 30%, and 50% below average on an exercise task - a wall sit. We also measured the magnitude of participants’ task motivation and the strength of their perceived similarity to other members of the referent group as potential mediators. Participants in the 50% condition demonstrated the greatest increases in their wall sit performance from Trial 1 to Trial 2. There were no significant differences between the three conditions in changes in effort (maximum heart rate) and neither task motivation nor perceived similarity underpinned the performance effects. Results suggest that highly aspirational norm feedback can yield greater improvements in people’s performance on a physically demanding task than (arguably more attainable) feedback indicating people are closer to the norm. Further research is required to understand the mechanisms underpinning this effect.

The Effect of Esteem Support on Resilience During Cycling Time Trials

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Evidence suggests that social support can boost people’s performance during sporting tasks and competition. However, researchers have typically used cross sectional designs, examined the benefits of general social support, and focused on whether this facilitates better overall task performance or results. In an experiment, we tested the effect of one type of social support—esteem support—on two objective indicators of resilience during cycling time trials. We also examined whether this effect was mediated by participants’ challenge appraisals, threat appraisals, pain, and task motivation. Participants (N=80) completed two cycling time trials in quick succession. Following a baseline trial (Trial 1), all participants received negative feedback about their Trial 1 performance, creating an opportunity for them to demonstrate resilience by exerting high effort and performing well during Trial 2. During Trial 2, participants either received (experimental group) or did not receive (control group) esteem support. Participants in the experimental group demonstrated greater increases in distance travelled and maximum heart rate compared to those in the control group during Trial 2 (i.e., greater resilience following the negative feedback). These effects were underpinned by increases in task motivation among those that received esteem support but not by challenge appraisals, threat appraisals, or pain. Findings indicate that providing people with esteem support may be an effective way to enhance their capacity to bounce back from setbacks during sporting tasks.

Tuesday, 26/11/2024 - 10 AM

Symp (S2): Understanding Sexual Minority Stress and Maltreatment of LGBTQ+ Australians

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chair: Joel Anderson

This symposium addresses the maltreatment of LGBTQ+ Australians through the lens of sexual minority stress, encompassing a range of prejudices that impact this community. The presentations will explore various forms of prejudice, including direct experiences, vicarious prejudice, and internalized sexual prejudice, across diverse contexts such as youth, religious affiliations, ethnicity, and online dating environments. Clarke will open the symposium with a longitudinal analysis of social and psychological well-being trends by sexual orientation, gender, and age. Following this, Saunders will present quantitative research focused on vicarious prejudice. This presentation will highlight how witnessing prejudice against others within the gay community contributes to the overall stress and well-being of sexual minorities. Mercieca will then delve into internalized sexual prejudice, presenting findings that shed light on how Christian gay men internalize negative societal attitudes and the resulting impact on their well-being. Finally, Thai will present a latent class analysis of racial preferences among gay White Australian men, examining how these preferences correlate with attitudes toward masculinity and femininity within online dating settings. This presentation will underscore the complex interplay between racial and gender biases. Together, these presentations will offer a multifaceted understanding of sexual minority stress, emphasizing the need for inclusive strategies to mitigate the impacts of prejudice on the well-being of LGBTQ+ Australians.

A Naturalistic Test of Minority Stress Theory: Examining Social and Psychological Well-being Trends by Sexual Orientation, Gender and Age, from 2009 to 2022

Eden Clarke, University of Auckland; Eden V. Clarke, University of Auckland; Kieren J. Lilly, University of Auckland; Danny Osborne, University of Auckland; Deborah Hill Cone, University of Auckland; Sam Fluit, University of Oslo; Natalia M. Simionato, University of Auckland; Chris G. Sibley, University of Auckland; Fiona Kate Barlow, University of Queensland

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Minority stress theory suggests that shifts towards egalitarianism should reduce well-being disparities between heterosexual people and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and other sexual minorities (LGB+). However, few studies have examined well-being trends in these groups over periods of social change, nor by various intersectional identities. We address this issue directly using a large nationwide random sample of New Zealand adults over thirteen years (from 2009 to 2022; Ntotal = 72,790). We estimated multigroup latent growth curves for five domains of well-being, with participants grouped into eight subgroups by age (18-93), gender (women n = 45,712), and sexual identity (LGB+ n = 7,241). In doing so, we track people's wellbeing both before, and in the years following, major legal changes that increased LGB+ rights. Unexpectedly, multigroup latent growth curve models revealed stable well-being

differences between LGB+ and heterosexual participants across five domains of well-being, with little evidence of disparities reducing over time. Importantly, differences were most pronounced between younger LGB+ and heterosexual groups. These results highlight the pernicious ways that sexual prejudice is maintained across time and thus need to further examine the role of minority stress, as well as intersectional identities, on well-being among LGB+ populations.

When their experience becomes mine: Understanding vicarious LGBTQ+ discrimination

Andrea Saunders, Australian Catholic University; Andrea Saunders, Australian Catholic University; Jordan Hinton, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society - La Trobe University; Joel Anderson, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society - La Trobe University

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Personal experiences of discrimination are a pervasive stressor on the wellbeing of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) individuals. Despite extant literature on the harmful effects of discrimination for LGBTQ+ individuals, less is known about the relationship between vicarious LGBTQ+ discrimination (VD; i.e., second-hand exposure to LGBTQ+ discrimination) and psychosocial wellbeing. A systematic review and meta-analysis were performed to estimate the strength of the relationships between VD and associated outcomes within LGBTQ+ samples. Six databases yielded 3,805 records screened, with 29 studies (N_{Total} = 20,334 participants) included. Correlates were synthesised into four common domains: mental health, social health, distal stressors, and proximal stressors. VD was significantly and positively associated with mental ill-health, proximal stressor, distal stressor outcomes, but unrelated to social health. Meta-analytic sub-group analyses revealed significant differences in effect sizes between social health (e.g., LGBTQ+ community connectedness) and distal stress (e.g., victimisation) domain constructs. Further, sample comparisons show that VD may also be experienced by non-LGBTQ+ individuals (but either equally or less-so than LGBTQ+ individuals). This review provides evidence of VD's association with poorer psychosocial wellbeing for LGBTQ+ individuals, but also provides evidence that VD is associated with greater LGBTQ+ community connectedness and stronger social identification - factors that are generally considered protective to wellbeing.

The Experiences of Internalising Prejudice among Sexually and Gender Diverse Christians in Australia: A Qualitative Exploration

Braden Mercieca, Australian Catholic University; Braden Mercieca, Australian Catholic University; Joel Anderson, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society - La Trobe University

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Denominations of Christianity have condemned sexual and gender minorities (SGM) throughout history, leaving religious SGM in a state of identity conflict. Research suggests that this conflict increases internalised prejudice in this population, with SGM adopting negative

religious messaging about their identity. Emerging research suggests that religious SGM are increasingly able to integrate their religious and SGM identity, therefore, diminishing identity conflict and assuaging any negative outcomes. This empirical study will explore the experiences of Christian SGM, to uncover the circumstances in which identity integration is possible, and where it is not. A sample of 20 Christian SGM is being recruited to participate in 45-60 minute semi-structured interviews about the intersection of their religious and SGM identity, as well as how Christianity has contributed to their internalised prejudice. Interpretive phenomenological analysis will be used to obtain detailed depictions of participants lived experience. Each participant's experience will be considered individually before making general claims across responses using reflexive thematic analysis. This empirical study aims to contribute to growing literature surrounding identity integration in religious SGM, by uncovering the circumstances in which integration is possible, as well as the circumstances that perpetuate conflict. Ultimately, we aim to design a model that illustrates the pathway to identity conflict or identity integration in this population.

“No Asians” because “no fems”? A latent class analysis of racial preferences in gay White Australian men and their relationship with preferences for masculinity and femininity

Michael Thai, University of Queensland; Michael Thai, University of Queensland; Niamh Dawson, University of Queensland; Wesley Grey, University of Melbourne; Joel Anderson, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University

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The literature examining racial preferences in attraction among sexual minority men in Western contexts illuminates a stable racial hierarchy of desire. Within this hierarchy, White men are generally highly favored, and racial minority men are further systematically stratified in terms of sexual appeal. The present research employs latent class analysis to quantify the proportion of gay White men whose racial preferences actually align with this hierarchy, and to identify other significant subgroups who share alternative patterns of racial preference. We further assess the role that preferences for masculinity and femininity play in informing these different patterns of preference. Gay White Australian men (N = 544) recruited via a popular geosocial networking app reported whether or not they were attracted to men from various racial groups, as well as the degree to which they were attracted to masculine and feminine men (among other demographic covariates). A latent class analysis revealed four classes of racial preference, across which White men were consistently highly desired, but preferences for racial minority men varied - [1] inclusive, [2] conventional-hierarchical, [3] unconventional-hierarchical, and [4] White-exclusive. We found that preferences for masculinity and femininity predicted class membership to the two hierarchical classes, in particular. These findings support the idea that racial hierarchies in sexual preferences may - to some extent - reflect gendered, stereotyped expectations.

Symp (S5): Shift Happens: Navigating Eco-Anxiety and Pro-Environmental Behaviour for a Greener Future

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chair: Rebecca Blackburn

This symposium provides insights into how people feel about and respond to ecological crises, and what processes drive shifts in behaviour. We begin the symposium with an exploration of eco-anxiety and how it affects individual wellbeing and pro-environmental behaviour. Next, we discuss how social identification affects climate mitigation behaviour, including beliefs, social norms, efficacy and eco-anxiety. The third talk delves into whether social identity processes predict support for sustainability policies. We conclude by examining the motivations and practices of minimalists, who have voluntarily adopted a low consumption lifestyle. Taken together, this symposium aims to illuminate the multifaceted ways in which psychosocial factors intertwine to influence climate action.

Understanding eco-anxiety and its association with individual and planetary wellbeing

Teaghan Hogg, University of Canberra; L?@an O'Brien, University of Canberra; Samantha Stanley, University of New South Wales; Clare Watsford, University of Canberra; and Iain Walker, The University of Melbourne

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Ecological crises are among the most serious issues affecting contemporary society. Understandably, many people around the world report that they feel anxious and worried about ecological crises, a phenomenon commonly referred to as 'eco-anxiety'. As ecological conditions further deteriorate, more and more people are expected to experience eco-anxiety. This means that we need to better understand the phenomenon, including its qualities and characteristics, who experiences it, and the role it plays in shaping people's mental health and wellbeing, and pro-environmental behaviour. Our research provides insight into these questions. Over a series of studies, we investigated people's experiences of eco-anxiety, finding that eco-anxiety is complex and multifaceted. We found that eco-anxiety was implicated in both individual and planetary wellbeing, highlighting the need to support the mental health and wellbeing of individuals and communities, whilst promoting their engagement in pro-environmental behaviour in sustainable ways. Together, this work contributes to our understanding of eco-anxiety and how it affects the Australian community.

Understanding Psychological Processes Underlying Climate Change Related Attitudes, Beliefs, Behaviour and Misinformation

Ella McNiece, The Australian National University; Michael Platow, Australian National University; Rebecca Colvin, Australian National University; Tegan Cruwys, Australian National University; and L?@an O'Brien, University of Canberra

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Our research investigates the social influences that impact climate change mitigation efforts, aiming to enhance the understanding of psychological mechanisms related to beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors towards climate change. Utilising Social Identity Theory (SIT) and Self-Categorization Theory (SCT), two studies sought to examine how social identification shapes individuals' climate change-related beliefs and actions. A multifaceted model was developed, integrating social identity, social norms, climate change beliefs, environmental and political self-efficacy, and eco-anxiety to predict sustained collective action. Study 1a involved 392 participants who completed measures on pro-environmental behavior, social identification with the pro-environmental movement, climate change beliefs, eco-anxiety, perceived environmental self-efficacy, and political ideology. Study 1b involved 390 participants, replicated Study 1(a) measures, and additionally assessed pro-environmental social norms and pro-environmental collective action tendencies. Results indicate that eco-anxiety is significantly influenced by social identity, with greater pro-environmental identification associated with higher eco-anxiety. Generalised Anxiety Disorder did not significantly predict eco-anxiety but was moderately correlated with it. Pro-environmental behavior was positively related to social identity and weakly correlated with political ideology. Engagement in pro-environmental collective action was positively predicted by social identity, social norms, and their interaction, but negatively by conservative ideology. Climate change beliefs and perceived political self-efficacy were influenced by political ideology and social identity, independent of eco-anxiety. This study elucidates the intricate psychological dynamics influencing climate change beliefs and behaviors, providing valuable insights into the factors that either promote or hinder pro-environmental behavioral change on both individual and collective levels."

Mobilising Identities: From Transport Choices to Urban Sustainability Advocacy

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Increasingly, social identity processes are being incorporated into behaviour change interventions. Social identity interventions involve consideration as to how the identity content of a group (their shared beliefs, opinions, norms, and values) could influence subsequent behaviour. Such an approach is promising in the context of pro-environmental behavioural spillover. Examining the existing identity content of practice-based identities (e.g., cyclists, vegans, anti-wasters) could illuminate pre-existing opportunities for subsequent behaviour change (spillover) that could be further supported and leveraged. Previous qualitative research of ours exploring the identity content of Melbourne utilitarian cyclists (those who use a bicycle as a form of transport) suggests that this group share hierarchy-attenuating beliefs and cognitive alternatives that may lead to increased policy support and advocacy efforts for urban sustainability. The aim of the current study is to examine whether social identity processes (shared legitimacy beliefs, cognitive alternatives, and group identification) predict support for urban sustainability policies and advocacy amongst Melbourne cyclists, and whether such processes predict such support in public transport users and car drivers. Survey participants (N = 500 commuters; 23.6% car users, 33.8% public

transport users, 31.6% bicycle users, and 11% equal mode users) living within the Greater Melbourne area (41.4% women, mean age = 40.12) completed novel legitimacy and cognitive alternative scales, which were used to predict policy support and advocacy, as well as to compare the three transport groups. These scales may function as useful indicators of normative change regarding urban sustainability.

Minimalist motivations and practices: insights into how minimalists respond to consumerism and overwhelm

Rebecca Blackburn, Australian National University; Zoe Leviston, The Australian National University; Ashely Schram, The Australian National University; and Iain Walker

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The top ten percent of the income earners globally are responsible for 50% of carbon emissions. From an environmental and social justice perspective there is an imperative for high income earners to reduce their consumption. One group of people, minimalists, have voluntarily adopted a low consumption lifestyle despite the consumptogenic forces of our society, and they may provide insights on how to reduce consumption. To understand their motivations and practices, we interviewed 15 self-identified Australian minimalists. We found that the primary motivations for adopting minimalism are greater wellbeing due to a calm and organised home and financial benefits. While some were motivated by the environment, for the majority it was a secondary motivation. Practices involve buying less, mindful (non) shopping practices and thoughtful disposal, with most giving possessions away. Recycling and landfill were seen as last resort options. Minimalism was maintained with regular decluttering, present-giving rules and avoiding social media, advertising and shopping. Minimalism was found to meet the three psychological needs described by Self Determination Theory: competence (more organised), relatedness (more time for family and friends), and autonomy (freedom from shopping, consumerism, and advertising), thus providing an explanation for why minimalism is adopted. We conclude this talk with some recommendations for policy makers, such as right to repair legislation, product longevity standards and tighter controls on advertising, social media and privacy.

Symp (S16): Identity and Belonging in Higher Education Pt 2

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Chair: Lillian Smyth

Social identity and sense of belonging are important for both shaping behaviour and for bolstering lived experience and wellbeing. Given the high-stakes at play in the context of higher education- higher education outcomes have a significant influence on long term quality of life, but are also uniquely vulnerable to social difficulties- the social perceptions and experiences of university students are a valuable applied context to explore these effects. The current two-part symposium presents a wide range of new evidence on these constructs in the higher education settings. The symposium includes analysis of rich qualitative data on

student experience and perceptions, alongside analysis of large existing datasets, intervention trials, and cross-sectional quantitative surveys. As a body of evidence, the symposium underscores the critical import of social connection and integration for students, while also highlighting a range of nuances. These include: the level at which we need to consider the student identity (e.g. institutional identities, field of study identities, identities constructed through interpersonal interaction), the conceptual differentiation between social identification and sense of belonging, tracking these effects over times, opportunities for intervention and approaches to those interventions and, importantly, the experiences of students from “non-traditional” or marginalised backgrounds.

GROK to the top: Trialling a social identity app to boost student well-being, social connection and academic outcomes

Emma Dunstone, School of Medicine and Psychology, Australian national University; Olivia Evans, The Australian National University; Stephanie Hardacre, The Australian National University; Tegan Cruwys, The Australian National University; Diana C?†rdenas, University of Montreal, Canada; Katherine Reynolds, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

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The transition to university is a critical period for commencing students, with a range of personal and systematic factors predicting success at university. It is well established that those who go on to obtain a university degree have more positive life outcomes than those who withdraw from university. However, the number of students dropping out of university within the first year has been increasing over recent years. The social identity approach suggests that one way to combat this is trend is for universities to put in place measures to enhance social connection and promote resilience. The current study trialled one way of promoting these outcomes via an app called GROK, which targeted (1) social connection, (2) academic outcomes, and (3) well-being. Using a randomised control design at an Australian university, GROK provided those in the active condition (N=53) with weekly activities, targeting the three main outcomes. These activities were gamified, such that completion of activities resulted in developments to their virtual Zen garden. Those in the control condition (N=75) received information pages about the university. Student wellbeing, academic achievement, social connection and intention to remain at university were assessed at the start and end of semester. The results of the study suggest that online interventions could be an important avenue for enhancing student outcomes and university retention, and highlight various factors to consider when designing similar interventions in the future.

When do we belong? A longitudinal look at student sense of belonging over three years

Sarah Walker, School of Medicine and Psychology, Australian National University; Lillian Smyth, Australian National University; Michael J. Platow, Australian National University; Grady Venville, Australian National University; Tania Willis, Advantage Coaching and Consulting

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Sense of belonging is valuable in higher education, impacting on retention, academic engagement, as well as the experience and outcomes for students from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds. Due to this, a range of interventions have been designed to support and maintain a student's sense of belonging. However, there remains a challenge in understanding when to implement an intervention for maximum impact. While we know that sense of belonging changes over time, we have a limited understanding of the nature, direction and pattern of this fluctuation. Previous studies have modelled potential variables related to the rate of change in belonging within a student's first year. Similarly, a recent Australian study examined the predictors of sense of belonging over time. The current study is an analysis of a large (total N=4770), longitudinal dataset from a single institution over a period of three years. Data include the Student Experience measures distributed by QILT, alongside a bespoke set of measures of belonging and identity. Data were analysed both cross-sectionally and matched across time periods. The study builds on previous research, adding quantitative evidence to understand how belonging fluctuates as a student proceeds through their studies. With an understanding of this psychological aspect of the student lifecycle, alongside an understanding of retention motivation and sociopsychological interventions, targeted interventions could be implemented at key points to support the success of students throughout their studies.

The social (integration) network: An eight-week Facebook group intervention boosts college students' social integration and bridges social class disparities

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Social class disparities in college-based social integration and mental well-being are often exacerbated by financial and time constraints, which limit lower-class students' participation in on-campus activities. To address this, we conducted an eight-week longitudinal pre-/post-experimental intervention to evaluate the impact of joining a college-based Facebook group (N = 10) versus a control group (N = 34) on online social integration and mental well-being among American college students. Our primary outcome measures included self-reported online social integration indicators including Facebook social connectedness, social support, relationship maintenance behaviours, depression, and anxiety. Results showed that the Facebook group significantly enhanced online social integration compared to the control group. Notably, students from lower- and middle-class backgrounds reported greater improvements in online social connectedness than their higher-class peers. However, the intervention did not significantly impact students' mental well-being, highlighting the need for more targeted mental health interventions. These findings suggest that brief, economical online interventions can effectively promote social integration and mitigate class-related disparities in online connectedness. We provide preliminary evidence supporting the use of digital platforms to foster connectedness and support among diverse student populations.

Symp (S21): Social psychology & COVID-19: Learnings and insights post-crisis Pt 2

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

Chairs: Haochen Zhou and Kate Reynolds; Discussant: Jolanda Jetten

In this joint symposium, the first group of talks focuses on health behaviours, including how group norms influenced COVID-19 health practices, changes in sexual behaviour during the pandemic, and the role of mindfulness and resilience in mitigating mental distress. The second group of talk explore the effects on young people, highlighting the protective roles of school climate, identification, and social connectedness in supporting student wellbeing and engagement during the pandemic. Each speaker will identify implications of their work relevant to times of stability and during crises.

Norms and COVID-19 health behaviours: A longitudinal investigation of group factors

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COVID-19 presented a rare opportunity to explore the establishment and impact of new norms on a large scale. Based on local and national medical opinion and laws in dealing with the crisis definitions of 'appropriate' behaviour shifted; norms were group-based and dynamic. A case is made that most studies on norms and COVID-19 have ignored these qualities where self-relevant and salient groups might emerge and change along with their impact on health behaviours. A research study is presented that seeks to explore these issues using a three-wave longitudinal design with a representative sample of Australians (N = 3024) where two group sources of potential normative influence (neighbourhood and national groups) and two COVID-19 health behaviours (physical distancing and hand hygiene) were investigated in May, June/July and September/October 2020. Results indicated that especially from Wave 1 to Wave 2 neighbourhood descriptive norms (rather than national or injunctive norms) had the most impact on health behaviours while controlling for demographic and individual-level health variables. This demonstrates that groups and associated norms that influence behaviours vary across time. It is concluded that research on norms needs to study which groups matter and when.

Post-COVID recovery: The role of school climate, identification, and resilience in student wellbeing and engagement

Alice O'Brien, Australian National University; Haochen Zhou, Australian National University; Katherine J. Reynolds, University of Melbourne, Australian National University

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As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold and the world slowly returns to a new normal, understanding how students are recovering from the significant school disruptions caused by COVID-19 is crucial. This study extends previous research regarding declining student wellbeing and engagement during COVID-19. Following the Social Identity Approach (SIA) and

emerging literature on resilience in mental health and education, school identification, school climate and resilience are argued to be protective factors of engagement in learning and wellbeing. To investigate these factors systematically, a multilevel longitudinal design was employed by using an Australian four-year survey collection with student responses from Grade 7 (2020) to Grade 10 (2023) (N = 2,768). It was expected that 1) post COVID-19 students' learning engagement and wellbeing generally improved and 2) students who reported more positive school climate, stronger identification or stronger resilience in 2020 have better overall engagement and wellbeing later on and importantly their rate of improvement is greater. Results are mostly aligned with these predictions with a few caveats. The current study contributes to the growing literature on the protective effect schools play in student wellbeing and learning outcomes as well as indicating the need for further research on how to foster these to protect students from future adversity.

