

# *International Society for Justice Research (ISJR)*

[www.isjr.org](http://www.isjr.org)



## Fall 2012 Newsletter

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## ❖ Welcome from the President

Dear ISJR members,

Justice is a fascinating concept. It is relevant in all spheres of life, from close relationships to international relations; as a basis of stability and order as well as a motivator of social change. And so it permeates so many academic endeavours towards an understanding of human cognition, social interaction, collective action and societal organisation. It practically *invites* researchers from a great variety of disciplines to talk to each other, and share and expand their theories and knowledge. ISJR embodies and facilitates this invitation.

It is a great honour to me to now preside over such a formidable and exciting organisation. ISJR is in great shape, not least due to the excellent work of Clara Sabbagh who fulfilled the role as President before me with much dedication and enthusiasm. On behalf of ISJR, I would like to thank Clara for all the work she has done, in particular in seeking to expand our membership and interdisciplinary ambitions. I also thank Susan Opotow in her role as Secretary and Dahlia Moore as Conference Organiser for all their time and outstanding effort; they have both departed from the Executive Committee.

Dahlia and her team, notably Bracha Einhorn, deserve to be complimented on a successful and very pleasant conference in Rishon LeZion, Israel. Although smaller in numbers than preceding conferences, the meeting had its trademark collegial atmosphere in very pleasant surrounds, and was not short of highlights. Among these were intellectual feasts such as the keynotes and award addresses, as well as exquisite culinary feasts (notably the dinner with entertainment!). Our 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Tom Tyler, could not attend unfortunately, but gave his address via video, which is now accessible through our website for those who missed it (or those who would like seconds): <http://isjr.jimdo.com/awards/>. Thanks to Anette Weidler, our webmaster, for updating our website information so speedily and reliably.

There were two other significant outcomes of the meeting in Israel. First, Sarah Brosnan from Georgia State University has been elected as new Secretary of ISJR and has thus joined our Executive Committee. Sarah is enthusiastic about ISJR and what it stands for. Sarah's research interest is in the study of justice and cooperation among non-human species, which lies at the intersection of a number of disciplines. She will thus add disciplinary diversity to the leadership and help build this further also among our membership. You may have seen the two special issues on "Justice in Animals" that she guest-edited for *Social Justice Research* in the June and September issues this year, which have attracted considerable attention:

<http://link.springer.com/journal/volumesAndIssues/11211>

Second, the 2014 ISJR conference will be held in New York! John Jost has offered to host the meeting at New York University in June 2014. The proposal, presented on John's behalf by Jamie Napier at the meeting in Israel, met with great enthusiasm among members and executive. I would like to thank John for agreeing to organise the conference, which I am certain will be an extraordinary, exciting event. It may well become a catalyst for growth of our society, for new collaborations and engagement. More information can be found inside this newsletter and, in due course, on our website: <http://isjr.jimdo.com/conferences/>

The conference in New York represents a first example of the aspirations that I have for ISJR to gain in profile and visibility. New York as a conference location, for its part, will draw attention and will give ISJR increased prominence and standing. Moreover, ISJR's conferences, its journal, and its prizes for excellence in research deserve to be publicized more widely, more regularly, and more emphatically. Announcements on other academic listservs about ISJR's activities are one available approach. ISJR needs to be more widely recognized for what it is: *the* academic organisation dedicated to justice-related research.

It is true that ISJR is a specialist organisation that cannot replace people's affiliation with broad-based disciplinary organisations, like ASA in sociology or SPSP in psychology for example. ISJR is a society that people are likely to affiliate with in addition to their membership in their general disciplinary organisations. However, at the same time ISJR can provide a better fit to constitute their identity as researchers. For that ISJR needs to be more widely known in the field. People who study justice, or issues related to justice, should feel the need to be part of ISJR, lest they feel incomplete in their professional identity!

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter.

Michael Wenzel

ISJR President

## ❖ News from the Treasurer

Dear ISJR members,

I am writing to invite you to renew your membership with the International Society for Justice Research for 2013. All memberships that are paid on or after November 1, 2012 will be applied to the 2013 year.