Adolescent profiles of connectedness to peers and school as longitudinal determinants of mental health risk after COVID-19 onset

Alexander O'Donnell, University of Tasmania; Alex A. Gardner, Griffith University; Melanie J. Zimmer-Gemback, Griffith University

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The COVID-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns have been widely recognised for their detrimental impact on mental health. However, this breakdown was not universal. Research suggests that individuals who maintained or fostered social connections during the pandemic experienced better psychological outcomes. This study explores whether these benefits were more accessible to those with pre-existing social connections, proposing that the pandemic exacerbated ongoing health disparities rather than presenting a unique crisis. In a longitudinal study, approximately 4,000 Australian youths reported on their peer connectedness and school belonging at ages 12, 14, and 16, with follow-up data collected when participants were 20 and 21 years old, encompassing the 2020 pandemic period. Latent growth class analysis revealed four distinct trajectories of connectedness during adolescence: Highly Connected (HC), Disconnected (D), Increasingly Connected (IC), and Decreasingly Connected (DC). Notably, the HC and IC groups demonstrated lower levels of distress and loneliness and higher self-efficacy during the COVID-19 induced lockdowns, highlighting their capacity to draw upon pre-existing social ties for support. These findings highlight that while COVID-19 was a significant driver of social disruption, the risk factors for wellbeing in the Australian context—where the direct health impacts of the pandemic were relatively contained—were consistent with pre-pandemic patterns. Individuals who fared well during the pandemic were predisposed to better outcomes due to their existing social connections, underscoring the enduring importance of social support networks in fostering resilience. This conclusion has implications beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrating the continued need for social connection no matter the context."

Symp (S19): Stigma and Prejudice reduction: The future benefits and uses of intergroup contact

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

Chair/Discussant: Fiona White

Significant progress has been made in the field of intergroup contact and contact-related interventions to reduce stigma and prejudice and improve intergroup relations. There remains so much more to learn. This symposium presents experimental research that investigates new avenues to examine the role of contact. First, we present two studies conducted by Shi, who explores the extent to which intergroup contact can facilitate solidarity among White people in support of Asian and First Nations peoples, as well as Asian people in support of First Nations peoples. Whether conceptualisations of racism as an individual or systemic issue can affect the contact-solidarity relationship is also considered. Second, as dementia and dementia stigma are on the rise, Wan examines the effectiveness of a newly developed vicarious contact-based intervention to reduce dementia stigma amongst East Asian participants living in Australia. Can watching a video depicting a positive interaction that is based on Allport's four contact conditions, between individuals varying in gender and age, reduce dementia stigma? Finally, Chen investigates whether exposure to different indirect contact strategies in a sequential continuum, from distal to increasingly more proximal contact, can maximise the effects of prejudice reduction. There will be a focus on whether the continuum of contact is the optimal strategy in reducing prejudice towards the Chinese diaspora and whether contact valence can moderate this effect. White will then lead a discussion on the future benefits and uses of intergroup contact.

The role of intergroup contact and conceptualisations of racism in intergroup solidarity

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Intergroup contact also has important implications for intergroup solidarity in the form of taking action to support a disadvantaged group. Existing research suggests that among advantaged group members, positive intergroup contact is associated with increased intergroup solidarity while negative intergroup contact hinders such solidarity. However, these relationships are not inevitable. One factor that may impact the contact-action relationship is the salience of conceptualisations of racism as an individual issue (i.e., caused by personal prejudices) versus a systemic issue (i.e., caused by systems and policies), ideas of which are often communicated to people in daily life such as via social media. Among an integrated student and community sample, the present experimental research investigates how intergroup contact and conceptualisations of racism relate to White people's willingness to take action supporting Asian and First Nations peoples ($N < 300$). Given a scarcity of research about whether intergroup contact can facilitate solidarity between racial minority groups

themselves, this research also examines how these factors relate to Asian people's willingness to take action supporting First Nations peoples (N < 150). The findings shed light on the extent to which positive intergroup contact can encourage actions against racism, the extent to which negative intergroup contact experiences should be cause for concern, and whether reminders of systemic or individual racism can be utilised to help achieve desirable contact-action outcomes in Australia's diverse society.

The Power of Positive Vicarious Contact in reducing Dementia Stigma Among East Asian Australians

Cheuk-yue (Cherry) Wan, The University of Sydney; Fiona White, The University of Sydney

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Consequences of an aging population are increases in dementia and dementia stigma. Despite these increases, there remains a lack of interventions to reduce dementia stigma. Research has also shown that dementia stigma is strongest among East Asian individuals. To examine these issues, this study developed a new vicarious contact-based intervention to reduce dementia stigma amongst East Asian participants. Vicarious contact is an indirect form of intergroup contact that involves observing and identifying with the ingroup member during a positive interaction with an outgroup member (i.e., a person living with dementia). Here vicarious contact was operationalised by having participants watch a video featuring actors varying in gender (male vs. female) and age (young vs. middle-aged). Each video depicted a positive interaction, based on Allport's four facilitating contact conditions for prejudice reduction. Student and community participants (N = 400) were allocated to one of the four vicarious contact videos, where the actor's demographic information was matched to theirs, or to 'no contact' baseline control groups. Across all conditions, participants reported their dementia stigma and prejudiced emotions. There was some support for the predictions that participants in the vicarious contact conditions reported lower dementia stigma and prejudiced emotions compared to participants in the control conditions. The findings of this experimental study will be the first to provide empirical evidence on the effectiveness of positive vicarious contact to reduce dementia stigma.

The dilemma of the quality vs quantity of indirect contact: What is the optimal strategy for reducing anti-Chinese sentiments?

Roberta Chen, The University of Sydney; Fiona White, The University of Sydney

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Anti-Chinese sentiments have grown considerably. Consequently, it is timely to implement strategies that can address the racial prejudice experienced by this group. A growing body of research has theorised that exposure to different indirect contact strategies in a sequential continuum, from distal to increasingly more proximal contact, can maximise the effects of prejudice reduction. However, the current literature has yet to compare the continuum approach to a single strategy or a 'reverse' sequence of strategies. The present study aims to experimentally evaluate whether the continuum of contact is the most optimal strategy in

reducing prejudice towards the Chinese diaspora and whether contact valence can moderate this effect. Here, participants (N = 502) were randomly allocated to a 4 (Contact: Vicarious vs. E-contact vs. Continuum vs. Reverse) x 2 (Valence: Positive vs. Negative) between-subjects design. Findings revealed that participants who receive more indirect contact (either via the continuum or the reverse strategy) produced lower levels of prejudice relative to a single contact strategy. As predicted, negative indirect contact yielded significantly more prejudice compared to indirect positive contact. Finally, a buffering effect was also found, in that positive E-contact after negative vicarious contact was able to mitigate the adverse effects of negative contact on prejudice. Overall, this study supports indirect contact as an effective strategy to improve attitudes towards the Chinese diaspora. Implications for the optimal sequencing of contact are discussed.

Tuesday, 26/11/2024 - 1:30PM

Symp (S3): Enhancing Mental Health, Inclusion, Social Support, & Authenticity for LGBTQIA+ Communities

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chair: Joel Anderson

This symposium explores innovative approaches to improving mental health programs, advancing workplace inclusion, understanding social support systems, and examining the queer experience of authenticity. The presentations will address the unique challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ communities and offer evidence-based strategies for fostering well-being and inclusion. Fowler will begin by presenting research on designing digital, self-guided mental health programs tailored to the needs of Australian LGBTQIA+ communities. This presentation will highlight the importance of accessible, culturally sensitive interventions that can be delivered through digital platforms. Next, Chan and Ho will present a rapid systematic review of initiatives aimed at advancing the inclusion of sexual and gender minority groups in the workforce. Their findings will provide insights into effective strategies for creating more inclusive work environments, contributing to better mental health outcomes for LGBTQIA+ employees. Zhou will then explore the relationship between identities, social support, and the experiences of Chinese LGB migrants in Australia. This research will shed light on the specific social and cultural challenges faced by this community and the role of social support in navigating these challenges. Finally, Roberts will present research on the queer experience of authenticity over time, exploring how authenticity evolves in different social contexts and the implications for mental health and well-being.

Equitable workplaces that ‘serve’ LGBTQIA+ inclusivity: Insights from a rapid systematic review of initiatives which work to advance the inclusion of sexual and gender minority groups.

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Sexual and gender minority (SGM) employees face markedly unwelcome workplaces within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Systemic change through effective evidence-based initiatives is needed to create equitable workplaces, whilst the need for workplace diversity grows as STEM industries become increasingly significant to Australia’s economic and international priorities. To determine what effectively improves workplace equity, we conducted a rapid systematic review of evaluated initiatives addressing SGM inclusion. We searched Scopus and Web of Science in February 2024 following a registered protocol. From 2,253 articles identified, we included 29 peer-reviewed publications. The collected data was primarily quantitative and comprised observational studies over 47 countries. Initiatives included programs and policies delivered primarily by workplaces, as well as by governments and organisations. In general, initiatives targeted SGM inclusion by changing employees’ and workplace leaders’ perceptions, attitudes and knowledge, and strengthening anti-discriminatory behaviours and allyship. A few initiatives directly supported SGM employees by increasing employability, community, wellbeing and workplace engagement. Overall, initiatives were most effective when inclusive policies actively complemented program implementation. Integrated approaches were associated with SGM employees’ increased satisfaction and self-worth, in addition to increased organisational productivity.

Navigating Identities: Social Support and Experiences of Chinese LGB Migrants in Australia

Ting Zhou, University of Sydney; Ting Zhou, University of Sydney; Haryana Dhillon, University of Sydney; Ilan Dar-Nimrod, University of Sydney; Sue Ji, University of Sydney.

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Little is known about the experiences of Chinese lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) people who have migrated to Australia. We aimed to explore the experiences and social support needs of Chinese LGB migrants in Australia. We employed reflective thematic analysis to conduct semi-structured interviews in both Chinese and English via Zoom. Chinese LGB people living in Australia. Interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed, and those conducted in Chinese translated into English and analysed thematically. We interviewed 19 participants aged 21 to 40, who had been living in Australia for a median of 3.8 years (range: 0.7-8.0). There were five

lesbians, five bisexual women, six gay men, and three bisexual men. There were two meta-themes identified context and identity, which interplayed with themes of coping mechanisms and future aspirations. Participants reported experiencing sexual prejudice and societal pressure in China, while in Australia, they faced cultural disconnect, status constraints, and ethnic/racial stigma. These factors influenced the salience of their Chinese and LGB identities, which shifted based on location. To mitigate these stressors, participants developed various coping strategies, such as seeking social support from Chinese or Chinese LGB communities, varying levels of outness, and avoidance tactics. These coping mechanisms significantly impacted their future visions, including personal desires, living arrangements, and family planning.

The Queer Experience of Authenticity Across Time: Similarities and Differences Between Queer and CisHet Samples

Emily Roberts, Bond University; Emily Roberts, Bond University; Douglas Angus, Bond University

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In cisgendered, heterosexual samples, (in)authenticity is cross-sectionally and longitudinally related to well-being. For most people, feeling and/or behaving authentically increases well-being, while feeling and/or behaving inauthentically decreases well-being. Recent cross-sectional research in LGBTQIAP+ samples suggests that experience of minority stress may increase vulnerability to feeling and/or behaving inauthentically, but this relationship has not been examined longitudinally. In two studies we examined the relationships between minority stress experience, authenticity and wellbeing, in two waves 3 months apart (study 1), and over 5 days (study 2). Our findings in both studies corroborate and expand on those found cross-sectionally, that minority stress experience is directly linked to decreased authenticity for LGBTQIAP+ individuals. In the second study, we also showed that minority stress has both immediate and time-lagged effects on LGBTQIAP+-individuals' authenticity and well-being.

Symp (S10): Social change and gridlock in the climate context

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chairs: Winnifred R. Louis, Kelly S. Fielding, and Susilo Wibisono

This symposium, in two parts, presents eight empirical talks reflecting on social change and stagnation in the contexts of climate change and the 2023 referendum on the Voice to Parliament. In Part 1, four speakers reflect on the climate context. Bird and colleagues find, in a longitudinal study of reactions to the Black Sunday bushfires (N = 871), that feelings of despair about climate change appear to arise in part as outcomes of engagement in collective climate action. Acevedo and colleagues summarise interviews from 28 experienced activists and leaders of the climate change movement and describe how persistent failure and gridlock are experienced: anger, despair, and burnout, sometimes associated with hostility to opponents and support for radical actions. Pittaway and colleagues find that in a longitudinal

study of climate change attitudes and action, present and future orientations are associated with higher conventional and radical intentions, and with self-reported behaviours one year later, via greater eco-anxiety and greater access to environmental cognitive alternatives (ability to imagine a positive ecological future). Wang and colleagues present data from intercept interviews (N=79) with Queenslanders living in coastal, urban, and regional areas about their views of environmental advocates and their tactics.

When the Smoke Won't Clear: Examining the Longitudinal Effects of Political Despair on Well-Being and Collective Climate Action

Lucy Bird, Flinders University; Emma F. Thomas, Flinders University; Michael Wenzel, Flinders University; Bridget Ramsey, Flinders University

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Averting the existential risks that climate change poses to humanity and the planet demands widespread, ongoing engagement in collective climate actions. Yet, we currently know relatively little about when and why people sustain, diminish or fluctuate in their commitment to such causes over time. Building on previous cross-sectional research, this study tests whether participants' (N = 871) experience of political despair about climate change undermines long-term collective climate action engagement both directly and indirectly by diminishing well-being (operationalised as stress, resilience and vitality). We examined these processes in the context of the 2019-2020 Australian Black Summer bushfires, measured across three timepoints (February, May, and August 2020). Using a random intercepts cross-lagged panel model, we found significant trait-level associations between despair and well-being, as well as despair and collective climate actions. However, at the within-person level, there was little support that political despair diminishes well-being or intention to engage in collective climate action over time. Rather, evidence suggested the reverse: that feelings of despair about climate change may arise at least partially because of poor well-being and engagement in collective climate action. These results highlight the need for further investigation into the potentially bidirectional and dynamic relationships between emotions, well-being and actions to bring about positive social change in the context of climate change and other prominent political issues.

Trapped: The Psychology of Collective Gridlock in the Climate Context

Janquel Acevedo, The University of Queensland; Kelly S. Fielding, The University of Queensland; Catherine Amiot, Université du Québec à Montréal; Matthew Hornsey, The University of Queensland; Fathali M. Moghaddam, Georgetown University; Emma Thomas, Flinders University; Susilo Wibisono, The University of Queensland; Winnifred R. Louis, The University of Queensland

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Worldwide, democracy is decreasing due to intergroup conflict and polarization. Simultaneously, we face other significant enduring and endangering social and environmental crises (e.g., climate change). To combat such issues, social change action,

such as engagement in social movements, is paramount. However, collective gridlock - prolonged policy stalemates that prevent groups from solving urgent issues and attaining mutual goals - has slowed progress toward effective solutions. As part of a broader team, we developed a theoretical model of collective gridlock from the literature on intergroup conflict, radicalization, and collective action. This study tests if our theoretical model matches how Australian climate movement leaders (N = 28) experience gridlock. We used semi-structured interviews with climate leaders with at least 10 years in climate advocacy and experience of multiple cycles of collective gridlock. Mixed deductive and inductive thematic analysis identified many leave the movement during gridlock. However, those remaining often conformed to group norms of purity and intransigence. Individual-level psychological responses such as outgroup hostility and moral conviction also were heightened. Some advocates perceiving gridlock were also more supportive of radical action and rejecting building coalitions and compromising their values or goals. Inductive analysis reveals advocates also experience negative well-being and burnout under gridlock. Results contribute to understanding collective gridlock and potential pathways to overcome it and achieve social change.

Cross-sectional and longitudinal relationships between temporal orientations and conventional and radical climate action

Charlie Pittaway, The University of Queensland; Kelly S. Fielding, The University of Queensland; Winnifred R. Louis, The University of Queensland

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Climate change mitigation requires individuals to sacrifice their own short-term self-interests in favour of the long-term collective interests of all of humanity. Given that people often find it difficult to prioritise their own future wellbeing over more immediate desires, this temporal conflict presents a considerable barrier to the widescale mobilisation required to avert future climate change. Prior research suggests that individuals who are more future-oriented in general are better able to overcome this temporal conflict, whereas individuals who are more present-oriented in general find this particularly difficult. However, two cross-sectional structural equation models (N = 966 and N = 953) and one longitudinal model (N = 268) revealed that the relationships between temporal orientations and climate actions may be more complicated. Consistent with prior work, we found that future orientation was directly positively associated with intentions to take conventional forms of climate action, and present orientation was negatively associated. However, indirectly, both orientations were associated through eco-anxiety and access to environmental cognitive alternatives with higher conventional and radical intentions, and with self-reported behaviour one year later. Insights for mobilisation in a range of climate actions across individual and collective levels, via conventional as well as unconventional means, will be discussed.

Public perceptions of conventional and unconventional climate advocates

Jamin Xiongzi Wang, Australian National University; Rebecca Colvin, Australian National University; Kelly S. Fielding, The University of Queensland; Winnifred R. Louis, The University of Queensland

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Climate advocates are change agents yet increasingly represented in media as ‘idealists’ disconnected from societal and economic realities, ‘disrupters’ using violent movement tactics, or ‘elitists’ pushing policies against working-class people. This negative media coverage might lead to stigmatised stereotypes of climate advocates that may harm their cause. This research explores how people perceive both conventional and unconventional climate advocates. ‘Conventional’ advocates are environmentalists in a sense that climate support is a socially expected cause for them to advocate for. ‘Unconventional’ advocates are from groups that have often been alienated by or even opposed to climate policy agenda, such as political conservatives, farmers, religious people, and the finance sector. We consider them unconventional as they have an identity not traditionally associated with a pro-climate cause. This research uses public intercept interviews on everyday Australians who may not otherwise take part in research. We approach potential participants (N=90) as they go about their daily lives in public spaces in city-based, coastal regional, and inland regional places to get diverse opinions. Data analysis is still ongoing, but participants were largely negative about conventional advocates regarding the way they advocate; but they were generally supportive of unconventional advocates, although most participants had not heard of them; generally, there was most support for farmers, firefighters, and vets as the unconventional climate advocates.

Stigma and (In)Equality (IP16)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

“Because of HIV, it opened my mind”: Intersectional Stigma Experiences among Filipino Gay and Bisexual Men Living with HIV

Aron Harold Pamoso, School of Medicine and Psychology, The Australian National University; Brett Scholz, The Australian National University; Austin Ferolino, University of San Carlos

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Many countries have made progress in eliminating HIV. However, despite this global movement, the Philippines has seen a dramatic increase in the number of people living with HIV. Gay and bisexual men (GBM) remain disproportionately affected by HIV, and they continue to face significant stigma and discrimination. While previous literature has acknowledged that GBM face multiple stigmas, it has often failed to capture the full context, including the intersection of stigmatized social identities and the role of power systems that perpetuate their marginalization. This study explored how Filipino MSM living with HIV experienced intersectional stigma and how they navigated such experience. Five Filipino MSM living with HIV were interviewed using semi-structured interviews and later analyzed

through interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA). We arrived at two subordinate themes. The first subordinate theme portrayed how Filipino MSM living with HIV have undergone myriad experiences of intersecting stigma from their health conditions and identities—including their HIV status, gender, sexuality, and religion. Experiencing the intersecting stigmas intensifies the burden on the participants' lives. The second subordinate theme depicts the participants' navigation in their experiences of intersectional stigma. This present study highlighted how distinct socio-cultural milieu shaped the experience of stigma. This study highlights the importance of lived experience leadership of PLHIV and joint efforts in addressing disparities and shaping policies that are contextually relevant and culturally sensitive for people living with HIV and multiply-marginalized populations."

Expanding intergroup contact into peer contact and internalized stigma

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Decades of empirical research has suggested that intergroup contact with people with mental ill-health is effective at reducing public mental health stigma. More recently, a small but growing number of studies have hinted at the possibility that peer contact, involving interactions exclusively between people with mental ill-health, may be similarly effective at reducing the deleterious self-stigma felt by some members of this group. Study 1 investigated the relationship between self-reported peer contact and self-stigma in 991 Australian adults with lived experience of mental ill-health. Higher peer contact was found to be related to lower harm to self-respect, higher self-esteem, and higher self-efficacy, with these relationships serially mediated by reduced stereotype agreement and self-application. In 1,100 Australian adults with lived experience, Study 2 investigated characteristics of self-reported peer contact which may strengthen its relationship with self-stigma, including the stereotypicality of peers; similarity in mental health concerns; the context, content, and valence of interactions; and the closeness of the relationship between peers. The negative relationship between peer contact and self-stigma was significantly stronger when peers were less close to participants and had less similar mental health concerns. The other examined characteristics did not significantly influence the strength of this relationship, although they correlated with self-stigma in noteworthy ways. These results may inform an expansion of the intergroup contact hypothesis into internalized stigma. They may also support the deployment of existing intergroup contact interventions to reduce self-stigma, which may be less threatening to people with mental ill-health compared to existing clinical interventions.

Rebels with(out) a cause: The influence of egalitarian norms on the relationship between egalitarianism and system justification

Sarah Buhl, Chemnitz University of Technology; Danny Osborne, University of Auckland; Chris Sibley, University of Auckland; Frank Asbrock, Chemnitz University of Technology

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In recent decades, the representation of women in positions of power within democratic countries has increased, accompanied by a global decline in anti-egalitarian gender biases. These key structural developments have established egalitarian attitudes as a normative cultural logic in democratic societies, a notion that challenges our traditional social-psychological understanding of the deeply entrenched motivators of group-based inequality. This study is the first to investigate how the relationship between two of intergroup relations' most established constructs, group-based (anti-)egalitarianism and system justification, has changed over 14 years in response to rising egalitarian gender norms. A multi-level analysis of longitudinal data from 43,924 women in New Zealand (NZ) shows that, as traditionally expected, anti-egalitarian women were more likely to justify the socio-political system. However, as the political status quo became increasingly egalitarian, the association between anti-egalitarian and system-justifying beliefs became less pronounced, particularly among prototypical women who benefit most from egalitarian gender norms. Collectively, our results suggest that, among anti-egalitarian women, the motivation to maintain group-based hierarchies aligns with the motivation to justify the current political status quo when gender norms are relatively anti-egalitarian. However, with the rise of egalitarian gender norms, egalitarian women become more similar to anti-egalitarian women in their motivation to defend the system, presumably in an attempt to solidify the recent progressive gains – an aspect of the relationship between group-based (anti-)egalitarianism and system justification that has been largely neglected previously. Our findings remain consistent across various robustness checks and provide a much-needed updated perspective on egalitarian motives."

Health Stigma (IP21)

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

The Impact of Body Positive Quotes Overlaid on Images with and without People on Young Women's Body Image

Jasmine Fardouly, University of Sydney; Lenny Vartanian, UNSW Sydney; Ronald Rapee, Macquarie University

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Body positive social media content is diverse. Breaking down that content into its elements is vital to determine what aspects are most helpful for body image. This experiment examined the impact of body positive quotes overlaid on images with and without people, on young women's body image and related constructs. The study employed a 2 (between-person; quote present, quote absent) x 2 (between-person; images of women, images of nature) x 2 (within-person; pre-exposure, post-exposure) mixed design. Young women aged 18-25 years (N = 201, Mage = 22.94, SD = 1.69) were randomly presented with 10 images for 10 seconds each consistent with their assigned condition. Participants completed pre- and post-exposure state measures of body satisfaction, negative mood, body appreciation, and self-objectification. There was a significant increase in body satisfaction and body appreciation over time for those who viewed the body positive quotes, regardless of the content in the

background. Those who viewed the images of women only (no quote) also reported increased body satisfaction but to a lesser extent. Self-objectification increased for those who viewed images of women, with and without quotes, and to a lesser extent, for those who viewed quotes overlaid on nature images. Negative mood reduced in all conditions. The most promising results were found for body positive quotes. Priming any appearance schemas appeared to increase self-objectification. Future research could examine the longer-term impact of being both satisfied with one's body and having higher self-objectification to better understand the impact of body positivity on social media.

Exploring the relations between interpersonal factors, emotion dysregulation, and eating disorder symptoms

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Eating disorders are serious mental illnesses characterised by severe disturbances in body shape/weight and eating attitudes and behaviours. Despite there being several treatments available, eating disorders are particularly difficult to treat, have poor treatment outcomes, and high relapse rates. Thus, further understanding about what drives eating disorder symptoms is needed. Interpersonal Psychotherapy posits that eating disorder behaviours can be perceived to overcome negative self-evaluation, but that these behaviours then exacerbate interpersonal problems. Research into the relationship between interpersonal factors and eating disorder symptomology is growing, however, there is limited research examining the mechanisms that underpin this relationship. In a review by Henderson et al. (2019), it is suggested that emotion dysregulation could play an important role in this relationship. Not only are emotion dysregulation and interpersonal difficulties commonly experienced by people with eating disorders, emotion dysregulation can also negatively impact interpersonal connections, and vice versa. The present research aims to further examine this relationship, particularly in an Australian sample that includes participants from across the spectrum of eating disorder symptomology (such as participants with little to no symptoms to participants with diagnosed eating disorders). Currently, we have 418 participants who have participated in an online survey (data collection is ongoing but is due to be completed in November 2024). The preliminary results presented explore the specific interpersonal factors that are related to different eating disorder symptomology, and whether emotion dysregulation mediates this relationship. Understanding this relationship can help improve interventions for eating disorders.

Do Words Matter? The Role of Terminology and Causal Attributions in Prejudice Towards People With Mental Health Problems

Boris Bizumic, The Australian National University; Katherine Dixon, the Australian National University; Alberta Hayes, the Australian National University; Stella Pham, the Australian National University

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Mental health professionals have often stressed the importance of the terminology used to describe people with mental health conditions (MHCs) and its potential stigmatising outcomes. There is, however, little research investigating how exactly terminology affects prejudice towards people with MHCs. The current study used an experimental design involving an online survey completed by 765 U.S. participants, who were randomly assigned to one of three conditions. Participants in each condition completed one of three 28-item measures of prejudice, which had equivalent items but differed in the terminology used to describe MHCs (“mental illness”, “psychological problem”, and “mental disorder”). Additionally, participants completed related measures of hereditary/biological and social/stress attributions of MHCs. Confirmatory factor analysis supported the four-factor structure of prejudice for scales using each of the three terms. Although there were no overall effects of terminology on prejudice, both hereditary/biological and social/stress attributions of MHCs significantly decreased prejudice. Further mediation analyses demonstrated indirect effects of terminology on prejudice via causal attributions. A major finding was that the term “mental illness” significantly increased prejudice via reduced social/stress attributions but decreased it via increased hereditary/biological attributions. The results illustrate important but complex relationships between terminology, causal attributions, and prejudice, and are largely consistent with the mixed-blessing model.

Identity and Wellbeing (IP29)

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

A mixed-methods exploration of identity leadership behaviours in group therapy

Alysia Robertson, Australian National University; Tegan Cruwys, Australian National University; Jessica L. Donaldson, Australian National University; Mark Stevens, Australian National University; Michael J. Platow, Australian National University; Joanne Rathbone, Australian National University

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A growing body of research demonstrates the positive effects of identity leadership on leadership effectiveness. However, there is limited information about the specific behaviours that constitute identity leadership. To address this gap, we investigated concrete identity leadership behaviours in the context of group therapy. To investigate this question, we drew upon a corpus of 30 recorded therapy sessions (~45 hours) from 9 facilitators of 6 distinct therapy groups. In addition, we had self-report data from clients (123 surveys from 33 therapy clients across 5 sessions) and interviews with six clients post-therapy about their experiences. Identity leadership behaviours were coded using an iterative, collaborative, and theory-driven process. We identified twelve behaviours theoretically aligned with identity leadership (e.g., self-disclosure of relevant experiences). Unexpectedly, the frequency of these behaviours did not correlate with client ratings of facilitators' identity leadership. However, in several cases, the rate of these behaviours in the first therapy session predicted increases in clients' social identification throughout therapy. The interview data provided a

means to triangulate clients' perspectives on their therapists' leadership, and four themes were developed. These highlighted the importance of facilitator identity leadership for creating comfortable spaces for sharing, driving conversations, fostering group connectedness, and modelling aspirational identities. The implications of our findings and directions for future research will be discussed, with suggestions for other researchers aiming to investigate concrete leadership behaviours.

Global Challenges in Informal Women's Entrepreneurship: A Scoping Review Series through Intersectional and Decolonial Lenses

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This work presents a series of three scoping reviews on informal women's entrepreneurship, focusing on barriers, facilitators, and interventions through an intersectional and decolonial lens. The first review examines barriers faced by informal women entrepreneurs, comparing experiences between the Global North and South. The second explores facilitators of entrepreneurship, while the third focuses on mapping interventions with attention to the unique challenges in emerging economies. Using Arksey and O'Malley's five-step framework and the PRISMA-Scr protocol, these reviews analyzed publications in English, Spanish and Portuguese from databases such as Scielo, Pepsic, SpringerLink Journals, Medline, EMBASE, PsycInfo, Web of Science, Scopus, Emerald, EBSCO, and non-academic sources like ILO, GEM, UN, Google Scholar, and IBGE. Initial findings revealed a scholarship from the Global North, but often referencing experiences from the South, particularly Africa, underscoring the systemic challenges women face, including power disparities, gender discrimination, and inadequate government support. Facilitators were identified at micro, meso, and macro levels, including resilience, family support, networking, and access to public policy. Many interventions were designed with WEIRD (Western, Educated, Industrial, Rich, Democratic) women in mind, neglecting the specific needs of women in Latin America and Africa, where most informal entrepreneurship occurs. The reviews highlight the need for a decolonial and intersectional feminist perspective and more context-sensitive approaches. They contribute to a deeper understanding of the challenges and facilitators in women's entrepreneurship globally, providing a foundation for future research and policy that fosters more inclusive and effective support systems.

New groups and post-traumatic growth: Experimental evidence that gaining group memberships supports recovery from natural disaster

Natalie Craig, The University of Queensland; Professor Catherine Haslam, The University of Queensland; Professor Tegan Cruwys, the Australian National University; Professor Jolanda Jetten, The University of Queensland

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In this research, we provide the first experimental test of whether two social identity model of traumatic identity change processes — (i) group membership gain, and (ii) group membership

continuity — predict post-traumatic growth (PTG) and post-traumatic stress (PTS) via social identity revitalisation. We recruited participants who were February 2022 Eastern Australia flood survivors, and we randomly allocated them to one of three conditions: group membership gain, group membership continuity, or a weather control. Participants then completed measures of PTG, PTS, and social identity revitalisation. Participants in the group membership gain condition reported greater social identity revitalisation, compared to the group membership continuity and control conditions. Social identity revitalisation, in turn, predicted PTG, and the indirect effect of group membership gain on PTG was significant. We discuss results of this study, particularly the role that new group memberships play in supporting natural disaster recovery, particularly when fostered by positive reappraisals of the disaster via social identity revitalisation.

Tuesday, 26/11/2024 - 2:30 PM

Symp (S4): Exploring Relationship and Sexual Satisfaction Across Diverse Sexual Identities and Relationship Orientations

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chair: Joel Anderson

This symposium delves into the complex dynamics of relationship satisfaction and sexual satisfaction/desirability, examining how these factors differ across various sexual identities, relationship orientations, and subcultures. The presentations will provide a multifaceted understanding of how different forms of relationships and sexual identities influence well-being and social identity formation. Bondarchuk-McLaughlin will open the symposium with a scoping review on multi-gender attracted people in both monogamous and non-monogamous relationships. This presentation will outline key findings on how relationship structures impact the experiences and satisfaction of multi-gender attracted individuals, offering insights into the unique challenges and benefits of each relationship type. Next, Hinton will present survey research exploring sexual well-being and relationship satisfaction among single, monogamous, and consensually non-monogamous sexual minority men. This research will provide a comparative analysis of how relationship status influences sexual well-being and overall satisfaction, highlighting the diverse experiences within the sexual minority community. Grey will then present findings from ethnographic field observations and archival resources, focusing on the role of sexual desirability in forming and maintaining social identities for Bears—a subculture of gay and bisexual men who typically embody older, hairier, fatter, and more masculine characteristics. This presentation will explore how desirability is constructed and its significance within this subculture. Finally, Newton will present on the impact of pornography use on relationship well-being among gay men. This research will shed light on the ways in which pornography consumption influences relationship dynamics, satisfaction, and intimacy. Together, these presentations will offer a comprehensive exploration of the intersection between relationship structures, sexual

satisfaction, and social identity, providing valuable insights into the diverse experiences of sexual minority individuals.

Scoping Review on Multi-Gender Attracted People in Monogamous and Non-monogamous Relationships

Alena Bondarchuk-McLaughlin, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society - La Trobe University; Alena Bondarchuk-McLaughlin, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society - La Trobe University; Nat Amos, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society - La Trobe University; Joel Anderson, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society - La Trobe University.

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Multi-gender attracted people (e.g., bisexual, pansexual, queer) that enter a romantic relationship find themselves in a difficult position: in a monogamous relationship, their bi+ identity is invisible (and sometimes erased), whereby in a non-monogamous relationship, they face added layers of prejudicial assumptions regarding hyper-sexuality, promiscuity and cheating that bi+ people already face. To examine this difficult position, this scoping review synthesises available literature on bi+ people in monogamous and non-monogamous relationships to determine the key outcomes of different relationship structures for this population. How do bi+ people keep their identity visible in monogamous relationships without enacting it in their dating behaviour? Is bisexual identity most salient in and best suited for a non-monogamous relationship and if so, are the detrimental effects of added societal prejudice negate the positive impacts of visibility of their sexual identity? Both bi+ people and those in non-monogamous relationships face issues of invisibility, assumptions of promiscuity and societal prejudice. Yet, despite bi+ people entering non-monogamous relationships at greater frequency than other sexuality groups, this population is under-researched.

Exploring sexual well-being and relationship status satisfaction among single, monogamous, and consensually non-monogamous sexual minority men

Jordan Hinton, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health, and Society, La Trobe University; Jordan Hinton, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health, and Society, La Trobe University; Stefano Ciaffoni, University of Bologna; Wesley Grey, The University of Melbourne; Joel Anderson, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health, and Society, La Trobe University.

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Sexual satisfaction and relationship satisfaction often go hand-in-hand, with extant evidence providing support for their positive associations among heterosexual samples. Recently, there has been a growing interest in understanding how relationship-based factors relate to sexual well-being among individuals with diverse sexual orientations. Utilising samples of sexual minority men (SMM), the goals of this research were to (a) understand the associations between sexual well-being (e.g., sexual satisfaction, sexual depression) and satisfaction with one's relationship status, and then (b) to assess whether this association varies as a function

of relationship status and configurations. Study 1 (N = 257 SMM) observes that single participants reported poorer sexual well-being (i.e., less sexual satisfaction and more sexual depression) than those in both monogamous and consensually non-monogamous (CNM) relationships. No differences between monogamous and CNM participants were observed. Study 2 (N = 298 SMM) extended the results from Study 1 with regards to relationship status satisfaction, whereby single participants were less satisfied with their (single) relationship status compared with monogamous and CNM participants with their respective relationship status. Further, the association between sexual well-being and relationship status satisfaction were not moderated by relationship status, implying that for both single participants and those in a relationship, being more satisfied with their relationship status was strongly associated with better sexual well-being. These highlight the need to further assess the degree of satisfaction with being single, as well the need to better understand different relationship configurations among sexual minority men.

The Double-Edged Sword of Pornography Use among Partnered Sexual Minority Men

James Newton, The University of Queensland; James David Albert Newton, The University of Queensland; W. Kim Halford, The University of Queensland; Fiona Kate Barlow, The University of Queensland.

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Pornography use among partnered sexual minority men is a topic of increasing interest. This study investigates the patterns of pornography consumption in this demographic, focusing on associations with problematic pornography consumption and relationship outcomes. An online survey was conducted with 583 sexual minority men in Australia (Mage = 39.1 years) with an average relationship length of 8.4 years. Participants reported pornography consumption patterns, including frequency and duration. Measures included problematic pornography consumption, couple flourishing, emotional intimacy, sexual satisfaction, and whether pornography was viewed with a partner. Participants watched pornography 3-5 days a month, for 1-2 hours per week, for 15-30 minutes at a time. More frequent and longer pornography use was positively associated with problematic pornography consumption, but not associated with relationship outcomes. Frequent pornography use was also associated with watching porn with a partner. Viewing pornography with a partner correlated with greater sexual satisfaction, emotional intimacy, and couple flourishing. However, relationship length and higher problematic pornography consumption were negatively associated with these relationship outcomes. These findings suggest that the frequency and duration of using pornography doesn't directly affect relationship outcomes among partnered sexual minority men. It is possible that using pornography with a partner might be linked with better relationship outcomes. Whilst more frequent or longer pornography consumption doesn't appear to relate to relationship outcomes, problematic consumption may negatively impact relationship wellbeing.

Symp (S11): Social change and gridlock Pt 2: How do things change?

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chairs: Susilo Wibisono, Winnifred R. Louis, and Kelly S. Fielding

Part 2 presents empirical research on gridlock and change in the Voice referendum context and concerning changing torture practices in Indonesia. Wibisono et al. report perceived gridlock is associated with heightened norms of intransigence, as group members grow more resolute in their positions, with lower support for compromises and coalition-building. From the same data, Haines et al. test a model that when group members perceive value consensus, this may unify advantaged and disadvantaged groups across their different needs and backgrounds via a shared identity committed to equality and reconciliation. From social media data, Thomas et al. present analyses of 60,175 Tweets in the 15 months prior to the referendum. Increasing anger, hate and negativity in the language of Voice supporters was associated with increased anger, hate and negativity in the language of opponents. However, little supporter reactivity to opponents was found, suggesting reactive polarization does not occur uniformly and there may be normative differences in group reactivity. Finally, Louis presents data from the Indonesia Torture Mapping (IndoTorM) dataset, bringing together and analysing 4000+ torture accounts over some decades in Indonesia. (In)consistency in torture practices is considered in relation to stability and change in regional, national, and gender identities and norms. Together, the authors present mixed methods survey, social media, and interview data with community members and activists on the predictors and emotional experiences of collective action, social change and gridlock.

Collective gridlock fuels the norms of intransigence and stalls progress

Susilo Wibisono, The University of Queensland; Janquel Acevedo, The University of Queensland; Catherine Amiot, Universite du Quebec a Montreal; Kelly S. Fielding, The University of Queensland; Matthew Hornsey, The University of Queensland; Fathali Moghaddam, Georgetown University; Emma F. Thomas, Flinders University; Winnifred R. Louis, The University of Queensland

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Our research explored the psychological consequences of collective gridlock (i.e., intergroup stalemates) in the context of the 2023 referendum for the Voice to parliament in Australia. We hypothesised that such gridlock potentially intensifies the norms of intransigence within groups, thereby hindering the willingness of group members to engage in coalition building and compromise. Group members may align themselves more closely with their group's stance when they perceive a more entrenched state of collective gridlock, and reinforce their existing beliefs and positions, which strengthens the norms of intransigence as individuals prioritise group commitment over flexibility. This escalation may also occur because group members become more invested in justifying their stance. Consequently, compromise and coalition building (e.g., with opponent groups) are seen as a betrayal of their group efforts and beliefs. Using a longitudinal quantitative survey, we investigated these dynamics among both supporters and opponents of the Voice in Parliament in Australia. Our research reveals that perceived collective gridlock fosters a heightened sense of intransigence, as group members

become more resolute in their positions. This intransigence, in turn, suppresses the potential for constructive dialogue and cooperation across differing points of view. The presentation ends with a consideration of possible solutions to collective gridlock.

Value consensus across the group divide: Does value consensus promote cross-group collective action through social identity formation?

Emily Haines, Flinders University; Emma F. Thomas, Flinders University; Michael Wenzel, Flinders University; Winnifred R. Louis, The University of Queensland; Matthew Hornsey, The University of Queensland; Kelly S. Fielding, The University of Queensland; Susilo Wibisono, The University of Queensland; Janquel Acevedo, The University of Queensland

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Achieving racial justice and equality between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians requires members of advantaged and disadvantaged groups to unite across intergroup divides and act together for social change (i.e., in cross-group collective action). However, we do not know much about the psychological processes that lead these groups to work through pre-existing conflicts (e.g., prejudice, complex power dynamics) and unite across group boundaries. We propose that when group members share similar values (i.e., perceive value consensus), this may serve to unify advantaged and disadvantaged groups across their different needs and backgrounds via a shared identity committed to equality and reconciliation. We use longitudinal survey data in the context of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament to examine whether value consensus between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians facilitates shared (opinion-based) identity formation and promotes action in support of the reconciliation movement. We assess this proposed mediation in a longitudinal model (Study 1a) with three time points (Wave 1: N = 2469; Wave 2: N = 1482; Wave 3: N = 1602) and compare cross-sectionally whether this process is the same for Indigenous versus non-Indigenous Australians (Study 1b). The findings contribute to practical understandings of the conditions under which advantaged and disadvantaged groups may come together to act for social equality and social change.

Exploring Reactive Polarization Amongst Supporters and Opponents of the First Nations' Voice to Parliament

Emma Thomas, Flinders University; Sam Pearson, The University of Queensland; Susilo Wibisono, The University of Queensland; Lucy Bird, Flinders University; Winnifred R. Louis, The University of Queensland; Emily Haines, Flinders University; Janquel Acevedo, The University of Queensland; Matthew Hornsey, The University of Queensland; Kelly S. Fielding, The University of Queensland; Fathali Moghaddam, Georgetown University; Catherine Amiot, Universite du Quebec a Montreal

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Widespread concerns exist about political polarization in many Western liberal democracies. Political polarization involves groups of people becoming more divided on a given issue. It also involves an affective element - as groups become more divided, they become more

hostile towards people who hold the opposing view, known as affective polarization. Although it is recognised that intergroup interaction is central to both political and affective polarization, the temporal dynamic whereby the increasing hostility of one group is responded to with increasing hostility from another, has been little studied. We conceptualise this as reactive polarization and examine the effects of intergroup communication in the context of the 2023 Australian referendum about the First Nations Voice to Parliament. Tweets (N = 60,175) were obtained from supporters and opponents of The Voice in the 15 months prior to the referendum between Aug 2022-Oct 2023. Tweets about The Voice were classified for their anger, negativity and hate using Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers (BERT) models. Vector autoregressive models revealed little evidence of reactive polarization amongst Voice supporters. For opponents, however, increasing anger, hate and negativity in supporters' language was associated with increased anger, hate and negativity in opponents' language. The results suggest reactive polarization does not occur uniformly and there may be normative differences in the reactivity of groups helping explain how division grows over time in some groups and contexts but not others.

Social change and (in)consistency in torture practices: Findings from the Indonesia Torture Mapping (IndoTorM) dataset

Winnifred R. Louis, The University of Queensland; Annie Pohlman, The University of Queensland; Susilo Wibisono, The University of Queensland; Mavourneen Casey, University of Sydney; Catherine L. Pohlman, Charles Sturt University

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During Indonesia's "New Order" regime (1966-1998), torture perpetrated by officials and their proxies became systematic and endemic. Historical understandings of the New Order's torture have relied mostly on individual testimonial accounts, scattered across the various periods and incidents of the regime's state-led violent attacks on civilians. We present here initial findings from the Indonesia Torture Mapping (IndoTorM) dataset project, which attempts to bring together and analyse over 4000 torture accounts in order to map the spread and evolution of torture during the regime from state (police, army) and non-state (militia, vigilante) actors. We show how particular forms of torture were more commonly used against men, women or children, and examine the (in)stability of these patterns across Indonesia's regions, over time. The divergent and consistent patterns allow us to contrast patterns of contested and localised normative practices for torture vs. more widely used, dispersed practices. The regional normative trajectories, of greater or decreasing state violence across time, are interpreted through a social psychological lens focusing on changing identities, norms, and intergroup relations as foundations for social and system change.

Social Identity and Group Processes (IP30)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Only Connect: Two Decades of the Social Identity Approach to Psychology in Organizations

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It is over 20 years since the breadth of organization research informed the Social Identity Approach was first extensively reviewed in *Psychology in Organizations* (Haslam, 2001). Since that time, interest in the approach has boomed — to the point where its scope and depth is now almost impossible to chart. Nevertheless, this talk attempts to do this. Alongside a survey of key developments, it does so by focusing on three key topics that are the focus for symposia and workshops elsewhere in the conference: leadership, organizational change, and followership. Research shows that social identity is central to all these phenomena and can thereby provide a platform for a range of positive organizational outcomes. However, at the same time, it also highlights the ways in which toxic identities (and the identity leadership and engaged followership that support them) can also have problematic consequences for organizations and their members. These considerations lead to a call for greater attention to the links between social identity and health, and to the forms of identity leadership that sustain healthy organizations. The practical implications of the analysis are also brought home by a discussion of 5R — an evidence-based leadership development programme that leverages social identity insights to help leaders build inclusive, effective and flourishing teams.