If you renew now, you will enjoy an uninterrupted subscription to our journal, Social Justice Research. Your membership dues also assist with covering the modest expenses of maintaining our Society and providing annual awards. Annual dues remain \$75 US for members with permanent positions, or \$45 US for members without permanent positions. Dues for Associate Members are currently \$10 US per year without a subscription to Social Justice Research and \$40 US per year with a subscription to Social Justice Research.

You can renew your membership by going to:

<https://www.123signup.com/servlet/SignUp?PG=1532935182700&P=153293500>

To initially become a member:

<https://www.123signup.com/servlet/SignUp?PG=1532935182200&P=153293500>

To make a donation: Your contribution can help to support our grants and awards programs, sponsor members from developing nations, and provide travel awards for scholars from developing nations to attend the biennial ISJR conferences. If you have any preference for your donation, please indicate it while making the donation.

<https://www.123signup.com/servlet/SignUp?PG=1532935185200&P=153293500>

To update your membership profile:

<https://www.123signup.com/servlet/SignUp?PG=1532935182500&P=153293500>

If you experience any problems with this website (or with receipt of your journals), please let me know so that I might try to assist.

Thank you for your continuing support of the ISJR. I look forward to seeing your membership renewed very soon.

Sincerely,

Steven Blader

Treasurer

## ❖ ISJR conference 2014

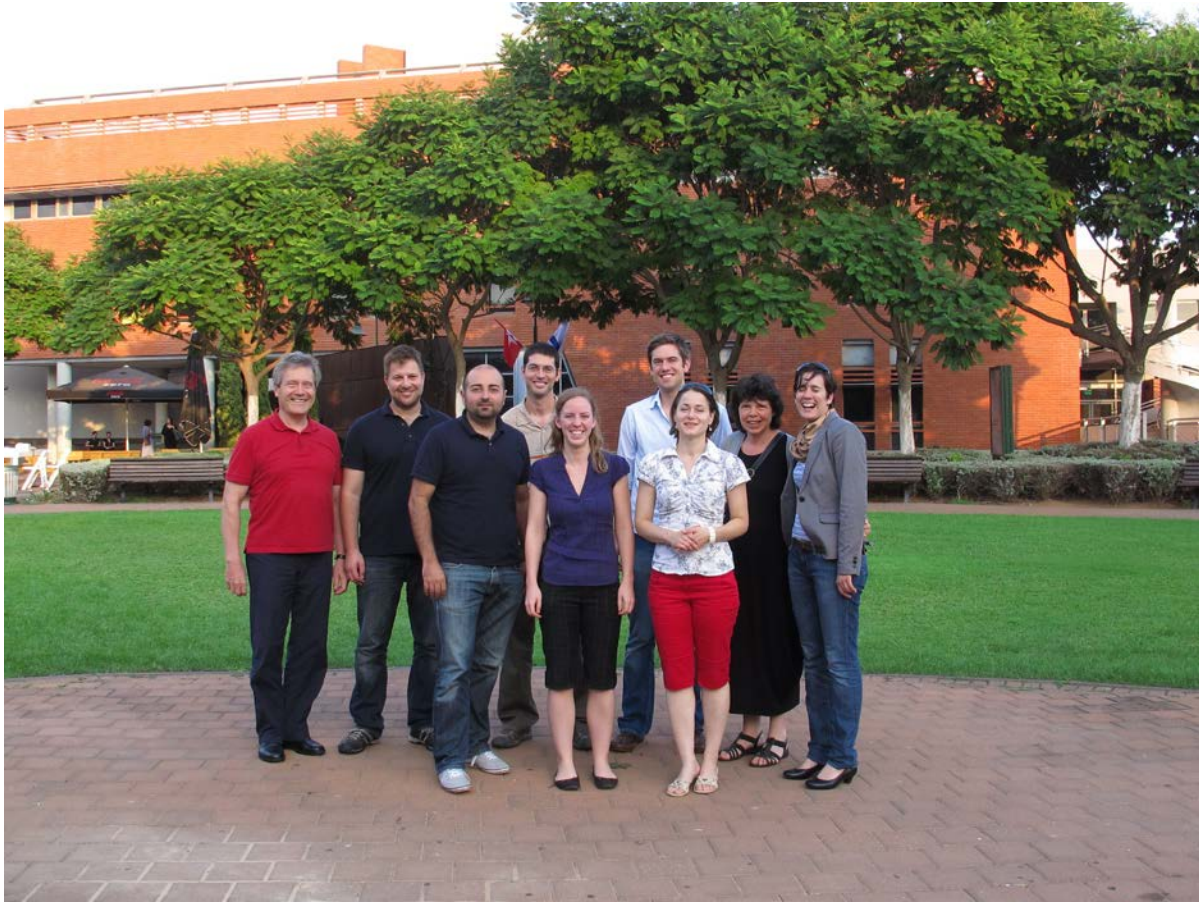
The next ISJR conference will be organized by John Jost and held in June 2014 in New York City. The conference will take place at facilities of the Leonard N. Stern Business School, New York University, in Greenwich Village. The Organizing Committee includes John Jost as chair, Steven Blader, Claudia Cohen, Peter Coleman, Guillermina Jasso, Jamie Napier, Jojanneke van der Toorn, and Batia Wiesenfeld.