Roll for Identity: Unveiling the Social Power of Dungeons & Dragons

Courtney Matthews, University of Canterbury; Taylor Winter, University of Canterbury

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Groups provide social support associated with better psychological wellbeing (Haslam et al., 2012; Cruwys et al., 2016). Table-top role-playing games, such as *Dungeons and Dragons* (D&D), are an excellent example of people coming together to form a group, and providing a level of social support. D&D is highly social, where players embody a fictional character to create a shared narrative. The game has grown in popularity over the years, with its publisher, Wizards of the Coast, claiming that more than 50 million people have played D&D. Despite D&D's popularity, and its implications in social psychological research, it continues to be understudied. What research exists is conflicting, with studies that either speak to its possible narrative harm (Stang & Trammell, 2020) or its potential to facilitate friendships and foster a sense of belonging and community (Adams, 2013). To date, no study on D&D has considered the undercurrent of social identity creation and maintenance. In this pilot study, we explored D&D groups as a meaningful social identity. Participants from the D&D community completed a survey on wellbeing, and completed an online Social Identity Mapping task (oSIM; Bentley et al., 2020). We sought to determine the importance participants placed on D&D group membership and how such membership is associated with positive psychological outcomes. The study establishes a foundation to build towards potential SIA-based interventions incorporated within the existing framework of D&D.

Social Identity Mapping with Justice-Involved Indigenous Youth

Damian Scarf, Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka; Abby Fox, University of Otago; Ririwai Fox, University of Waikato; Tegan Cruwys, Australian National University; John Hunter, University of Otago; Edmond Fehoko, University of Otago; Susana Jones, University of Otago; Hitaua Arahanga-Doyle, University of Otago; Taylor Winter, University of Canterbury; Gareth Treharne, University of Otago

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Social groups and the environments they create play a prominent role in the desistance versus persistence of adolescent criminal offending. Social Identity Mapping (SIM) provides a quantitative method for capturing individuals' groups and their strength of connection to these groups. The primary aim of the current study was to use SIM and a semi-structured interview to explore youth offenders' social networks. The participants were nine Māori youth. All participants were currently moving through the Youth Justice System in Aotearoa New Zealand. The average number of groups identified in the SIM task was four (range: 3 to 6), with the most common groups identified being friends, family, and Gisborne (i.e., the town in which the youth lived). Through the semi-structured interviews, youth noted that they were excluded from some groups (e.g., school) due to their offending. In addition, despite strong motivation to join the workforce and develop a career, youths' social networks and educational attainment made achieving this goal very challenging. Together, our findings suggest that more effort is needed to broaden youth's social networks.

Fodor's Self-Concept: Conceptual Atomism and its Implications for Self-Categorization

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Self-Categorization Theory (Turner et al., 1987; 1994) has proven itself to be one of the most influential and robust explanatory theories in social psychology. Its two foundational texts have been cited almost 25,000 times and it has spurred theoretical, empirical, and applied research across a wide array of topics. Despite its successes, I will argue in this talk that its theoretical commitment to a "Roschian" prototype view of categorization holds it back. In particular, I will argue that its reliance on the "principle of meta-contrast" for category discrimination (1) renders it computationally intractable; and (2) saddles it with a model of semantic content that does not meet the criterion of naturalness. I will propose instead that Fodor's (1995; Fodor & Pylyshyn, 2015) "conceptual atomism" should be adopted. I will outline Fodor's critiques of what he refers to as the "inferential role semantics" of prototype models and discuss their relevance to self-categorization. I will then explore the implications for Self-Categorization Theory of adopting a conceptual atomism approach, with a particular emphasis on issues of context dependence, prototypicality, and perceiver readiness.

Health and Stigma (IP8)

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

The Prejudice toward People with Borderline Personality Disorder Framework

Hannah Sheppard, Australian National University; Boris Bizumic, Australian National University; Elizabeth Huxley, Australian National University; Alison Caelear, Australian National University

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Evidence suggests that understanding and targeting prejudice towards people with mental illness needs a disorder-specific approach. Although people living with borderline personality disorder (BPD) face some of the highest levels of public and healthcare provider prejudice and discrimination, there is a lack of specific theory and related prejudice scales. To address this, the Prejudice towards People with BPD (PPBPD) model and scale was adapted from the Prejudice towards People with Mental Illness model and its associated theoretical framework. The new PPBPD model and scale were validated across four samples (N = 1427), consisting of medical and psychology students, people from the general population, and healthcare professionals. A nomological network was also explored to identify potential antecedents and consequences of prejudice towards people living with BPD. Finally, interviews with Australians living with BPD were conducted to investigate if the framework accurately represents their lived experiences and concerns. Interview participants identified significant sources of prejudice and particularly damaging and prevalent attitudes. These shared experiences provide important guidance for expanding and strengthening the framework and the development and implementation of effective, stigma reducing interventions.

Abortion stigma among healthcare providers: psychometric validation of the HAS-R, prevalence of stigma, and testing of a novel conceptual model.

Hanano (Hana) Kijima, School of Psychology, University of Sydney.; Sarah E. Ratcliffe, The University of Sydney; Rebecca T. Pinkus, The University of Sydney; Haryana M. Dhillon, The University of Sydney.

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Although abortion sits in healthcare legislation within all jurisdictions of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand (ANZ), access is 'a postcode lottery'. Improving healthcare professionals' (HCPs) experiences of providing abortion care is a proposed pathway to equitable abortion access. Abortion stigma is a barrier to the provision of abortions and inhibits quality of care in ANZ. This study sought to validate a revised instrument for measuring abortion stigma experienced by healthcare professionals (i.e., Healthcare professional's Abortion Stigma scale; HAS-R), identify the prevalence of abortion stigma types, and test a novel, empirically derived conceptual model of abortion stigma to determine mediating and moderating effects of stigma on of HCPs experiences providing reproductive healthcare in ANZ. We conducted a cross-sectional study collecting data via an anonymous online survey. The survey gathered information about HCPs' demographics, reproductive

healthcare provision type and location, abortion stigma, burnout, moral distress and psychological wellbeing. Participants were recruited through social media, physical poster advertisement, and email invitations from professional groups and organisations. A confirmatory factor analysis was conducted to validate the HAS-R, followed by t-tests to compare prevalence of types of abortion stigma and then a mediation model was used to test the conceptual framework. Results will address quantitative evidence gaps, providing data on the influences and predictors of provision of different reproductive healthcare, and inform the development of interventions supporting HCPs provide accessible quality reproductive healthcare. Future research should investigate structural changes to target abortion stigma and improve the experience of reproductive healthcare provision for HCPs.

Secret Women's Business: An interpretive phenomenological analysis investigating the psychosocial experiences of female bodybuilders who use performance and image enhancing drugs (PIEDS)

Hannah C. Schuurs, The University of Queensland; Zoe Walter, School of Psychology, The University of Queensland; Mair Underwood, School of Social Science, The University of Queensland; Leanne Hides, School of Psychology, The University of Queensland

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The use of performance and image-enhancing drugs (PIEDs) has previously been seen as exclusive to the domain of male elite athletes. However, evidence suggests that PIED use as women is increasing and significantly underreported and, due to increased stigma around women's use. This interpretive phenomenological analysis (IPA) study delves into the lived experiences of female bodybuilders who have used, or currently use, PIEDs. Recruited via snowball sampling, 8 female participants completed 1-2 semi-structured interviews to explore the psychosocial factors surrounding their PIED use and investigate how they made sense of their PIED use in the context of different social roles/identities. Specifically, the interviews focussed on themes of stigma, femininity, gender roles and community-based harm reduction. Data collection will continue until data reaches saturation point. Preliminary findings underscore the complex interplay between individual narratives and societal constructs including beauty standards, gender and morality. This ongoing research, part of a broader project on women's PIED use, seeks to highlight the nuanced and unique experiences of women who use PIEDs. Building upon this qualitative exploration, a mixed-methods survey with a larger participant pool is being developed, based on key themes uncovered in this study. It is anticipated that this research will enhance awareness of women's unique experiences with PIEDs, fostering the development of harm-reduction tools, education initiatives and healthcare accessibility.

The prevalence and predictors of abortion stigma experienced by people accessing, providing, or advocating for abortion in Australia

Sarah E Ratcliffe, The University of Sydney; Haryana M. Dhillon, The University of Sydney; Rebecca T. Pinkus, The University of Sydney

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Qualitative evidence indicates abortion stigma has pervasive impacts on quality of healthcare. There is an absence of quantitative data about abortion stigma experienced in Australia. We aimed to use novel tools and empirically derived models to quantify the incidence and predictors of abortion stigma experienced in Australia. We conducted a cross-sectional survey measuring abortion stigma, reproductive autonomy, psychological wellbeing, and religiosity. The types and extent of abortion stigma experienced were measured with the Individual Level Abortion Stigma scale – Australia (ILAS-Aus), Healthcare Provider Abortion Stigma scale (HAS), and Abortion Advocate Stigma scale (AAS). Multiple linear regression analyses were performed using SPSS v28. Of respondents who had an abortion ($n=1227$), experiences of stigma were moderate ($M = 2.5/5.0$, $SD = 0.3$) and predicted by time, attitudes, political affiliation, pregnancy type, and reproductive autonomy ($F(18, 1037) = 19.191$, $p < .001$, $R^2 = .260$). Providers ($n=263$) and advocates ($n=351$) rarely experienced stigma ($M = 1.0/4.0$, $SD = 0.7$ and 0.8 respectively). Providers' psychological wellbeing was predicted by age, disclosure, and interactions between age and enacted stigma and age and anticipated stigma ($F(16, 222) = 2.616$, $p < .001$, $R^2 = .166$). Advocates' psychological wellbeing was predicted by age, education, enacted stigma, and interaction between anticipated stigma and political affiliation ($F(26, 267) = 5.436$, $p < .001$, $R^2 = .346$). Our results provide novel insights into the incidence and levers for intervention of abortion stigma experienced in Australia. Future research should explore the directionality of predictors and patterns in abortion stigma types over time, contexts, and groups.

Forgiveness (IP20)

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

Undermining free will belief increases forgiveness and decreases hate

Aaron Walton, The University of Melbourne; Brock Bastian, Stefan Bode

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Previous research suggests undermining free will belief may have detrimental effects, but few studies have examined whether there may also be benefits to tempering a belief in free will. Two experiments examined whether exposure to arguments for determinism would increase forgiveness of self and others. In Study 1, 260 participants wrote about a time they hurt someone, then were exposed to either a free will or determinism condition, where they read material consistent with those positions. Those exposed to arguments in favor of determinism were subsequently more self-forgiving. In Study 2, 262 participants exposed to arguments in favor of determinism were more forgiving and less hateful toward others after writing about a time they were hurt by someone else. Results suggest that undermining free will belief may encourage forgiveness of self and others, and suggest there may be potential upsides to tempering a belief in free will.

Conditional Forgiveness

Blake Quinney, Flinders University; Elena Zubielevitch, Department of Management and International Business, University of Auckland; Tyler G. Okimoto, University of Queensland Business School

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After wrongdoing, victims may not wish to outright forgive the offending party, but they also may not want to deny forgiveness, either. An alternative is that victims may offer conditional forgiveness – placing terms and conditions under which forgiveness will be granted or rescinded. However, offenders often do not respond favourably to conditional forgiveness because they can perceive it as manipulative. This research examines what features of conditional forgiveness might determine whether offenders engage with conditional forgiveness. In Study 1 (N = 291), participants described a recent instance of committing a wrongdoing and receiving conditional forgiveness. If victims expressed there would be consequences if the conditions were not met, then offenders (i.e., the participants) perceived victims as acting in a harm-oriented way, and, in turn, offenders felt less committed to the relationship. In Study 2 (N = 295), we conducted an experiment to examine potential framing effects of conditional forgiveness. We presented a hypothetical wrongdoing and manipulated whether the victim framed conditional forgiveness as a gain (forgiveness granted if conditions met) or as a loss (forgiveness rescinded if conditions not met). However, no significant differences emerged between these two conditions on how offenders viewed the conditional forgiveness. A control condition without conditional forgiveness was viewed more favourably than both conditional forgiveness conditions suggesting that the negative meaning offenders give to conditional forgiveness is robust. Future directions for this research will be discussed.

It runs in the family: A longitudinal study on the effects of parenting style on children's social development

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Studies show that parents and children share similar ideologies and intergroup attitudes, with evidence dating back to the 1950s indicating parents' role in socializing these attitudes. Parental authoritarianism fostered children's right-wing authoritarianism (RWA) and prejudice attitudes. The mechanism behind its intergenerational transmission remains largely unexplained beyond the different types of discipline strategies. However, Theory of Mind (ToM) research suggests that the different ways in which authoritarian and authoritative parents interact with their children impacts the development of social understanding. Inductive reasoning was beneficial for this development, whereas an unquestioning obedience to parents thwarted the development of ToM and empathy. In this longitudinal study, parents reported their social attitudes, parenting style, and their child's mental state and non-mental state vocabulary. The children's ToM and prejudice attitudes (ethnic and anti-fat) were measured. Parent-child interactions were observed and parents' use of mental state vocabulary was recorded. We predict that parents' social attitudes would correlate with parenting style and mental state talk. As found in past studies, mental state talk should be

beneficial for children's ToM gains over time. Furthermore, the longitudinal design demonstrates how parenting style and parent talk are related to children's prejudice attitudes. The findings propose a model to explain the intergenerational transmission of attitudes from a social cognition perspective.

Developing a Psychometric Measure of Divine Forgiveness

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Research on the psychological experience of divine forgiveness is nascent. As it develops the field is in need of a psychometric measure to promote replicable scholarship. Spanning five studies, with samples representative of the world's three major monotheistic religions: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism, we develop this measure. Over the first three studies (n=616), a prototype analysis was used to collate lay definitions of divine forgiveness. The features identified formed the basis of the item pool. Items were also drawn from religious texts (Bible, Quran, and Tanakh) and other existing forgiveness measures. The final item pool was reviewed by experts: psychological researchers, rabbis, imams, priests, and theologians. Participants (n=1000) then provided data on the item pool and a range of measures including religiosity, spirituality, perceptions of God's mercy and grace, gratitude, reconciliation, existential anxiety, guilt, shame, fear of death, intelligence, sense of humour, and socially desirable responding. The 20-item measure showed adequate factor structure, internal consistency, and convergent and discriminant validity. In a final study (n=5000) we replicate these findings and demonstrate an invariant factor structure across gender, age, ethnicity, education, employment, marital status, and religion. We concluded with a discussion of the relevance of divine forgiveness to a range of sub-disciplines and research questions within psychology.

Tuesday, 26/11/2024 - 4:00PM

Symp (S7): Challenging Stereotypes: A Multi-Level Analysis of Transgender and Gender-Diverse Representation and Lived Experiences in Australia

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chair: Cassandra Lynn Crone

Trans and gender-diverse (TGD) people are represented in systems, policies, and procedures through assumptions based in stereotypes, without their consultation, affecting TGD lives on multiple levels. This symposium addresses the treatment, representation, understanding, and definition of TGD people in Australian public consciousness, and how underinformed assumptions interact across micro, meso, and macro levels. KJ presents micro-level analysis on Asian Australians' minority stress and strengths, highlighting how engaging with intersectional identities informs outcomes for TGD people of colour. Emma presents meso-

level analysis, where normative practices impact TGD employees' safety, noting how community and organisational TGD literacy must occur alongside institutional change. Scarlet presents macro-level analysis, where media representations of TGD people reflect national public discourse that discounts systemic inequalities, shaping the perception and treatment of TGD people in our societal consciousness. Cassandra presents interactions across micro, meso, macro levels, drawing on findings from mixed-methods analysis on young adults' intergroup contact and perceptions of TGD people. Using largely qualitative analyses to examine TGD lived experience, we offer key considerations to inform public understandings, definitions, and conversations around TGD identities. Our discourses suggest social interactions, institutional change, and policy reform can draw on true representations of TGD lived experience to improve acceptance, inclusion, and support for TGD individuals.

A Qualitative Exploration of Minority Stress and Strengths of Trans Asian Australian People

Kian Jin Tan, La Trobe University

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LGBTQ+ community members often navigate multiple intersecting minority identities, particularly trans people of colour, who experience further discrimination and health discrepancies. Theoretical models such as minority stress theory and the gender minority stress and resilience framework, while widely applied in research and clinical settings, were developed from Western-centric perspectives that overlook ethnic and cultural identities. Intersectionality theory proposes that experiences of oppression and prejudice faced by people with multiple minority identities differ from those with single minority identities and occur in addition to single identity discrimination (e.g., racism, transphobia). Our aim was to elucidate the unique lived experiences of trans Asian Australians in relation to minority stress and strengths. Interviews with trans Asian Australians (e.g., non-binary, genderqueer, agender) were conducted, with a focus on the unique experiences of prejudice and strengths in the contexts of living in Australia and the LGBTQ+/ethnic community. Themes about stigma, prejudice, and strengths of trans Asian Australians were explored, underpinned by the minority stress theory and gender minority stress and resilience framework. By examining the lived experiences of trans Asian Australian people, this study highlights the importance for researchers, clinicians, and policy makers to engage with diverse, intersectional people within the LGBTQ+ community and the issues of over-generalising White/Anglo-centred outcomes to other ethnic and cultural groups within the community.

How Cisheteronormative Workplaces Shape Transgender Identities: Unpacking Harassment, Policies, and Paths to Safety

Emma Jackson, Macquarie University; Kerry Robinson, Western Sydney University; Kimberley Allison, Western Sydney University

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Trans people are uniquely unsafe at work, facing higher levels of sexual harassment and discrimination than cisgender peers. The #SpeakingOut@Work project drew data from a national survey (n = 1001) and interview series (n = 48) to explore LGBTQ young peoples' experiences of workplace sexual harassment and safety. We draw on qualitative data from binary and nonbinary trans participants' survey open responses and interviews (n = 573), analysed using codebook thematic analysis. Workplace policies, physical infrastructures such as bathrooms, and organisational processes became sites that facilitated harm for trans young people. In addition, transphobia from coworkers could manifest as sexual harassment—invalidation and stereotyping of trans identities shifted to inappropriate and intrusive comments about anatomy and sexual practices. Organisational structures and transphobic attitudes reciprocally interacted to enable transphobic violence. These hostile environments had deep, lasting impact on trans young peoples' health and identity: “[the harassment had a] psychological impact, especially in the ways I viewed myself and my relationship with my body and gender” (transmasculine participant, age 22). To promote workplace safety for trans employees, increasing literacy around queer identities must occur alongside systemic change to workplace policies, processes, and physical infrastructures. Indeed, trans participants who felt safe and could express their authentic self at work described how organisational practices were equally as important as positive allyship from coworkers.

Media Representations of Transgender and Gender Diverse People in the Criminal Justice System

Scarlet Rosa, RMIT University; Adrien McCrory; Kian Jin Tan, La Trobe University; Joel Anderson, La Trobe University; Christina Maxwell, The University of Queensland

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Understanding how transgender and gender diverse (TGD) people are represented in the media is crucial, as these portrayals significantly influence public perceptions and attitudes. For TGD individuals, who already face substantial social and institutional challenges, media representations can reinforce harmful biases. This issue is particularly relevant in the context of the criminal justice system, where TGD people encounter significant disparities compared to their cisgender counterparts, leading to compounded punishments and exposure to increased harm. This presentation discusses findings from a media analysis of 60 news articles covering TGD people who have committed crimes in Australia. Our analysis reveals recurring themes related to identity construction and damaging narratives that connect concepts of deviance and morality with gender identity and conformity. These themes and narratives reflect underlying prejudice and demonstrate a lack of understanding in public discourse. Such reporting has the potential to amplify public biases towards TGD people, as well as having implications for how TGD people are perceived and treated by legal stakeholders and decision-makers enacting criminal justice policies and procedures. By examining media representation of TGD individuals who become involved in the criminal justice system, we gain insight into the psychosocial factors that shape their treatment and

the systemic inequalities and injustices they face, highlighting the need for more accurate and empathetic media depictions.

Examining Young Adults' Discourses on Transgender Acceptance and Inclusion: Implications for Policy and Intergroup Contact

Cassandra Lynn Crone, Macquarie University; Emma F. Jackson, Australian National University; Jessica Laing, Macquarie University; Jamie Chapman, Macquarie University; Rachel W. Kallen, Macquarie University

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Young adults are perceived as progressive, inclusive, and dedicated to challenging traditional norms. To enhance our understanding of dynamics surrounding the acceptance and inclusion of trans and gender-diverse (TGD) people, we collected open-ended responses from Gen-Z adults (N = 170) between World Pride and Pride Month (2023)—a period of increased public consciousness toward LGBTQ+ policy reform. Using qualitative and mixed methods analyses, we evaluated participants' experiences of TGD intergroup contact and their conceptualisations of 'transgender' and 'cisgender'. Overall, high-quality contact led to greater awareness of TGD diversity and heterogeneity. However, cisgender participants with minimal contact echoed popularised ideological rhetoric, mirroring discourses of political conservatism and trans-exclusionary radical feminists. We observed preoccupation with medicalised transition and the biological body, perpetuating the narrative that medical transition is required to hold a transgender identity. Additionally, cisgender men expressed concerns about declining and fragile masculinity. As LGBTQ+ policy change remains in progress, this work offers considerations for targeted education and healthcare interventions that integrate community consultation and represent TGD experiences beyond a medical model. Specifically, there is need for greater representation of TGD lived experience to more inclusively conceptualise who is accepted as 'transgender' and to inform a more holistic approach to trans-affirming care that accounts for diverse approaches to transitioning.

Symp (S26): Introducing the Expression Regulation Scale (ERS): A Comprehensive Tool for Individual Differences, Cross-Cultural, Relational, & Dev Research

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chairs: Amy Dawel and Conal Monaghan

Understanding and following the 'display rules' or norms that govern emotional expression is crucial for social success. However, excessive regulation can be detrimental, hindering social connectedness or leading to burnout. For example, sharing feelings of love and vulnerability may strengthen the bond between romantic partners, but inappropriately expressing anger or hiding negative feelings may result in discord. Research on expressive norms spans multiple fields, with prominence in the emotion regulation, emotional labour, and facial expression literatures. Each field, however, has a unique perspective, focus, and methodological approach to this topic. To work towards theoretical unification, we introduce

a new approach that promises a psychometrically robust and innovative investigation of this topic. We start with Monaghan's development of our foundational tool—the Expression Regulation Scale (ERS)—and Dawel's cross-cultural validation. This work reveals a novel and robust structure which groups expressive norms according to the social functions various emotions serve: harmonious emotions facilitate affiliation and bonding, vulnerable emotions elicit support, and social status emotions can both maintain social hierarchies and disrupt relationships. We then explore two new questions this tool makes possible to answer, with Findlay innovatively combining the tool with a behavioral economics paradigm to understand the nuances of expressive norms across relational closeness, and Tarring discussing the potential application of the ERS to connect child and adult research.

Development and Cross-Situational Evaluation of the Expressive Regulation Scale (ERS)

Conal Monaghan¹, Yiyun Shou^{1,2,3}, Paige Mewton¹, Anika Quayle¹, Amy Dawel¹

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Understanding the social norms that govern emotional expression is essential for successful interpersonal interactions. Despite their importance, the detailed emotional framework underlying these norms has been insufficiently studied. This presentation will detail our research into expressive norms, or 'display rules', for an extensive set of 64 theoretically grounded emotions. The study sample was representative of the United Kingdom's national census demographics, including age, sex, and ethnicity. We assessed expressive norms across a spectrum from suppression to amplification in four distinct scenarios, combining two contexts (public vs. private) and two types of relationships (close relations vs. distant others). In our theory-building subsample ($n = 507$), we used ant colony optimisation algorithms to reduce these emotions into a subset within three key dimensions: harmonious, vulnerable, and disharmonious. Validation in a separate confirmatory subsample ($n = 506$) supported this structure across all four scenarios, validating the robustness of cross-situational comparisons. There were substantial differences in the average level of display across all four scenarios, suggesting that people actively monitor their expression based on the specific environmental context. This new measure was called the Expression Regulation Scale (ERS), which can advance our understanding of emotional expression, facilitating a host of potential directions for future investigations.

Using the Expression Regulation Scale: Robustness and Versatility

Amy Dawel¹, Conal Monaghan¹, Yiyun Shou^{1,2,3}

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This presentation will focus on the robustness and versatility of the Expression Regulation Scale (ERS)—a new tool for effectively measuring expressive norms. The ERS demonstrates a robust three-dimensional structure across representative samples from four English-speaking countries (US, Australia, Canada, Singapore, in addition to the UK as per Monaghan's talk). Measurement invariance across these countries and four social scenarios indicates that scores can be validly compared. Cronbach's alphas exceed .9, indicating excellent reliability and facilitating comparisons of individual differences. A key advantage of this scale is its scoring range from -100 to +100, where negative numbers indicate the extent of expressive suppression, positive numbers indicate amplification, and values around 0 indicate no expressive regulation. The scale is structured for flexible use. For example, the ERS allows for alternative question wording to tap into personalised expressive norms, perceived group norms, and self-reported expressive behaviour. In terms of social scenarios, the ERS is validated for interactions with close and distant others in both private and public settings, and can be adapted for specific contexts like the workplace or healthcare. We also propose alternative scoring methods that will enable researchers to test critical hypotheses, such as whether the absolute degree of expressive regulation, suppression, or divergence from the average score impacts social relationships and wellbeing. Overall, the ERS promises to serve as a useful, psychometrically robust tool for bridging the gap between the emotion regulation, emotional labour, and facial expression literatures on this topic.

The Expressive Regulation-Social Distance Task (ER-SDT): Capturing the Relationship Between Social Closeness and Expressive Norms

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Work on expressive norms (known as 'display rules') has sought to understand how these norms vary across a broad range of social situations and interactants. While the data clearly show that display rules encourage greater expression of emotions in closer relationships, the approach has been coarse, splitting relationships into two buckets of close (e.g., partner) and distant (e.g., stranger) others. It is unknown how expressive norms change over gradations of closeness. For example, are expressive norms the same for partners and friends? Or do they change successively with each level of increasing social distance? The present study integrates the Expression Regulation Scale with a social distance paradigm from behavioural economics, which has previously investigated money sharing. Using our new Expressive Regulation-Social Distance Task (ER-SDT), we ask about expressive norms in two studies ($N = 33$ and 32) testing seven levels of social closeness. At the closest distance, norms encouraged the expression of harmonious, vulnerable, and disharmonious emotions as they

were felt. However, while suppression for vulnerable and disharmonious emotions increased with social distance, norms for harmonious emotions went in the opposite direction, encouraging greater amplification as social distance increased. We then tested whether these curves are best characterised by a hyperbolic fit, as is the case for money sharing, or by an exponential function. The present findings and new ER-SDT paradigm pave the way for a more nuanced understanding of expressive norms in relationships.

Bridging the Gap: Synthesising Developmental Literature on Expressive Norms (Display Rules) Across Childhood and Adolescence

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Expressive norms (also known as ‘display rules’) are theorised to have an important role in the development of social skills, relationships, and emotional well-being in children and adolescents. While multiple individual studies have investigated display rules across development, the methods and sample characteristics vary widely, and no attempt has been made to synthesise this evidence. Here, we present the initial findings from our registered scoping review (N = 96 articles). A key learning is that the wide variation in how display rules are conceptualised and operationalised in the developmental literature presents a major challenge for synthesis. We propose a novel framework for defining display rules to address this issue. We highlight the potential of this framework for further synthesis, including connecting the developmental and adult literatures, and integrating adult literatures across different fields, such as those of emotion regulation, emotional labour, and facial expressions. Our data also highlight gaps in the ages studied, with minimal adolescent data, underscoring the need to bridge child and adult literatures. We discuss how the foci of child and adult studies differ, and where each can offer insights and methods that would improve understanding of the development of expressive norms across the lifespan. Finally, linking back to the overarching Symposium, we consider how the ERS might be adapted to adolescent populations to fill the identified gaps.

Blitz Talks

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Feeling our way to greener pastures: Understanding the role of emotions in climate change communication

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Faced with global challenges, such as climate change, strategies to mitigate damage and foster more sustainable lifestyles are greatly needed. Towards this end, understanding the effects of climate change messaging is pivotal. In particular, emotions play a crucial role in shaping decision making and behaviour. Can they lead us to greener pastures? Research has been highlighting their potential in the environmental domain. However, care and caution are needed when for instance employing them in intervention and messaging contexts to avoid unintended effects. Here I present a summary of the results from a series of large-scale empirical studies as well as currently ongoing work that investigates the role that affect and emotions play in climate change communication, specifically pertaining to message valence, societal interactions, transparency and mitigation impact. We explore effects on trust, decision making, and behaviour.

Understanding Interpersonal Goal Adoption and Pursuit on Social Media: A Qualitative Investigation

Danielle Villoresi, Queensland University of Technology ; Stephanie J. Tobin, Queensland University of Technology; Patricia Obst, Queensland University of Technology

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People's experiences on Social Networking Sites (SNSs) can impact their well-being. These experiences can be shaped by interpersonal goals that guide behaviours. People with compassionate interpersonal goals focused on supporting others, and self-image interpersonal goals focused on conveying a desirable image can exhibit distinct posting, responding, and searching behaviours on SNSs and experience different social, emotional and well-being outcomes. However, what contributes to adopting and pursuing these goals in SNS contexts remains unclear. To develop a foundational understanding, 21 semi-structured interviews were conducted using the snapshot scroll-back technique to explore people's experiences of self-image and compassionate goals via SNS posting. The data were analysed using reflexive thematic analysis, and three themes were generated: evaluating internal desires before goal adoption, observing others when making decisions about goal pursuit, and determining effective means for goal achievement. Our findings offer initial insights into antecedents influencing interpersonal goal pursuit on SNSs. These insights expand our understanding of interpersonal goals, which can guide how people use SNSs.

The role of social motivations in the relationship between vulnerable narcissism and conspiracy belief

Grace Ma, Australian Psychological Society; Grace Ma, Monash University; Tylor Cosgrove, Monash University

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Conspiratorial beliefs, which attribute significant events to the secret machinations of malevolent groups, have far-reaching social consequences. Social motivations are outlined as a primary factor in conspiracy theory adoption. Similarly, vulnerable narcissism shows relationships with both increased conspiracy theorising, and an increased need for social

status. This study explores the relationship between vulnerable narcissism and conspiracy beliefs with specific regard to the social motivations of a need for uniqueness and need for belonging. It was expected that both an increased need for uniqueness and need for belonging would significantly account for unique variance in the relationship between vulnerable narcissism and conspiracy beliefs. Participants (N = 371) residing in the United States of America were included in the study. A parallel mediation model showed that although vulnerable narcissism was associated with both mediators, only need for uniqueness mediated the relationship between vulnerable narcissism and conspiracy beliefs (indirect effect = .07, 95% CI [.03, .11]), need for belonging did not (indirect effect = -.02, 95% CI [-.071, .03]). The findings provide clarity around social motivations in the relationship between vulnerable narcissism and conspiracy beliefs, and provide direction for future studies.

A Legacy of Guilt: Exploring Parent's Pro-Environmental Views, Behaviours and Experiences of Cognitive Dissonance

Laura Burman, Deakin University; Anna Klas, Deakin University; Michelle Benstead, Deakin University; Elizabeth Westrupp, Deakin University

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Current estimates suggest that over 80% of Australians believe climate change is important and needs to be addressed. However, consumption habits, particularly household energy use and transportation, have not significantly decreased. Parents are a particularly interesting group as their emissions increase after having children, and never return to pre-child levels. Parents are known to experience cognitive dissonance, that is, the feeling of internal discomfort arising when beliefs don't align with behaviours, in situations around child discipline and screen time. However, it is relatively unknown if and how they experience cognitive dissonance related to their pro-environmental behaviours, given their emissions will impact the state of the world their children inherit. Given this, we conducted a qualitative survey of 249 Australian parents (age = 20-61, Mage = 38.7, SDage = 7.25, female = 143, male = 105, non-binary = 1) through the online platform Prolific. Using several open-ended questions, we asked parents their views on the environment, how their views and pro-environmental behaviours have changed since having children, what situations have engendered cognitive dissonance, and how the hypocrisy of this may bother them. Preliminary results suggest most parents care about the environment. Many parents discussed the importance of preserving the environment for future generations and also how they may not be doing as much to reduce their impact as they would like to. Interestingly, parents stated things that generally aroused the most cognitive dissonance were visually confronting, mainly food waste and nappies.

Loneliness, social connectedness and mental health in Australia

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Social connectedness can be both a predictor and outcome of mental health and wellbeing. While this relationship is well-established, there is less research directly comparing the strength of association by type of mental disorder. This study explores rates of loneliness, social connectedness and social participation in people with lifetime and 12-month symptoms of anxiety, affective, and substance use disorders, along with a control group of people without symptoms at a diagnostic threshold. It similarly assesses rates of anxiety, affective, and substance use disorders among those experiencing loneliness and low social connectedness. Using a nationally representative diagnostic survey of mental health and wellbeing (the National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing, 2021-22), the study uses a subjective measure of loneliness, along with objective measures of social engagement (with family/friends, and with the community). Rates of anxiety and affective disorders were higher among those who felt lonely in the past four weeks. Among those with an anxiety or affective disorder, rates of loneliness were higher, and community participation lower, than for the general population. Implications, and strengths of the data, are discussed.

Moral Engagement and Wellbeing

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The relationship between moral engagement and well-being has intrigued philosophers for centuries. Aristotle, for instance, posited that happiness consists in activities in accordance with virtue, intertwining morality with well-being (Shields, 2023). In contrast, Kant viewed happiness as largely irrelevant to moral considerations (Kant, 1785/1998). In contemporary times, empirical research has begun to explore this complex relationship, revealing both positive and negative impacts of moral engagement on well-being (Giacalone et al., 2015; Hofmann et al., 2014; Oser et al., 2010; Taher et al., 2023; Waytz & Hofmann, 2020). Despite this growing body of evidence, there is a lack of a cohesive framework to explain the nuanced interplay between morality and well-being, as well as the underlying mechanisms of these opposing patterns. Therefore, the current research utilizes the lenses of three major approaches in normative ethics: consequentialism (emphasising the results of actions), deontology (emphasizing duties or rules), and virtue ethics (emphasizing virtues or moral characters) to examine moral engagement. This study aims to clarify the conflicting findings in previous research by using the framework of normative ethics and unravel the potential mechanisms underlying the association between moral engagement and well-being.

Self-recognition of and formal help-seeking behaviour for mental health conditions among Australian adults

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Mental health issues affect one in five Australians annually, yet about half do not receive care. Limited research exists on self-recognition of mental health as a barrier to service use.

This study aims to identify targets to enhance self-recognition and formal help-seeking among Australian adults. Using cross-sectional data from 3,175 adult Australians, this investigation examined demographic, lifestyle, clinical, and help-seeking variables. Participants completed DSM-5 checklists and screening tools for major depressive disorder, social anxiety disorder, panic disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder, and reported if they had experienced each condition. Logistic regression identified factors associated with poor self-recognition and formal help-seeking, adjusting for potential confounders. Among 1,135 participants with a DSM-5-defined mental health condition, 19% (212) exhibited poor self-recognition. Factors associated with poor self-recognition included older age, comorbidity presence, and greater distress. Those with poor self-recognition had approximately 25% lower odds of seeking formal help compared to those with accurate self-recognition. This association was significant based on screening tools ($p = 0.019$) but not DSM-5 checklists ($p = 0.103$). Variables associated with formal help-seeking behaviour included older age, tertiary education, speaking only English at home, reduced occupational functioning, and greater distress. Strategies to improve self-recognition, particularly among older adults, could enhance service utilisation and reduce the mental health treatment gap. Targeted interventions to increase problem identification are crucial to addressing the unmet needs of those with mental ill-health. These findings highlight the importance of public health initiatives focused on early detection and intervention to improve mental health outcomes for Australians.

Identity and Physiological Health (IP27)

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

Religious engagement and antibody response to the COVID-19 vaccine

Aoife Marie Foran, University of Queensland & University of Limerick; Grace McMahon, University of Limerick; Renate Ysseldyk, Carleton University; Magdalena Skrodzka, University of Limerick; Orla Muldoon, University of Limerick

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This research examined religious engagement and subsequent antibody responses to the COVID-19 vaccine. Using publicly available data from the Understanding Society survey, we employed a longitudinal design. Between January 2016 and May 2018, respondents completed measures of religious belonging, frequency of attending religious services (i.e., extrinsic religiosity), and the difference religion made to their lives (i.e., intrinsic religiosity). A COVID-19 survey wave was collected in March 2021 and measured antibody responses to the COVID-19 vaccine via blood draw. A final sample of 746 adults [462 (61.9%) females, $M_{age} = 61.94$, $SD = 19.07$] was achieved. Mediation analyses revealed one pathway through which religion and antibody responses to the COVID-19 vaccine are associated, namely via extrinsic factors—attendance at religious services. In contrast, intrinsic religious factors which is the difference religion can make to one's life, was not a significant mediator. Overall, this analysis provides evidence that behavioural enactment of religion matters to the effectiveness of

vaccination and the management of public health crises. It also highlights the value of social resources associated with engagement in valued social groups—and in particular religious social groups—for public health.

How social identity processes affect objective measures of health: Systematic review and meta-analyses

Tegan Cruwys, ANU; Mark Stevens, ANU; Niklas K. Steffens, UQ; Jan Häusser, Justus-Liebig-University Giessen; Samantha Pang, ANU; Miranda Osborne, ANU; Ella Edwards-Smith, ANU

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This project conducted a systematic review of the published and unpublished literature that had (a) manipulated or measured multiple group membership or social identification strength, salience, or threat, and (b) included a non-self report measure of health behaviour or physical health. 90 studies were eligible for inclusion with samples drawn from 20 countries with over 61,000 participants. Studies were highly diverse in design and dependent variables. There were five distinct clusters of studies, three of which were sufficiently homogenous to allow for a meta-analysis. First, 40 studies assessed the effect of a threat to social identification on acute cardiovascular reactivity mostly in lab experiments with students, with a moderate average effect size of $g=.44$. Second, 17 studies assessed the effect of social identity salience on salivary cortisol, with an average effect size of $g=-.27$. Third, 11 studies considered the effect of group norms on health behaviours, often in interaction with social identification or message source. Although these studies were too heterogenous for meta-analysis, all found a significant effect of ingroup normative influence on health behaviour (in some cases this was influence toward less healthy behaviours). Fourth, 16 cross-sectional or longitudinal surveys considered the effect of multiple group membership on long-term health outcomes (most commonly, mortality). This was the best powered group of studies and included the most diverse samples. These had an effect size of OR: .536. Finally, six studies considered social identification with therapy groups in the context of health interventions, four of which found social cure effects on physical health-related outcomes. These findings are reviewed with a focus on exploring distinct mechanisms for these five kinds of social cure and social curse effects, as well as highlighting gaps in the literature to date.

“It's the Social Aspect of Your Life that Makes You Well”: Acceptability of the GROUPS 4 HEALTH Loneliness Intervention in Patients with Chronic Disease

V. Vanessa Wergin, The University of Queensland; Nathalia Costa, The University of Queensland; Crystal La Rue, The University of Queensland; Linda Nguyen, The University of Queensland; Catherine Haslam, The University of Queensland

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Loneliness is one of the biggest health concerns in Western societies, especially for vulnerable groups including those living with chronic illness. The psychotherapeutic intervention GROUPS 4 HEALTH (G4H) is particularly effective in populations experiencing

high levels of loneliness, earning high acceptance from both therapists and clients. Here we evaluate the acceptability of G4H to manage loneliness associated with chronic disease. We conducted focus group and individual interviews with 22 patients with chronic disease who were offered the program as part of a broader rural health service, asking for their experiences of the program and reasons for continuing or discontinuing. Many found the program enhanced their social skills and connections. Some felt "privileged" to join, describing how the program "changed their lives," despite initially finding it "eye-opening" and "confronting" as they became aware of their loneliness. The therapy group itself was viewed as a key resource for discussing and overcoming trauma, which contributed to continued participation, alongside the facilitators, reflective tasks, and program materials provided for use outside of the sessions. Participants expressed a desire for the program to be extended, both in terms of session length and overall duration. Drop-outs were mainly attributed to time constraints, changing life circumstances, other commitments (e.g., work schedules), and long travel times to the service. The study shows that G4H intervention is an acceptable intervention to manage loneliness in chronic conditions, and highlighted potential areas for improvement. The feasibility of facilitating the program in other populations will be discussed.

Technology (IP9)

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

Variety Streamers foster more social support through affiliative communities on Twitch

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Twitch is an online live-streaming platform where viewers congregate around streamers who play video games, often forming close-knitted online communities of like-minded individuals. But how does Twitch affectively transform an audience into a community? Our research explores how online behaviors (discourse) vary across Twitch communities and context, through qualitative and quantitative (computational) methods. Study 1 used an open-ended survey of N = 51 Twitch users. Using inductive thematic analysis on participants' responses, preliminary results revealed strong themes of community interaction, and viewer recognition from streamers. However, in comparing communities of competitive versus casual (variety) video game livestream content, participants who watched casual content had more mentions of social support themes, whereas competitive content users had more mentions of shared interest. Accordingly, we hypothesised that casual content users used Twitch more for social support and for a sense of belonging. As such, in Study 2, we trained a Word2Vec model on N = 3017851 Twitch chat messages from N = 150 popular streamers scraped over 3 months. We selected 7 competitive streamers and 10 casual streamers, and examined their cosine distance from 124 'affiliative' words (from the LIWC-22 dictionary), and found that cosine

similarities for affiliative words were more closely associated ($b = -0.04$, $p < .001$) with casual streamers than competitive streamers. This suggests that Twitch content streams appeal to different users: users searching for support and community may prefer casual/variety streamers but users who enjoy competitive games may seek like-minded individuals in competitive video game streamers.

Why do racial minority group members seek anonymity when interacting with White people online? Codeswitching, emotional labour, and burnout

Lewis Nitschinsk, The University of Queensland; Melinda Hewett, The University of Queensland; Audree Grand'Pierre, The University of Queensland; Michael Thai, The University of Queensland; Fiona Kate Barlow, The University of Queensland

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Interracial interactions often play out against a backdrop of anxiety and tension. As a result, people often try to avoid having to interact with racial outgroup members, living segregated lives in otherwise integrated spaces. Our research explores how these processes play out in online environments, where people can “turn off” the interracial component of intergroup interactions by becoming anonymous. Across four studies ($N=1302$) we investigate this phenomenon by surveying Black participants living in White dominant cultures, who, we argue, often engage in codeswitching and emotional labour in interracial interactions, and plausibly feel burned out by them. We found that: (1) Black participants who felt more burned out when interacting with White people were more likely to seek anonymity in an interracial interaction, (2) Black participants were more likely to engage in codeswitching, emotional labour, and feel burned out from interacting with White people, than vice versa, and were more likely to seek anonymity, (3) stigma consciousness and perceived discrimination in part explained increased burnout during interracial interactions, and a desire for anonymity. This result did not replicate when race was manipulated pictorially. Our findings shed light on why racial minority group members seek anonymity online.

Socially-minded intelligence: Conceptualizing human and artificial intelligence across levels of analysis

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In psychology, intelligence is generally understood either as an individual-differences trait or as a quality of groups. Similarly, approaches in artificial intelligence (AI) tend to focus either on designing agents to be smart individually, or on the ability of multi-agent systems to operate in a coordinated manner. We propose that by focusing either on the individual or collective level of analysis, intelligence research misses the potential interaction between these levels facilitated by agents which can act either as individuals or as group members in a flexible, context-sensitive manner. This ability of individual agents to act as group members – and the ability of group members to act as individuals or subgroup members – can be

understood as their 'socially-minded intelligence'. We discuss potential outcomes of improving socially-minded intelligence for people, AI agents, multi-agent systems, and human-AI teams. Furthermore, we propose ways in which socially-minded intelligence might be measured and improved in people, as well as integrated into AI agents. Social identity (with other group members and the group as a whole) emerges as a key variable for potentially facilitating socially-minded intelligence in people and machines.

Wednesday, 27/11/2024 - 9AM

Symp (S23): Social psychological investigations of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament
Referendum: 1

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chairs: Brianne Hastie & Peta Callaghan

The debates around, and process and outcomes of, the Voice referendum are of clear interest to social psychologists, and particularly those in Australian and New Zealand. As a discipline built on the study of intergroup relations, with a strong history of research on social identity and prejudice, the referendum provided a context in which to examine our core concerns. Thus, this symposium represents the expertise of researchers across a spectrum of theories and research designs. Research presented here includes the collection of experimental, survey, news media, and social media data, covering the political rhetoric of the campaigns, attitudes and voting intentions pre- and post-referendum, extending to the outcomes of the referendum. We will end with a discussion of the meanings and implications of these findings, theoretically and practically, to develop an understanding of where to from here, as a discipline and as Australians.