Mark this date! More details soon!

<http://isjr.jimdo.com/conferences/>

## ❖ 1st PhD-Workshop of the ISJR

As part of the 2012 Conference of the International Society for Justice Research (ISJR) in Rishon LeZion, the first workshop for PhD students was held and mentored by two ISJR senior justice scholars, Clara Sabbagh and Manfred Schmitt. Five PhD students participated actively. They presented their research and discussed it with the other participants and the two mentors: Sharon Bassan (Tel Aviv University), Armir Falk (Bar-Ilan University), Anna Halmburger (University of Koblenz-Landau), Meike May (University of Bielefeld), and Arne Sjørström (University of Marburg). Moreover, four additional passive participants did not present their research but engaged in the discussion of the active participants' studies: Olga Gulevich (Higher School of Economics Moscow), Zsófia Ignácz (Humboldt-University), Assaf Rotmann (Tel Aviv University), and Hawal Shamon (University of Cologne). Below you see a picture of the group followed by the report of two participants.



Imagine you have the chance to present your dissertation project in front of two senior justice scholars and other PhD students with a personal time slot of overall 90 minutes! Not possible? Yes, it is possible. We – five PhD students of different disciplines all addressing social justice issues – had the opportunity to participate in the PhD workshop of the ISJR at the conference in Rishon Lezion in Israel on September 9th. The aim was to give PhD students the chance to present their research project and discuss it in length in a non-judgemental atmosphere with two mentors and the workshop participants.

For application we wrote an outline of our dissertation project, prepared our CV and send it to Manfred Schmitt and Kjell Törnblom who initiated this workshop. They decided based on quality, substantive fit, and developmental stage of the dissertation project who to invite to the workshop. Unfortunately, Kjell Törnblom could not participate in the conference, but Clara Sabbagh was kind enough to replace him.

Five PhD students presented from a broad spectrum of issues and research in the field of justice: moral considerations in procedural fairness judgments, justice issues related to fertility tourism, justice sensitivity in the field of political scandals, displaced revenge and retributive justice, and developmental aspects of justice attitudes. In addition, three more PhD students attended the workshop and participated lively in the dialogue about the research projects. The discussion around the projects was held in a constructive and supportive way and we benefited a lot from helpful suggestions and valuable hints.



We want to thank Manfred Schmitt and Clara Sabbagh for their time and effort to give us this splendid opportunity to talk about our research questions and thank the other active and passive participants, Sharon Bassan, Amir Falk, Olga Gulevich, Zsófia Ignácz, Assat Rotman, Hawal Shamon, and Arne Sjöström for their remarks and help. It was an inspiring experience and a perfect start for the subsequent conference of the ISJR and very worthwhile to be held also at future conferences of the ISJR to promote young professionals in justice research.

Meike May (Bielefeld University)

Anna Halmburger (University of Koblenz-Landau)

## ❖ Inspirations: Tom Tyler

In this column of the newsletter, we invite justice researchers to reflect about their inspirations in a triple sense: the cause or reason for their engagement in justice research, an idea they consider to be one of their most important insights, and the message they would like to impart on students and young scholars of justice research.