Yes and No: Comparative analysis of the Voice referendum campaigns

Damilola Olabode, Murdoch University; Brianne Hastie, Murdoch University

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The Indigenous Voice to Parliament was intended to be an advisory body to represent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' perspectives on policies and laws affecting their communities. To create a constitutionally enshrined Voice, a referendum was needed. With a lack of bipartisan support, the debate became highly polarized, with strong arguments both for and against the proposal. We analysed the key arguments of the Yes and No campaigns, including both the Conservative and Progressive No campaigns. Comparative discursive analysis suggested five key themes were flexibly used for and against the inclusion of the Voice in the Australian Constitution. These were: Representation and Voice; Historical recognition and reconciliation; Symbolism vs. Practicality; National Unity; and Truth-telling and Treaty. These findings reinforce existing research on the flexibility of language and

symmetry of discourses in race talk. Thus, we demonstrate a pathway to building anti-racist rhetoric through turning language from supporting to resisting inequality (or vice versa).

The Power of Political Rhetoric: Examining ‘Race Talk’ through Neoliberal Tropes in the ‘Voice to Parliament’ Referendum Discourse

Peta Callaghan, University of Adelaide; Kerry Readett, University of Adelaide

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On Saturday 14 October 2023, the Australian public went to the polls for the first referendum of the 21st century to decide on a constitutional change recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through a ‘Voice to Parliament’. While proposals for a Voice to Parliament have a long history in Australian politics, the Australian Labor party proposed a referendum seeking public support during their 2022 Australian Federal Election campaign. However, Liberal party leader Peter Dutton announced his opposition to the ‘Voice’ in April 2023, arguing that the ‘Voice’ would ‘re-racialise Australia’ and responded to public confusion about how the ‘Voice’ would operate with the catchy slogan, “If you don’t know, vote ‘no’”. The present study explores social discourse in the lead up to the ‘Voice to parliament’ referendum by analysing Reddit data collected at three stages throughout 2023: February, April and September, from the subreddit r/Australia. Using Thematic Discourse Analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006; 2021; Wetherell & Potter, 1989) we explore how neo-liberal tropes such as ‘everyone should be treated equally’ serve to disguise and maintain systems of racial inequality, and specifically, how this discourse evolved over the year in response to the ‘no’ campaign’s rhetoric. Specific findings and comparisons between the patterns of discourse across the three time periods will be discussed, as will implications for future efforts to address systemic inequality among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Australia.

Predicting Voice Referendum Votes with Right-Wing Authoritarianism and Social Dominance Orientation

Sonja Baram, Monash University; Darren Austin, Monash University

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referendum for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Constitutional Recognition and Voice to Parliament offered a unique opportunity to study political ideologies that drive voting behaviour in Australia. Past research on ideological indicators of voting patterns in referenda and elections around the world show that right-wing authoritarianism (RWA) and social dominance orientation (SDO) can predict voting outcomes: notably between conservative or progressive choices. To better understand the dimensions of political ideologies held by Australian voters and using the October 2023 referendum as a test case, this study examined the utility of a dual process model constructed of RWA predictors: submission, conventionalism, aggression; and SDO predictors: dominance and anti-egalitarianism. The research, using a sampling of eligible voting adult Australians, was conducted during the week prior to the 2023 referendum, where people were asked their intention to vote “Yes” or

“No” to an Indigenous Voice to Parliament (N = 225) while also scored on RWA and SDO scales. In this study, a model of ideological predictors was developed using logistic regression analysis that produced significant results for three dimensions: RWA authoritarian conventionalism, RWA aggression and SDO anti-egalitarianism in predicting a voting-intention of “No”. A significant negative result was found for authoritarian submission, potentially indicating a “Yes” voting intention for this dimension. While SDO-dominance did not contribute to the model. The findings present a picture of the role of conservative ideologies influencing voters’ intentions in this referendum, contributing to the literature in a uniquely Australian context.

‘Modern’ racism and its relevance for the Voice referendum, intergroup contact, and wellbeing.

Iain Walker, University of Melbourne, Australian National University; Olivia Evans, ANU; Aseel Sahib, ANU; Tegan Cruwys, ANU; Kate Reynolds, University of Melbourne; Michael Platow, ANU; Hema Preya Selvanathan, University of Queensland

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Outright, overt, hostile, supremacist forms of racism, once common, are now apparently opprobrious. The concept of ‘modern’ (rather than ‘old-fashioned’) racism captures the sense that racism is now more likely to be expressed in covert, subtle forms with a gloss of acceptance and tolerance. Developed in the US and exported mostly to other parts of the anglosphere, the relevance of the concept for Australia has always been questionable. Furthermore, the concept of ‘modern’ racism is now about six decades old and is no longer ‘modern’. In this paper we examine what ‘modern’ racism in Australia looks like. We use national survey data gathered in three waves in 2023-2024, spanning either side of the 2023 Voice referendum (total N = 4,942, with 1,943 completing all three waves). The surveys included items from several extant measures of modern racism or prejudice, supplemented with several bespoke measures, to assess participants’ views of First Nations people in Australia. Using EFA of items from all measures, we identify three dimensions underlying contemporary expressions of racism in Australia: emotion, respect, and historical context. Using CFA we eliminate items to create three clear scales with good model fit (CFI = .97). We then use these scales to predict intergroup contact, WHO5 Wellbeing, and responses to the outcome of the Voice referendum. We end by suggesting that the ‘modern’ racism concept retains utility but needs to be refined and updated to contemporary Australian conditions.

Symp (S22): Factors affecting legal outcomes in sexual violence cases

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Chair: Hayley J. Cullen

Being a victim of sexual violence is unfortunately not an uncommon experience. In Australia, 22% of women and 6.1% of men have experienced sexual violence since the age of 15 (ABS, 2023). What is additionally concerning is that there is increased attrition in sexual violence

cases as they progress through the criminal justice system (BOCSAR, 2024). First, many victim-survivors do not come forward to report the incident(s) to authorities for a variety of reasons. If they do come forward, only a small proportion of cases proceed to trial, and of those that involve a trial, the conviction rates are lower than for other types of crimes. Therefore, it is important to understand how to improve victim-survivor access to justice by investigating the factors that impact legal outcomes across each of the stages of the process. In this symposium, we present empirical studies that explore the role of various factors on the information provided by victim-survivors during investigative interviews with police, as well as the decisions reached by jurors in sexual violence trials. These empirical studies employ mock-witness and mock-juror paradigms to increase experimental control and to ensure the safety of research participants. Through the research presented in this symposium, we hope to contribute to ongoing discussions about the most appropriate ways for the criminal justice system to respond to matters of sexual violence.

Interviewees, Interviewers, and Interpreters: Understanding the Key Factors that Benefit Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) Sexual Assault Victim-Survivors in Investigative Interviews

Ruichun (Dora) Zhang, The University of Sydney; Celine van Golde, University of Sydney; Hayley Cullen, Macquarie University dora.zhang@sydney.edu.au

Culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) victim-survivors of sexual assault face heightened vulnerability, especially when investigative interviews neglect to consider their diverse beliefs, norms, attitudes, and behaviours stemming from cultural differences. Our first study seeks to validate potential disparities in memory report quality and quantity between CaLD and non-CaLD interviewees. Additionally, we investigate the role of interpreters in potentially mitigating memory differences. We recruited bilingual Mandarin speaker and native English speakers to engage with an implied sexual assault scenario in a virtual reality headset. They then went through a cognitive interview with a trained interviewer to report on the scenario after one week delay. The bilingual Mandarin participants were randomly assigned to be interviewed in Mandarin, in English, or interview in English with the assistance of an interpreter. Native English speakers were all interviewed in English. Participants were asked to provide a free recall report of the scenario, and their stress level were measured before and after experiencing the scenario and then before and after the interview. Interpreters' stress levels were also measured. Participants were also asked to describe their impression of the interview, the interviewer and the interpreter (in conditions where there was an interpreter). Preliminary results will be presented and discussed. We hope these results will shed light on the nuances that demand attention for a more culturally sensitive approach in investigative interview practices.

Swipe Left? Mock Juror Decision Making in Technology Facilitated Sexual Assault

Celine van Golde, The University of Sydney; Lauren Forsyth-Smith, University of Sydney; Sarah Walker, Durham University

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Technology facilitated sexual violence (TFSV) is a rising concern in Australia. However, there has been minimal research into juror decision making in cases of TFSV. The present study therefore explored the impact of TFSV, and jurors' individual differences on their decisions in a sexual assault trial. 205 participants read a trial vignette where the victim-survivor of a sexual assault had met the perpetrator online via friends, or via a dating app. The location of the assault was further manipulated to have taken place in the victim-survivor's bedroom, a stairwell, or a public park. Participants' verdicts and sentencing were measured as well as attributions of criminal intent, and ratings of victim consent. It was found that the mode of meeting and location of assault impact jurors' sentencing decisions. Specifically, there were interactions between how the victim-survivor met, and where the assault took place. Implications of these findings on mock juror sexual assault trials are discussed.

The paw-fect court companion? The impact of facility dogs on juror decision-making and perceptions of sexual assault complainants

Hayley Cullen, Macquarie University; Celine van Golde, University of Sydney; Samantha Hamilton, Macquarie University; Ruichun Zhang, University of Sydney; Annabel Marsh, University of South Australia

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There is an increasing push in Australia to allow complainants of alleged sexual assault to testify with a facility dog. While complainants could benefit from testifying with facility dogs (e.g., reducing anxiety and enhancing emotional wellbeing), it is unclear whether their presence would bias jurors. Therefore, we aimed to determine whether the presence of a facility dog impacts decision-making and perceptions of the complainant in three experiments. In the first two studies, participants read a vignette (Study 1) or viewed an animated video (Study 2) depicting an alleged sexual assault of a female committed by a male defendant. The age of the complainant (8 vs. 18-years-old) and the presence of a courtroom support (facility dog vs. support person vs. no support) were manipulated between-subjects. Participants provided a verdict, rated the defendant's guilt, and rated the complainant's accuracy, honesty, cognitive competence, and emotional wellbeing. While Study 1 revealed no effect of facility dog on decision-making or perceptions, in Study 2, both 8 and 18-year-old complainants were considered as being less accurate when testifying with a facility dog compared to a support person or no support. Interestingly, when the complainant testified with either a facility dog or support person, they were perceived as having greater emotional wellbeing than when they testified alone. We further investigated whether the timing of awareness of a hidden facility dog and complainant emotional demeanour impacted juror perceptions in Study 3. Progress for Study 3 will be discussed.

Understanding how emotions shown by male complainants of sexual violence influence jurors' decisions in criminal trials

Faye Nitschke, The University of Newcastle; Sophie Johnson-Holmes, The University of Newcastle; Bret Sherwood, The University of Newcastle

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Sexual violence cases have consistently high case attrition rates and low conviction rates (Jehle, 2012). Research suggests that the emotions shown by female adult rape complainants effect the decisions jurors make about complainant credibility and defendant guilt, despite the fact that emotion is not accurate information to inform these decisions (Nitschke et al., 2019; 2022). Gender roles strongly shape expectations for the types of emotions we expect others to show in social situations (Brody et al., 2016). Emotions shown by male victims of sexual violence may have a different effect on jurors' decisions about complainant's credibility. However, limited studies have investigated how people perceive emotions shown by male victims and how these influence decisions about complainant credibility. We report on two studies exploring the how emotion effects perceptions of male and female complainants of sexual violence. In study 1 (N = 186) participants read a trial synopsis in which a male complainant was either unemotional, distressed or angry while giving evidence. In study 2 (N = 327), participants read a trial synopsis in which a male complainant was portrayed as distressed or unemotional and case evidence was manipulated to be weak or strong. Results suggest that emotions shown by male complainants may not impact decisions made about their credibility in sexual assault cases. These findings have implications for criminal justice reform.

Organisational Contexts (IP19)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Corporate philanthropy: changes in motives?

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The scientific literature on corporations' motives to engage in corporate philanthropy, sponsoring, and corporate social responsibility (CSR) is dominated by a focus on 'the business case': the potentially beneficial outcomes for the organization, such as higher profit and better reputation (e.g., Saia, Carroll, & Buchholtz, 2005). Using a stakeholder perspective, engaging in corporate philanthropy and CSR is seen as part of the organizational strategy (e.g., Porter & Kramer 2002). However, some authors suggest that organizations may also have other motives, based on morality (e.g., Aguilera, Rupp, Williams & Ganapathi, 2007). It is too early to draw firm conclusions about motives to engage in philanthropy, since representative research on this topic is scarce. In our partly longitudinal bi-annual research on corporate philanthropy in The Netherlands, we find both motives are present in organizations, often simultaneously. We also see partly worrying trends, as fewer organizations engage in corporate philanthropy, but also a trend to become more engaged with good causes, for instance by allowing for employee volunteering. I will present the results of the most recent survey study (N > 1000, a representative sample of Dutch companies), showing the trends that we have found in 20+ years of research on corporate philanthropy, and exploring explanations for these trends.

Diversity and team performance: A comprehensive meta-analysis

Ditte Barnoth, University of Newcastle, Australia; Lukas Wallrich, Birkbeck, University of London; Victoria Opara, Bath Spa University; Miki Wesolowska, University of Warsaw; Sayeh Yousefi, The London School of Economics and Political Science

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Workforce diversity is increasing across the globe, while organizations strive for equity and inclusion. Therefore, research has investigated how team diversity relates to performance. Despite clear arguments why diversity should enhance (some types of) performance, and promising findings in individual studies, meta-analyses have shown weak main effects. However, many meta-analyses have failed to distinguish situations where diversity should have a positive impact from those where its impact is more likely to be negative, leaving boundary conditions unclear. Here, we summarized the growing literature across disciplines, countries, and languages through a reproducible registered report meta-analysis on the relationship between diversity and team performance (615 reports, 2,638 effect sizes). Overall, we found that the average linear relationships between demographic, job-related and cognitive diversity, and team performance are significant and positive, but insubstantial ($|r| < .1$). Considering a wide range of moderators, we found few instances when correlations were substantial. However, context matters. Correlations were more positive when tasks were higher in complexity or required creativity and innovation, and when teams were working in contexts lower in collectivism and power distance. Contrary to expectations, the link between diversity and performance was not substantially influenced by teams' longevity or interdependence. The main results appear robust to publication bias. Further research is needed on how diversity climates and team cultures affect these relationships, and when there may be non-linear relationships – yet for the moment, promises of wide-spread performance increases may not be the strongest arguments to promote diversity initiatives.

Does Emphasizing Effort Undermine People's Pursuit of Educational and Occupational Choices Related to STEM?

Zhen Wang, Nankai University; The University of Queensland; Guoguo Zuo, Southwest University of Science and Technology; Jolanda Jetten, The University of Queensland; Jian Guan, Nankai University

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The value of effort is recognized worldwide. Although emphasizing effort has positive effects on individuals, its negative consequences are underestimated. Our research, which encompasses multiple studies with more than 2,000 participants, demonstrates that emphasizing effort can undermine individuals' pursuit of educational and occupational choices related to STEM. In Studies 1-4, participants who read a scenario emphasizing a student's effort were less likely to suggest that the student pursue STEM majors and internships compared to those who read a scenario without such emphasis. Additionally, participants whose effort was emphasized reported lower intentions, interest, sense of belonging, and motivation to pursue STEM majors and internships compared to those whose

effort was not emphasized. In studies 5?6, perceptions of low brilliance mediated the negative impacts of emphasizing effort on participants' pursuit of STEM jobs. Our research suggests that while effort is valued, the unintended negative consequences of emphasizing effort should also be considered. In educational contexts, avoiding excessive praise for female students' effort may decrease the likelihood of women steering away from STEM fields.

Symp (S9): Motivated emotion regulation in everyday life

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

Chair: Elise K. Kalokerinos

Emotions are a key determinant of personal well-being, professional success, and healthy social relationships. But everyone fails to manage their emotions sometimes; a fact that has only become more salient in the face of turmoil. As a result, interest in emotion regulation—the processes through which we influence and change our emotions—has intensified. Much of the research to date has investigated the strategies people use manage their emotions. However, more recent perspectives have emphasised that emotion regulation is a motivated process, and so to understand emotion regulation, we need to move beyond strategies to uncover the role of motivational variables like intentions, goals, and effort. To meet this need, we investigate motivated emotion regulation from four angles using data collected in everyday life. First, Kalokerinos demonstrates that people often choose not to regulate their emotions, even when those emotions are intense, highlighting the importance of studying motivation. Second, Zeira investigates emotion regulation goals, investigating how psychopathology may be characterized by differences in the goals people set for changing their emotions. Third, Freeman-Robinson examines whether the effort people exert in regulating their emotions may help or hinder the effects of regulation strategies on outcomes. Finally, Stariolo adds a social dimension to these processes, exploring whether loneliness is associated with putting effort into emotion regulation. Together, these talks demonstrate that emotion regulation is best understood through a motivational lens.

Emotion regulation is rare

Elise Kalokerinos, University of Melbourne; Peter Kuppens, KU Leuven; Maya Tamir, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

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The term emotion regulation is nearly synonymous with the strategies people use to manage their emotions. As a result, research has neglected to ask whether people choose to regulate their emotions to begin with. Instead, researchers often assume that regulation is a default response to negative emotions. We challenged this assumption by investigating how often people actually regulated their emotions across 8 experience-sampling studies in response to real-world emotional situations (N=1095). These data allowed us to get robust estimates of regulation prevalence in everyday life. We found that participants only reported regulation on

between 10-30% of measurement occasions across studies, suggesting emotion regulation is rare. We found some meaningful predictors of regulation attempts — people regulated more when they felt negative, and when they were higher in neuroticism — but even for these people, and in these situations, regulation attempts were still relatively infrequent. These results suggest that the field needs to refocus on asking questions about what brings people to invest in regulating to begin with, rather than assuming that regulation is a default behaviour.

How do pleasant emotions shape regulation goals in depression?

Noy Zeira, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Elise Kalokerinos, University of Melbourne; Katharine Greenaway, University of Melbourne; Maya Tamir, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

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Depression is marked by heightened levels of unpleasant emotions and diminished levels of pleasant ones. A key feature of depression is difficulties in emotion regulation. To understand these difficulties, previous research has primarily examined how depressed individuals regulate unpleasant emotions. However, the regulation of pleasant emotions may also play a critical role in depression. Certain emotion regulation goals, like trying to increase happiness when sad, may be more challenging and feel less authentic for depressed individuals compared to when one is already happy. Despite this, no research has specifically explored the unique relationship between pleasant emotions and subsequent emotion regulation goals in depression. This study addressed this gap by examining this link in clinically depressed participants (n=58) and healthy controls (n=62) in their daily lives. We hypothesized that depressed individuals would show a stronger negative association between pleasant emotions and subsequent goals to enhance these emotions compared to healthy controls. That is, that depressed individuals would be less likely to respond to pleasant emotions by trying to feel more pleasant. To test this, we employed an ecological momentary assessment (EMA) design, where participants completed study measures four times daily over 10 days. The findings from this study may provide valuable insights for planning effective interventions for depression by incorporating trajectories to increase pleasant emotions, which, if frequent and successful, may promote depression remission.

Does effort help or hinder emotion regulation strategies?

Rachel Freeman-Robinson, University of Melbourne; Katharine Greenaway, University of Melbourne; Peter Koval, University of Melbourne; Elise Kalokerinos, University of Melbourne

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Recent research suggests that investing effort in emotion regulation boosts positive emotions, thereby facilitating beneficial emotion regulation. One way effort may benefit emotion regulation is by facilitating the positive impact emotion regulation strategies have on emotional outcomes. However, there is no direct evidence that effort assists the efficacy of strategies, and indirect evidence suggests that effort may even hinder emotion regulation. In two intensive longitudinal studies, we examined whether regulatory effort moderated the

association between several emotion regulation strategies and emotional outcomes in everyday life. Study 1 (N=173) used the experience sampling method to assess naturally occurring variation in effort and strategy use multiple times per day for seven days. Study 2 (N=250) experimentally manipulated effort, and assessed participants' daily use of regulation strategies across four days. We found that effort did not moderate the association between strategies and outcomes across moments (Study 1) or days (Study 2). This suggests that putting more effort into specific strategies neither helped nor hindered strategy effectiveness. Rather, in line with and extending prior research, effort had a direct positive association with both positive emotions and perceived regulation success (but not negative emotions) across both studies. Our results suggest that effort acts on our emotions in ways other than investment in emotion regulation strategies; simply trying to regulate boosts positive emotions and promotes a feeling of regulation success.

Chronic vs. momentary loneliness and interpersonal emotion regulation effort

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Loneliness, a form of social pain, arises when there is a gap between individuals' current and desired relationships. It is common and costly for personal and social well-being. Yet, the mechanisms through which loneliness has these negative impacts are unclear. One candidate process is interpersonal emotion regulation - the processes through which people influence the emotions of others (extrinsic), or reach out to others for help with their own emotions (intrinsic). This research investigated whether loneliness is associated with interpersonal emotion regulation efforts. An experience sampling study (n = 239) assessed momentary and chronic loneliness, as well interpersonal emotion regulation efforts 7 times per day for 7 days. Results showed interpersonal emotion regulation is differentially associated with loneliness depending on whether loneliness is transient (i.e., a state) or chronic (i.e., a trait). Specifically momentary loneliness was positively associated with greater effort towards intrinsic and extrinsic interpersonal emotion regulation. On the contrary, the both types of chronic loneliness assessed (average and global) were not associated with either intrinsic or extrinsic interpersonal emotion regulation. The only exception was average loneliness which was positively associated with greater effort invested in intrinsic interpersonal emotion regulation. Overall, our findings suggest that when people feel lonelier than usual, they tend to invest more effort in interpersonal emotion regulation, potentially offering a means to break the cycle of loneliness.

Wednesday, 27/11/2024 - 10AM

Symp (S24): Social psychological investigations of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament Referendum: 2

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chairs: Brianne Hastie and Peta Callaghan

The debates around, and process and outcomes of, the Voice referendum are of clear interest to social psychologists, and particularly those in Australian and New Zealand. As a discipline built on the study of intergroup relations, with a strong history of research on social identity and prejudice, the referendum provided a context in which to examine our core concerns. Thus, this symposium represents the expertise of researchers across a spectrum of theories and research designs. Research presented here includes the collection of experimental, survey, news media, and social media data, covering the political rhetoric of the campaigns, attitudes and voting intentions pre- and post-referendum, extending to the outcomes of the referendum. We will end with a discussion of the meanings and implications of these findings, theoretically and practically, to develop an understanding of where to from here, as a discipline and as Australians.

Beliefs around the Continuity of Indigenous Australian Cultures and Support for Indigenous Rights

Hema Preya Selvanathan, University of Queensland; Olivia Evans, ANU; Tegan Cruwys, ANU; Michael Platow, ANU; Kate Reynolds, University of Melbourne; Aseel Sahib, ANU; Iain Walker, University of Melbourne

h.selvanathan@uq.edu.au There have been significant national debates in Australia on Indigenous issues, including on establishing an Indigenous Voice to parliament and changing the date of Australia Day. This study investigates how collective continuity beliefs - people's beliefs about whether Indigenous Australian values, customs, and practices have been preserved over time and will continue into the future - explain attitudes towards Indigenous issues over time. We conducted a 3-wave longitudinal study (total N = 2,315) of non-Indigenous Australians before the Voice referendum (Time 1), after the referendum in October 2023 (Time 2), and around Australia Day in 2024 (Time 3). We found that greater perceived continuity of Indigenous Australian cultures at Time 1 predicted greater likelihood of voting "No" in the Voice referendum at Time 2, and lower support for changing the date of Australia Day at Time 3. In contrast, greater desired continuity of Indigenous Australian cultures at Time 1 predicted greater likelihood of voting "Yes" in the Voice referendum at Time 2, and greater support for changing the date of Australia Day at Time 3. These findings highlight the complex and sometimes conflicting role that collective continuity beliefs play in shaping public opinion. The divergence between perceived and desired continuity reflects a broader societal divide: those who perceive Indigenous cultures as enduring may view further change as unnecessary, while those who desire to protect the continuity of Indigenous cultures advocate for active measures to ensure its vitality. These differing perspectives underline the challenges in achieving consensus on Indigenous issues in Australia.

A Call for Belonging, Met with Silence: The Roles and Consequences of Misunderstanding and Othering in the Voice to Parliament Referendum

Olivia Evans, Australian National University; Aseel Sahib, ANU; Tegan Cruwys, ANU; Iain Walker, University of Melbourne, ANU; Kate Reynolds, University of Melbourne; Michael Platow, ANU; & Hema Preya Selvanathan, University of Queensland

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The 2023 Australian Voice to Parliament referendum was intended to advance Indigenous rights by providing a constitutionally enshrined advisory body for Indigenous Australians, reflecting the principles of unity and shared belonging outlined in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. Despite initial majority support, the referendum ultimately failed to pass, with a 60% majority voting against it. In the present study we investigated how the referendum process was defined by and also contributed to the misunderstanding and othering of Indigenous Australians. Using data from two national studies (Study 1: N = 4,942 - 3-wave longitudinal; Study 2: N = 4,219), we examined these factors as both predictors of voting behaviour and as outcomes of the referendum process. Our analysis reveals that higher levels of misconceptions about the referendum and current context of Indigenous Australian issues, and othering of Indigenous Australians were significant predictors of voting "No" in the referendum. Moreover, following the referendum, the othering of Indigenous Australians and misinformation about the cause has in parts intensified, especially among "No" voters. These findings suggest that the referendum not only reflected but also deepened existing societal divisions and further marginalised Indigenous voices. Moreover, the referendum, rather than fostering the unity and recognition sought by Indigenous leaders, has instead highlighted and exacerbated the challenges Indigenous Australians face in gaining equal rights and representation. These trends have important consequences and applications in the context of the ongoing fight for recognition, truth and treaty.

Historical Knowledge and Voting Behaviour: Understanding Non-Indigenous Australians' Support for the 2023 Voice to Parliament Referendum

Megan Gipey, University of Queensland; Hema Preya Selvanathan, University of Queensland; Olivia Evans, ANU; Tegan Cruwys, ANU; Michael Platow, ANU; Kate Reynolds, University of Melbourne; Aseel Sahib, ANU; Iain Walker, University of Melbourne

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Knowledge of history is crucial in explaining how people think and behave in the present. In settler colonial countries like Australia, different social representations of history - whether dismissing the atrocities of the past as irrelevant or acknowledging the ongoing consequences of past harms - play an important role in shaping contemporary public attitudes. The current study aims to examine how knowledge and perceptions of Indigenous history is associated with non-Indigenous Australians' voting behaviours around the 2023 Voice to Parliament referendum, which aimed to alter the constitution to include an Indigenous representative body that would advise the government on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander matters. We conducted a two-wave longitudinal survey before and after the referendum with a nationally representative sample of non-Indigenous Australian participants who were eligible to vote (N=2,322). The results of a parallel mediation analysis

found that higher levels of knowledge of Indigenous history were associated with both greater historical recognition of colonisation and lower historical negation of historical injustices, which in turn predicted a greater likelihood of voting “yes” in the referendum. These results were found after accounting for demographic variables (age, gender, income, and political ideology) as covariates. These findings highlight the importance of historical awareness and education in contemporary political decisions. It suggests that increasing public knowledge of Indigenous history may promote more informed voting behaviours, and ultimately contribute to a more just and inclusive society.

The impact of the failed 2023 Indigenous Voice referendum on non-Indigenous Australians’ collective self-forgiveness

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In 2023, Australia voted in a referendum on whether to constitutionally enshrine an Indigenous advisory body to parliament, supposed to provide recognition and empowerment for its Indigenous peoples. For non-Indigenous Australians, notions of past and continuing wrongdoing against Indigenous people could threaten their moral-social identity. To the extent that non-Indigenous Australians felt defensive or collectively self-forgiving, they would have been likely to vote ‘no’ in the referendum. In contrast, the more they felt burdened by collective responsibility and collectively self-punitive or collectively working through it (genuinely self-forgiving), they would have been more likely to vote ‘yes’. However, what would have been the impact of the referendum’s failing on processes and states of collective-self forgiveness? In a pre-post study, 10-15 days prior (N = 797) and 2-3 days after the referendum (N = 410), non-Indigenous Australians were surveyed about their voting intentions/vote and collective-self forgiveness. We analysed within-person change through latent true-change modeling. To facilitate interpretation, we trichotomized the vote intention measure to obtain a relatively undecided group as reference point for the trajectories of committed no- and yes-voters. Intending to vote ‘no’ was generally related to more pseudo collective-self forgiveness (defensiveness), less collective-self punitiveness and greater endstate collective-self forgiveness (closure); the opposite was the case for yes-voters. Pre-to-post, yes-voters showed a decrease in genuine collective-self forgiveness and endstate collective-self forgiveness, whereas no-voters showed a further decrease in collective-self punitiveness and an increase in endstate collective-self forgiveness. The findings imply the referendum failure caused a further divide in moral repair motivations.

Conservative Beliefs (IP25)

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

The 'Supreme Gentleman'?: Does competition increase endorsement of problematic sexual behaviour?

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Initially coined as a term of solidarity for those frustrated by their lack of sexual and/or romantic connections, the term ‘involuntary celibate’ and its common portmanteau, ‘incel’, has taken a different meaning through its adoption and proliferation on harmful internet communities. Now, it often describes online forums where heterosexual men express frustration over their romantic difficulties and seek advice, ranging from self-improvement to more coercive or forceful tactics. Some incels hold and espouse ideologies that dehumanise women and encourage misogynistic violence, with increasing incidents of violence and terrorist attacks linked to self-identifying incels (Hoffman et al., 2020). Sex ratios influence societal dynamics through the ‘availability’ of men and women. A scarcity of women, especially single women, intensifies male competition for mates, increasing the risk of men remaining single. High mating competition areas, characterized by male-biased sex ratios, high-income inequality, and small gender income gaps, are associated with more online incel activity (Brooks et al., 2022) and violent offences (Barber, 2000). Similarly, misogynistic tweets correlate with domestic and family violence in the U.S. (Blake et al., 2021). This research extends upon previous studies exploring development of ideologies related to sexual entitlement and harmful views towards women, and whether these behaviours are impacted by perceived mate competition and mate value (participant self-esteem). Using an experimental design, this study investigates whether perceived mate value, endorsement of ‘incel’ ideology, and sexual entitlement/problematic sexual behaviour is moderated by a more competitive sex market (higher male biased environment) in a simulated online speed-dating scenario. Preliminary findings will be presented and will improve understanding of individual and social factors that affect radicalization and reactionary hostility towards women. This study is funded by the SASP Small Research Grant 2023.

Nationalism, but not patriotism, predicts increases in opposition to multi-culturalism: Insights from ten annual waves of longitudinal panel data

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The recent wave of nationalism sweeping across the globe raises important concerns about anticipated increases in opposition to multi-culturalism. Yet existing longitudinal work on the relationship between nationalism and intergroup hostilities confounds between-person, trait-like differences that persist over time with within-person changes that are the focus of psychological theory. The current study addresses this concern by using ten annual waves of longitudinal panel data from a large, nation-wide random sample of adults born in New Zealand (N = 50,808) to examine the within-person associations between nationalism and attitudes toward multi-culturalism. Results from a random-intercept cross-lagged panel model show that those who were high on nationalism across assessment occasions were

also high on opposition to multi-culturalism. After adjusting for these between-person differences, increases from participants' trait-level mean of nationalism at one assessment occasion predicted future within-person increases in opposition to multi-culturalism. Notably, these results replicated when examining warmth toward immigrants, as well as after adjusting for patriotism (which was unassociated with within-person changes in opposition to multi-culturalism). Collectively, these data provide the most comprehensive assessment of the relationship between nationalism and opposition to multi-culturalism to date and demonstrate that concerns about the global rise in nationalism are well-founded.

Rise of the Alt-White? Examining Perceptions of Racial and Gender Discrimination among White Men from 2014 to 2022

Kieren J. Lilly, Institute for Social Science Research, University of Queensland; Chantelle Kimberley, University of Auckland; Zoe Bertenshaw, University of Auckland; Joaquin Bahamondes, Universidad Católica del Norte; Chris G. Sibley, University of Auckland; Danny Osborne, University of Auckland

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The past decade has seen a marked rise in alt-right rhetoric positioning white (male) identity as “under threat”. However, the extent to which white men in the general population perceive themselves as under threat—and whether these perceptions have changed over time—remains unexplored. The present study addresses these oversights by examining perceptions of (reverse) ethnic and gender discrimination across nine annual waves of a nationwide random sample of New Zealand European men (2014 to 2022; N = 19,816). Latent class growth analyses reveal that most white men (82.67% of the sample) reported low and stable perceptions of ethnic- and gender-based discrimination over time, alleviating concerns of widespread discontent. We did, however, identify a Disenfranchised class of white men (8.77%) who perceived moderate levels of discrimination, and a Radicalised class (8.56%) who initially perceived low levels of discrimination that markedly increased over time. The Radicalised class were more economically advantaged than the Disenfranchised class, highlighting potential socioeconomic class-based differences in perceived discrimination among white men. Critically, both classes differed from the rest of the sample across sociodemographics and reported greater endorsement of right-wing ideologies and political parties, greater opposition to progressive policies, and lower health and well-being. We thus identify how, and for whom, perceived (reverse) discrimination is changing among white men, and how these changes may undermine both health and progressive social change.

Why the rich take all the credit? The experimental effects of socioeconomic status on internal attributions and social attitudes.

Roger Yan, University of Otago; Jackie Hunter, University of Otago; Damian Scarf, University of Otago; Ted Ruffman, University of Otago

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Three experimental studies reveal the conditions under which upper-class people will change their social attitudes and make internal attributions when explaining social outcomes. In Study 1, participants played a rigged game of Monopoly, where a wealthy player had double the resources of a poor player. Study 2 involved participants in an artificial society with varying inequality levels, where they made decisions emphasising their rich-, medium, or low-income status (e.g., purchasing a car). Study 3 replicated Study 2 but introduced a task where participants chose bogus stocks to determine their income status. Before and after each game, participants completed measures of social dominance orientation (SDO) and Just World Beliefs (JWB). At the end of the game, participants were asked what factors contributed to their success in the game, with these responses subsequently coded as internal (e.g., because I played the game well) or external (e.g., because I was given more money). We hypothesized that the highest income groups would (1) make more internal attributions and (2) show a concomitant increase in SDO. The hypotheses were not supported in Studies 1 and 2. However, Study 3 revealed that wealthy participants made more internal attributions when income was thought to be determined by stock choices and inequality was low. These studies demonstrate that, at least with respect to the experimental manipulation of social class, it is difficult to establish the purported relationships between social class and social attitudes.

The Workplace (IP5)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

Income and Immorality: Perceptions of the Moral Character of High-Paid CEOs and their Companies

Kim Peters, University of Exeter; Andreas Wilher, University of Exeter; Niklas K. Steffens, University of Queensland; Boyka Bratanova, University of St Andrews

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CEO pay has risen markedly over the last fifty years. In this paper, we test the impact of elevated CEO pay on people's perceptions of the moral character of CEOs and their organizations. In two experiments (combined N=647; one pre-registered), we show that people evaluate a highly (versus modestly) paid CEO as more immoral and as more likely to engage in unethical behaviours. We additionally show that these perceptions 'spillover' to their companies. Specifically, people expected a company with a highly paid CEO to have more immoral organisational norms. We tested the ecological validity of these findings with a time-separated employee survey (N=306; pre-registered). This revealed that employees who perceived that their CEO was more highly paid also perceived the CEO as more immoral; importantly, they also reported that immoral behaviours were more normative in the organization as a whole. These findings suggest that because high CEO pay is seen as a signal of their immoral character it may foster immorality in their organization more broadly.

Examining the Association Between Women's Experiences of Benevolent Sexism in the Workplace and Imposter Syndrome, Psychological Distress, Self-Esteem, and Work-Engagement

Beatrice Alba, Deakin University; Beatrice Alba, Deakin University; Madeleine Buhagiar, Deakin University; Madeleine Crawford, Deakin University

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Previous research shows that benevolent sexism is associated with detrimental outcomes for women, including in the workplace. Benevolent sexism is constituted of positive attitudes toward women that are nonetheless condescending. Two subtypes of benevolent sexism are particularly relevant in the workplace; protective paternalism entails beliefs that men should protect and provide for women, and complementary gender differentiation entails beliefs that men and women have distinct, stereotypical roles and abilities. We examined how experiences of these two subtypes of benevolent sexism in the workplace predicted imposter syndrome, psychological distress, self-esteem, and work engagement. In study 1, 152 women living in Australia, aged 18 to 76 years ($M = 35.2$, $SD = 13.9$) completed an online survey. Results showed that women's self-reported experiences of protective paternalism and complementary gender differentiation in the workplace predicted greater imposter syndrome and psychological distress, and experiences of protective paternalism predicted lower self-esteem. In study 2, 212 women living in Australia, aged 18 to 74 years ($M = 33.1$, $SD = 9.9$) were recruited via Prolific to participate in an online between-groups experiment. Participants were exposed to information suggesting the widespread presence of either protective paternalism, complementary gender differentiation, or gender egalitarian norms in Australian workplaces. We found no differences between groups on any of the outcome variables measured in study 1. While we found some expected associations in our cross-sectional study, our experimental study did not reveal a causal link between experiences of benevolent sexism and our outcome variables. Limitations of the methodology will be considered.

Employee ambassadorship on social network sites

Naomi Ellemers, Utrecht University the Netherlands; Anne-Marie van Prooijen, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Coen Wirtz, Leiden University, the Netherlands

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Organisational reputations increasingly depend on social network messages—for instance, from employees—which they do not control through their formal communications. In three studies we examined how employees' willingness to share positive messages about their organisation on their social network sites (SNS) relates to organisational features and activities. Our first prediction was that perceived organisational morality is more strongly related to employees' online ambassadorship than perceived organisational competence (H1). Further, we predicted that the association between organisational morality and employees' online ambassadorship is more strongly related to (intrinsic) organisational identification than to (extrinsic) reputational concerns (H2). Study 1 asked employees to

indicate specific organisational behaviours attesting to its morality and competence, and assessed organizational identification and perceived external prestige. These were examined as possible predictors of employee ambassadorship intentions on SNS. Study 2 used a similar design to cross-validate the results of Study 1 in a broader sample of the working population. Study 3 was preregistered and examined online ambassadorship behaviors rather than intentions among a sample of the working population. Results of all three studies suggest that organisational features can motivate employees to support their organisation online. Across different samples and measures, employee evaluations of organisational morality were a stronger statistical predictor of online ambassadorship than their evaluations of organisational competence (supporting H1). Organisational identification, not external prestige, mediated the effect of organisational morality on online ambassadorship (supporting H2). Together, these results suggest that perceived organisational morality relates to intrinsic motives of employees to support their organisation on SNS.

Spillover from home to work and vice versa in working adults

Samira Heidari, The Australian National University; Michelle Ryan, Australian National University; Alexandra Fisher, Australian National University; Michael Platow, Australian National University

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Research on work-life balance has underscored the concept of spillover, where attitudes and experiences at work and home influence each other, in ways that are both positive and negative. As more women join the workforce and redefine their roles within the family, balancing work and home life has become increasingly important. Although spillover is better understood now than it was in the early 2000s, there is still limited knowledge about how spillover affects men and women similarly or differently, depending on the roles they occupy at work and home. Furthermore, it is difficult to make comparisons and draw broad conclusions due to the many conceptualisations and methods of measuring spillover effects. Thus, this talk will present the results of a scoping review that aimed to identify and synthesise a wide range of studies with different conceptualisations of spillover. The literature search involved using specific keywords across multiple databases (PsycINFO, PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, ProQuest and Google Scholar) and 543 studies were initially screened based on predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria. Following this, 279 studies were evaluated for full-text review, and ultimately, 91 studies were included in the final sample. The scoping review identified key gaps in the literature including (1) an overemphasis on negative spillover effects, (2) an underemphasis on the effects of home on work (e.g., home-to-work spillover), (3) a lack of research on mitigating factors of negative spillover and (4) the lack of gender analysis of spillover. Implications for future work on spillover will be discussed.

Symp (S12): The Complexity of Emotions and Emotion Regulation in Everyday Life

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

Chair: Sarah T. O'Brien

Emotions and emotion regulation are complex processes, and the research we conduct needs to reflect these complexities. This symposium dives into the ways in which our emotional experiences and how we regulate these emotions may not be as straight forward as they first seem. First, Uchida investigates the reasons why people may not even initiate emotion regulation in the first place. Then, Bianchi explores the mechanisms as to why mind-wandering to secrets is linked to poor emotional well-being. Tran discusses how different emotion regulation strategies may allow people to achieve different motives, either when turning to others to regulate your own emotions, or helping someone else regulate their emotions. Finally, O'Brien focuses on the strategy of social sharing, exploring how talking about one's emotions with others can either be beneficial or detrimental to one's emotional understanding, depending on the level of rumination.

Why Don't People Regulate Their Emotions?

Aya Uchida, The University of Melbourne; Katie H. Greenaway, The University of Melbourne; Maya Tamir, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Elise K. Kalokerinos, The University of Melbourne

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Emotions are a fundamental part of life and are sometimes overwhelming or problematic. At these times, people can engage in emotion regulation, a process of attending to one's current emotional state with the goal of navigating towards a desired emotional state. However, most often people report not regulating their emotions, even when they are strong or negative, and little research investigates the reasons underlying this decision. Our aim is to investigate the reasons people have for not initiating emotion regulation. We conducted two cross-sectional surveys, collecting qualitative (N= 250) and quantitative data (N= 248) asking why people did not regulate their emotions in response to a recent stressful situation which allowed us to develop a comprehensive taxonomy of reasons. Reports that emotions were valid and in no need of regulating, were too intense, or that the situation did not allow for emotion regulation, were in the top four most endorsed reasons. To further investigate the frequency and relationships of these reasons in everyday life (as opposed to solely stressful situations), we are now collecting a third experience sampling study (pre-registered N= 330). Overall, we hope to contribute in at least two ways. The first being theoretically, by providing a more comprehensive understanding of the emotion regulation process. Second, the results hold promise of clinical and general relevance by identifying factors that might hinder emotion regulation initiation and so help people who struggle to initiate emotion regulation when they desire to.

The nature and consequences of mind-wandering to secrecy

Valentina Bianchi, The University of Melbourne; Katie H. Greenaway, The University of Melbourne; Sarah T. O'Brien, The University of Melbourne; Janine Griffiths, The University of Melbourne; Namwon Kim, The University of Melbourne; Ella Moeck, The University of

Adelaide; Michael Slepian, Columbia University; Elise K. Kalokerinos, The University of Melbourne

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Secrets are on people's minds more than they are on their lips. While research suggests that mind-wandering can be problematic for well-being, the mechanisms behind this link are still unclear. To better understand what may underlie the harm of mind-wandering to secrets, we first ran a 14-day daily diary study (Study 1, N = 236) to investigate what people think about when mind-wandering to their secrets, and how these thoughts come to mind in daily life — spontaneously or deliberately. We then conducted a 7-day experience-sampling study (Study 2, N = 207) to probe the directionality of relationships between types of mind-wandering (spontaneous vs. deliberate) and affective experiences about secrets. People most commonly mind-wandered to worries or concerns about the secret, and most people mind-wandered at least once to what others might think about the secret. When secrets came to mind spontaneously, people reported feeling greater negative emotion both in the moment (Study 1 and 2) and approximately 2 hours later (Study 2). Taken together, our findings point to spontaneous mind-wandering as a main player in the well-being costs of secrecy. Further, as one of the first investigations of spontaneous and deliberate mind-wandering in daily life, this work uncovers temporal directionality in how these types of mind-wandering relate to affective processes. By providing precise insights into the way secrecy weighs on people's minds, this research opens a window on ways to manage the cost of secrets in everyday life.

The Why Behind the How: Exploring the Association Between Motive and Strategy Use in Everyday Interpersonal Emotion Regulation

Anh Tran, The University of Melbourne; Katie H. Greenaway, The University of Melbourne; Elise K. Kalokerinos, The University of Melbourne

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Motives are the overarching goals which can drive the ways people regulate emotions (i.e., regulation strategies). However, the theoretical link between regulation motives and strategies has not been empirically examined in the context of interpersonal emotion regulation—the processes by which people influence their own emotions or others' emotions through social means. This investigation is important to establish the function of different regulation strategies in achieving different motives within interpersonal contexts. Through a daily diary and an experience sampling study (Ns=402), we explored the association between regulation motives and strategies reported in everyday social interactions. We used Bayesian hurdle models to draw inferences about (1) motives predicting whether people reported a particular strategy, and—if they did— (2) motives predicting how much that strategy was used. We found the motives people held for turning to others to regulate their own emotions were largely not associated with the strategies that they reported receiving from their interaction partners. However, the motives people held for regulating others' emotions were differentially associated with the strategies they provided. Together, these findings highlight the role that motives play in guiding how people engage in interpersonal emotion regulation,

and further our understanding of how different strategies may be deployed to serve different end goals.

The Double-Edged Sword of Social Sharing

Sarah O'Brien, The University of Melbourne; Laura Sels, Ghent University; Yasemin Erbas, Tilburg University; Lesley Verhofstadt, Ghent University; Margaret S. Clark, Yale University; Elise K. Kalokerinos, The University of Melbourne

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Lay people believe that talking about their emotional experiences with others (i.e., social sharing) will improve their understanding of those experiences, but no clear empirical evidence supports this belief. To address this gap, we used data from four daily life studies ($N_{\text{total}} = 659$) to explore the association between social sharing and subsequent emotion differentiation, which involves labelling emotions with a high degree of specificity. Contrary to our expectations, we found that social sharing of emotional experiences was linked to greater subsequent emotion differentiation, but only on occasions when people ruminated less than usual about these experiences. In contrast, on occasions when people ruminated more than usual about their experiences, social sharing of these experiences was linked to lower emotion differentiation. These effects held controlling for levels of negative emotion. Our findings suggest that putting feelings into words through sharing may only enable emotional precision when that sharing occurs without dwelling or perseverating.

Theory and Methods (IP15)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

How do we best teach moral reasoning? A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials

Geetanjali Basarkod, Australian Catholic University;

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Moral reasoning is an important factor in helping people make morally good decisions and engage in prosocial behaviour. Given its significance, it is essential to understand the most effective ways to cultivate moral reasoning. Interventions within schools and universities have the potential to teach good moral skills to millions of people across different cultural and societal contexts. The overarching aim of our study was to synthesise educational interventions aimed at improving students' moral outcomes and uncover reasons for differences in intervention effectiveness. We included 66 studies ($k = 236$; 9,978 students) evaluating interventions using randomised controlled trials, allowing for causal inferences. While moral reasoning was our primary outcome, we expanded the breadth of our review to include other moral outcomes such as sensitivity, motivation, and character. Our findings revealed that educational interventions were indeed effective in improving students' moral outcomes ($g = 0.55$). Notably, interventions supporting students' active engagement through

discussions of moral dilemmas were more effective than those relying solely on unidirectional transfer of information. The effectiveness of interventions was consistent across different moral outcomes, delivery modes (in-person vs online), and whether the moral education was general or subject-specific (e.g., nursing or business). This meta-analysis provides critical insights for the design and implementation of effective moral education interventions, while also identifying key limitations and gaps that require further exploration.

Increasing transparency of online foreign exchange calculators

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The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) currently has a Best Practice Guide for International Money Transfer (IMT) calculators. However, evidence suggests that online calculators may still be confusing for users. The ACCC partnered with the Behavioural Economics Team of the Australian Government (BETA) to test a number of potential changes to IMT calculators that could increase competition and ultimately value for customers. The changes were designed to improve the communication of fees and exchange rate margins with users, enabling consumers to directly compare IMT services with each other. We tested multiple updated calculators in an online study, with 5,673 Australians, and compared them to a 'business as usual' calculator. The changes fell into three overall categories: Fee methodology, comparison rate prompt, and foreign exchange rate margin disclosure. We found that consistently subtracting fees, and providing 'comparison rate prompts' made it easier for consumers to compare offers and choose the best deal. BETA's report of the findings subsequently informed the ACCC's report on proposed changes to the Best Practice Guide, published in August this year.

Examining Local versus National Identity in Hong Kong: How You Measure Determines What You Find

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The dynamics between national and local identification in Hong Kong have significantly evolved following a series of notable social incidents since the handover. Wong et al. (2021) reported that cohort and period effects, an influx of mainlanders, and a decrease in satisfaction with the central government contributed to an increased dominance of local (Hongkonger) identity over national (Chinese) identity from 1998 to 2017. However, their study relied on a single-item measure forcing respondents to choose between identifying more as a Chinese, or more as a Hongkonger. The study reported here retests the cohort effect using surveys provided by the Hong Kong Public Opinion Research Institute conducted biannually from 1997 to 2019. They contain separate items measuring degrees of

identification as Hongkonger and as Chinese. We replicate the cohort effect when using the difference between these two items, but in separate analyses for each item we find a significant cohort effect only for Chinese identification. We also show that there are negative effects of trust in the central and HKSAR governments, confidence in China's and Hong Kong's future, and confidence in "One Country Two Systems" on the difference between and degrees of both identifications, but these neither mediate nor moderate the cohort effect."

Wednesday, 27/11/2024 - 11:30AM

Symp (S25): Social psychological investigations of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament Referendum Pt 3

Room 5.02 (Level 5)

Chairs: Brianne Hastie and Peta Callaghan; Discussant: Martha Augoustinos

The debates around, and process and outcomes of, the Voice referendum are of clear interest to social psychologists, and particularly those in Australian and New Zealand. As a discipline built on the study of intergroup relations, with a strong history of research on social identity and prejudice, the referendum provided a context in which to examine our core concerns. Thus, this symposium represents the expertise of researchers across a spectrum of theories and research designs. Research presented here includes the collection of experimental, survey, news media, and social media data, covering the political rhetoric of the campaigns, attitudes and voting intentions pre- and post-referendum, extending to the outcomes of the referendum. We will end with a discussion of the meanings and implications of these findings, theoretically and practically, to develop an understanding of where to from here, as a discipline and as Australians.

What have we learnt from the 2023 Voice to Parliament referendum?

Fiona White, University of Sydney; Ellen Shi, University of Sydney; Yuan (Echo) Liao, University of Sydney; Dan Caprar, University of Sydney; Christine Evans, University of Sydney

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The unsuccessful 2023 Voice to Parliament referendum engendered significant questions about Australian society and its intergroup relations. Only 39.9% of Australians voted "Yes" to change the Constitution to recognise the First Nations people of Australia by establishing a body called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice. Shortly after this result, we conducted a survey to capture the public's opinion on the Voice to Parliament referendum. The survey included six qualitative questions, asking about what people voted and why, their feelings about the outcome, and the perceived impact on Australia. Amongst a sample of 280 Australian citizens (Mean age = 34.5 years; male = 42.9%), 62.9% reported voting "Yes", 28.9% reported voting "No", and the remaining 8.2% indicated that they either did not vote, did not indicate a clear "Yes" or "No" on the ballot paper, or did not report their voting

choices in the survey. Our analysis of the qualitative responses revealed key themes in public opinion, feelings, and perceptions that divided the “Yes” and “No” voters. We also explored how those responses are related to important demographic variables such as age, gender, state, ethnic background, political tendencies, and people’s intergroup contact experiences with First Nations people of Australia. There is a renewed sense of urgency to foster greater culturally inclusive knowledge for our future generations; our study’s findings will deepen the understanding of public sentiment relating to future strategies aiming to create a more cohesive and inclusive Australia, especially for First Nations people of Australia.

“An element of racism but...”: Attributions to racism in The Voice referendum outcome

Brianne Hastie, Murdoch University; Gemma Foote, Murdoch University; Shaun Garlett, Murdoch University; Lucien Rees, Murdoch University; Tristan Smith, Murdoch University

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Substantial research on race talk has demonstrated that accusations of racism are difficult to make discursively. They are delicate work for the accuser, and frequently rejected, or reversed, by the accused. The Voice Referendum outcome provided a context where we could see accusations of racism, and how these would be reported and responded to. We collected 126 articles published in the month following the referendum (15th October to 15th November, 2023), 110 from a newsmedia database and 16 from manual searches of Indigenous news sources. Discursive psychological analysis found that direct attributions of the referendum outcome to racism were evident in the data but reporting typically softened these. There was also direct refutation of the outcome as racist, as expected from previous literature. Attributing the outcome to vague other factors (misinformation/disinformation; misreading of the public) served to avoid acknowledging the other arguably racist attributions that could be underlying these. Thus, attributions to racism, and accusations of direct racism, were denied or ignored within media discussions of the Voice outcome, avoiding the need for Australians to consider their colonial history/need for racial reckoning, and ignoring the call in the Uluru Statement of the Heart to walk with Indigenous people.

Analysing Allyship and Support for Social Change: Insights from the 2023 Australian Referendum

Aseel Sahib, Australian National University; Olivia Evans, ANU; Tegan Cruwys, ANU; Kate Reynolds, University of Melbourne; Michael Platow, ANU; Hema Preya Selvanathan, University of Queensland; Iain Walker, University of Melbourne, ANU

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In the past two decades, social movements such as Black Lives Matter and the legalisation of gay marriage have gained significant momentum, partly due to the collective action of advantaged group members (e.g., White or heterosexual allies). Despite this progress, the 2023 Australian referendum yielded an unfortunate result: only 39.94% of Australians supported the proposal to alter the Constitution and establish an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. This study investigates the factors contributing to this outcome, where majority

group members failed to support social change for Indigenous Australians and explores future directions for social change advocacy. We utilised two waves of data collected from over 2,000 adult non-Indigenous Australians, conducted one week after the referendum and around January 26th. Employing the Typology of Allyship Action (De Souza & Schmader, 2024) as a framework, we examined the relationship between allyship behaviours among Yes voters and their support for Indigenous policy and social change. Multivariate regression analysis revealed that proactive allyship actions at the intrapersonal level, such as seeking positive contact, significantly predict support for the remaining components of the Uluru Statement, including Truth Telling and Treaty. Additionally, we found that reactive allyship actions at the intrapersonal level, such as bias control, predict support for continuing programs to Close the Gap and changing the date of Australia Day from January 26th. These findings highlight the crucial role of singular individual-level allyship actions in fostering broader support for Indigenous rights and social change initiatives.

Identity, Relationships, and Social Needs (IP24)

Room 5.05 (Level 5)

Human Bonds vs. Canine Companionship: Mental Health Outcomes from Human and Dog Relationships

Katherine Northrope, La Trobe University; Tiffani Howell, La Trobe University; Matthew Ruby, La Trobe University

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It is unclear whether pet ownership is associated with better or worse mental health. Some research has suggested that it may be useful to investigate the bond owners feel with their pets and how this may impact mental health, however, this too has led to mixed results. This study examined how owners' attachment to their dogs was associated with mental health, and how this compared to their attachment relationships with other humans. Our findings indicate that both strong and insecure attachments to dogs are linked to poorer mental health outcomes, as was having an insecure attachment style in their human relationships. The adverse impact of strong attachment to dogs on mental health was mediated by anxious attachment styles toward other people, suggesting that these individuals may rely more on their dogs for emotional support due to a lack of dependable human connections. The relationship between a strong attachment to dogs and poorer mental health was also moderated by gender, with this relationship being significant in women, but was not significant for men. Together, these results highlight a risk to mental health for owners who rely on their strong bond with their dogs to compensate for feeling anxious about their relationships with other humans.

Unmasking Impostor Phenomenon: Insights into the Utility and Nature of State Impostor Feelings

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Impostor Phenomenon (IP) is a psychological experience of intellectual fraudulence (Clance & Imes, 1978). Since its initial conceptualisation the IP literature has been dominated by trait-like terminology and cross-sectional designs, creating an implicit assumption that IP is a trait (Bravata et al., 2019). Against this assumption, literature has called for IP to be measured at multiple timepoints, and studies have suggested that situational factors may influence these feelings (Canning et al., 2019). Ultimately the literature is mixed in how to conceptualise IP with no study directly testing our underlying assumptions. To explore the state and/or trait-like nature of IP we utilised an Experience Sampling Methodology (ESM) to measure state and trait IP, wellbeing and emotionality in 175 general population participants over a four-day period. Results found evidence that State IP can present in an emotion-like manner; varying over the course of hours, replicating the same patterns of variability and instability as the emotion literature (Houben et al., 2015), and being predominately predicted by emotionality and affect. Similarities between our findings and Fleeson and Jayawickreme's (2015) Whole Trait theory suggests that situational and social-cognitive components underpin why fluctuations in impostor feelings occur. The literature has theorised numerous situational and social factors may influence IP including new roles (Chae et al., 1995) and evaluative situations (Clance & Imes, 1978) but these are not yet empirically tested. Implications about the utility of state fluctuations in IP to identify and empirically explore the social and situational factors underpinning IP are discussed.

Premenstrual dysphoric disorder symptomology predicts variation in affiliation motivation and social needs

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Premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) is a condition whereby hormone fluctuations during the menstrual cycle are associated with debilitating psychological and physical symptoms in the days leading up to menstruation. Current models of the mechanisms underlying PMDD suggest that some variation in symptom severity can be explained by "hormone sensitivity" (i.e., neurological differences that make some individuals more vulnerable to hormone change). However, due to limited research, the social correlates of PMDD remain poorly understood. Initial cross-sectional data in our lab (Study 1; N = 214) revealed preliminary evidence that higher PMDD symptoms were associated with greater self-reported social affiliation motivation (i.e., desire to belong). This suggests that social sensitivity may play a role in intensifying the emotional symptoms underlying PMDD. In a pre-registered replication study (Study 2; N = 250), we propose and test a novel theory that PMDD symptomology is positively related to higher social motives because those with a higher need to belong (and sensitivity to the judgements of others) are more likely to experience adverse emotional

experiences in response to hormonal changes experienced during the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle. Results from Study 1 and 2 will be discussed. This research represents two of the largest attempts to understand psycho-social mechanisms underlying PMDD. Given the impact of this disorder – affecting roughly 5-8% of people with a menstrual cycle – understanding the underlying mechanisms is essential for improving mental health outcomes for those experiencing the debilitating emotional and physical symptoms associated with PMDD.

Theory of Mind & Perspective Taking (IP26)

Room 5.06 (Level 5)

The role of affect in discrimination after disagreement

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Recent research has suggested that discriminatory tendencies can arise against a single individual who disagrees versus agrees with us, even in the absence of explicit group identities (Deschrijver & Ramsey, 2024). Here, we investigate via electro-myography whether a (mis)alignment of mental states may evoke positive or negative emotions that shape unequal division of money. Participants were matched with another individual that expressed agreement (congruent condition), disagreement (incongruent condition), or had an undetermined response (baseline condition) regarding the estimation of dots, after which they were asked to assign money. Replicating earlier findings, participants allocated significantly fewer points to the other's incongruent versus congruent response, with the baseline condition situated in between. Psychophysiological measures revealed heightened corrugator supercilii (frowning) activity when receiving incongruent compared to congruent and baseline feedback, suggesting greater negative affect in response to disagreement. Conversely, zygomaticus major (smiling) activity was elevated for congruent versus incongruent and baseline feedback, indicating more positive emotions when viewpoints aligned. Surprisingly, participants also showed more smiling activity while assigning less money after disagreement versus agreement and baseline. These findings highlight the crucial role of emotions in discriminatory behaviour, even when disagreement occurs outside of explicit intergroup contexts. By elucidating the affective underpinnings of discrimination, this research sheds new light on the cognitive mechanisms enabling bias towards those with different perspectives.

The Role of Race, Gender, and Class-based Stereotypes in Pain Perception

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Ample evidence indicates that people of color, women, and people experiencing poverty receive less aggressive and less effective pain treatment than their white, male, and relatively

wealthy counterparts. Multidisciplinary scientists have identified a number of contributors to these disparities— including structural and interpersonal mechanisms. In my talk, I'll examine gender, race, and class-based stereotypes theorized to bias pain judgments and discuss implications for equitable care. I'll present data from 3,957 participants, 30 studies, and 7 manuscripts (4 published, 1 under review, 2 unpublished) where we observe consistent patterns of gender, class, and race-based stereotyping and link these beliefs with hypothetical pain treatment recommendations. For example, Black children (8 studies, $N=731$, $d=.54$), low SES children (4 studies, $N=734$, $d=.59$) and adults (10 studies, $N=1584$, $d=.83$) were rated as less sensitive to pain than their white and high SES counterparts. These effects emerged among lay participants, clinician, and educator samples and predicted hypothetical pain treatment recommendations. In other work, we test whether perceivers expect women to exaggerate their pain more than men. Across seven studies, participants judged images of men and women and estimated how much pain they would claim versus feel following a series of painful injuries. Participants evaluated women as exaggerating their pain relative to men ($N=687$, 7 samples, meta-analytic $Z=5.81$, $p<.001$) — an effect predicted by participants endorsement of gender stereotypes about emotionality.

Emotions (IP23)

Room 4.04 (Level 4)

The effects of race, gender, and alcohol cues on anger perception in crowds

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Humans have evolved to quickly and accurately detect anger and other emotions in faces. However, accurate assessment of anger in a crowd is a more complex problem than assessing anger in individuals. Research suggests people tend to overestimate the average intensity of a crowd's anger relative to individuals. This phenomenon is known as the crowd emotion amplification effect. We aimed to replicate this effect in crowds (versus individuals) displaying angry facial expressions, and test the influence of crowd gender, race, and alcohol cues on this effect. We conducted three experiments. Two of the three experiments replicated the crowd emotion amplification effect and found an interaction with race. Participants overestimated anger to a greater extent for Black individuals relative to White individuals, but overestimated anger to a greater extent for White crowds relative to Black crowds. Participants also overestimated anger for men relative to women; however, this effect occurred for both individuals and crowds and irrespective of race. These findings highlight the bias to overestimate anger in Black individuals, White crowds, and men. These findings may inform crowd control and policing strategies.

People respond differently to content-focused than emotion-focused trigger warnings

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Trigger warnings are statements intended to help people emotionally prepare for, or avoid, negative content. Research to date suggests trigger warnings do not achieve these aims: when negative content is preceded by a trigger warning (vs. no warning), people experience more anticipatory anxiety, yet show similar avoidance rates and emotional reactions to the content. But the wording of trigger warnings varies drastically, ranging from broad statements about the negative nature of the content to specific statements outlining the type of content, the emotional reaction the viewer should anticipate, and a recommended course of action. Here, we wondered whether the wording of trigger warnings matters. We compared the effects of a content focused warning (e.g., Trigger warning: the following video depicts a serious road accident) to an emotion focused warning (e.g., Trigger warning: the following video may be distressing) on avoidance of and emotional reactions to negative content. Prolific participants (N = 374) viewed either a content-focused or an emotion-focused warning and then indicated whether they would like to watch the video they were warned about. Participants then viewed a negative video (depicting a serious road accident or stillbirth) or, if they chose to avoid, a neutral video. Participants rated their anticipated emotions immediately after the trigger warning, and their experienced emotions halfway through the video and after the video. Participants who viewed the content-focused warning anticipated higher levels of negative emotions ($d = 0.72$) and were more likely to avoid watching the video than participants who viewed the emotion-focused warning. Thus, content-specific information seems to be the “active ingredient” in trigger warnings. This experiment is the first step in developing guidelines around appropriate use and wording of trigger warnings.

Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation over the Ventromedial Prefrontal Cortex Reduces Reactive Aggression in Intoxicated Individuals

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Alcohol-related aggression is a widely observed phenomenon that has detrimental effects on both individuals and society, putatively caused by dysfunction in the prefrontal cortex. The ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC) plays a critical role in representing the reward value of future actions. Emerging research has suggested that transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) over the vmPFC can reduce aggression. However, no study has examined whether tDCS can mitigate intoxicated aggression. In this study, 154 healthy participants consumed alcohol or not and completed the anger-infused Ultimatum Game with simultaneous double-blind anodal tDCS or sham over the bilateral vmPFC. For participants in the anodal tDCS condition, intoxicated participants were less aggressive than sober

participants when insulted. Sham tDCS did not influence alcohol-related aggression. However, for participants in the alcohol condition, we observed no differences in aggression between the anodal tDCS and the sham tDCS conditions. These promising findings provide mixed support for tDCS as an intervention to attenuate intoxicated aggression.

Collective Action (IP12)

Room 4.05 (Level 4)

How Social Interaction Facilitates the Emergence of Collective Action

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When and how do people initiate and plan collective action? We assess whether social interactions, particularly interactions touching on action mobilization and consensus mobilization, facilitate the initiation and emergence of collective action. Additionally, we assess whether and how motivation and momentum are affected by failed action attempts and whether these help sustain future actions. We study this by introducing the 'Collective Action Simulation Paradigm' (CASP), a novel research methodology that combines social-interactional and longitudinal elements to study how collective action unfolds over time. In small groups, participants play six rounds of a game in a fictional society where they are part of a disadvantaged group and can choose to interact with each other, plan activities and make behavioral choices (including protest). In this first study, 23 groups of 5-7 first year psychology students (total n = 146) participated, offering behavioral data (n times protested), self-reported motivational data, and qualitative data (e.g., the actual protest signs made by protesting groups). Our findings revealed that action mobilization and consensus mobilization mediated the relationship between social interaction and protest participation. In other words, quality, not quantity, of social interactions was related to protest. Additionally, while failure to achieve change through social protest suspended rising motivation and momentum, it did not eliminate future actions altogether. Through the use of this new research paradigm, this study provides unique insights into how people initiate and plan collective actions strategically, and how motivations and momentum change over time as collective actions emerge and develop.

Investigating the role of multiple disadvantaged groups and intersectional awareness in promoting intraminority solidarity

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Limited research has examined the dynamics of collective action among disadvantaged groups, especially the impact belonging to multiple disadvantaged groups has on intraminority solidarity. While previous research has found that perceived similarity fosters

collective action among disadvantaged group members, in this talk we introduce intersectional awareness as a novel mechanism associated with intraminority solidarity among people with multiple disadvantaged groups. Participants were categorized by their number of disadvantaged group memberships: 0, 1, 2, and 3, based on their race, gender, and sexual identities. Across two studies, participants (N = 550) with a greater number of disadvantaged identities were more likely to engage in collective action for two disadvantaged outgroups (i.e., Muslims, people with a disability). Mediation analysis revealed that increased intersectional awareness but not perceived similarity explained this relationship. This research introduces intersectional awareness as a novel mechanism through which intraminority solidarity could be fostered.

The target of a protest: Extreme protests are perceived more negatively when the target is deemed undeserving

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Factions of the climate movement often advocate for escalating their tactics and use disruptive civil disobedience to pressure governments to act on climate change. However, such actions can impact the general public or other entities not directly responsible for the issue. Prior research on “the activist's dilemma” indicates that extreme protest actions can erode public support (Feinberg et al., 2020). This research examined whether the perceived deservingness of protest targets could intensify these effects. In a UK-based study with 367 participants, we presented participants with mock BBC news articles about climate protests, manipulating both the extremity of the protest (moderate vs. extreme) and the deservingness of the target (fossil fuel corporation vs. shopping centre). Results demonstrated that protests targeting an undeserving entity (i.e., shopping centre) were perceived as more immoral, elicited less emotional connection and social identification with the activists, and led to decreased support for the movement compared to protests targeting a deserving entity (i.e., fossil fuel corporation). The protest target's deservingness also moderated the effect of protest extremity, with extreme protests being judged more harshly when the target was undeserving. These findings suggest that climate protests perceived to unjustly target the public or other entities not directly responsible are likely to garner negative perceptions and reduce support for the climate movement, emphasizing the strategic importance of choosing protest targets carefully.