### *Tom Tyler*

Yale University

I did not set out to be a justice researcher. Rather like many of the young people of my generation I was drawn into the widespread questioning of and protest against America's war in Vietnam during my years in college. As a member of that cohort issues of responsibility toward the state were difficult to ignore and I like others was drawn to considering what obligations we owed to the government and why. As I studied these questions as a graduate student in the political psychology lab of David Sears at UCLA I learned several important things.

First, the issue of legitimacy needs to be considered within a framework of types of authority and governance. This issue was recognized and addressed in the work of Kurt Lewin who studied different forms of leadership structure and pointed to the benefits of governing through legitimacy. This point is one I have returned to repeatedly in my work, most recently in my book *Why People Cooperate*. Legitimacy matters because authorities who exercise leadership through legitimacy enable better functioning collectivities. Lewin's initial goal in his work was to contrast Democratic and Autocratic leadership, while today the study of leadership is much more complex. Nonetheless his original insights live on in the continuing debate over utilitarian vs. value based models of motivation.

Second, there is a long history of recognizing that the roots of legitimacy lie in justice. Despite this common point of departure philosophers, social theorists and social scientists have struggled both to define those roots and to find ways to study them empirically. As a result both legitimacy and justice have been widely articulated but poorly understood ideas. As an example, the writing of political scientists is filled with discussions of the role of justice in promoting stability or, alternatively, undermining it, with injustice viewed as a central antecedent of riots and rebellion. However the type of justice involved is often at best vaguely articulated and however justice is conceptualized it is seldom studied empirically.

I was inspired when these various ideas merged in my mind while reading Thibaut and Walker's book *Procedural Justice*. My eureka moment involved seeing that the democratic leadership style discussed by Lewin and many discussions of legitimacy in social theory and political science shared Thibaut and Walker's recognition of the centrality of fair procedures, as opposed to the more widely studied fair outcomes, to governing through legitimacy and gaining voluntary deference rather than instrumental compliance. And their book further pointed toward a way to effectively study procedural justice as an empirical issue. These various ideas led me to the study of procedural justice and authority relations, a topic I still study today.

Based upon my own experience, I would draw several lessons that might be of value to younger scholars. First, when you are young take the opportunity to read widely. I would never have been able to have the insights that have been the most valuable to me without reading about both the history of social psychology and the ideas in related fields. There seems to be increasing pressure on younger scholars to specialize early and narrow themselves quickly. I think this is regrettable and is likely to lead people to be less able to develop important new ideas. This is especially true in the field of justice, which is by its very nature interdisciplinary.

In addition, I encourage people to have confidence in their insights. The value of my own work today comes from my willingness to persevere in arguing against the conventional wisdom that existed during my early career. In particular when I was a graduate student legitimacy was viewed as an old idea of no particular importance in social theory and as something that could not be approached empirically. Because of my own personal experiences with conflicts over legitimacy in the context of the war in Vietnam and my reading in social theory and political science I felt it had to be central to considerations of the relationship between people, authorities and institutions and because of my training in social psychology I felt it could be studied as an empirical issue. Today legitimacy is a core topic of research in the social sciences, due in considerable part to the many studies by social psychologists showing that it influences important social behaviors and by justice researchers demonstrating that one of its key antecedents – procedural justice – can be understood theoretically and studied empirically.

## ❖ SPSP Political Psychology Pre-Conference

Dear colleagues,

We invite you to join us for the 2013 Political Psychology Pre-Conference ([http://www.psych.nyu.edu/spsp\\_politpsych](http://www.psych.nyu.edu/spsp_politpsych)), to be held in conjunction with the annual SPSP meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. The pre-conference will take place on January 17th at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Participants are welcome to attend the pre-conference even if they do not register for the regular SPSP meeting.

We are very excited about our line-up of speakers, as we believe they provide a diverse and penetrating glimpse into the field of political psychology:

Pete Ditto (University of California, Irvine)  
 Eric Knowles (New York University)  
 Alan Lambert (Washington University)  
 Diana Mutz (University of Pennsylvania)  
 Brian Nosek (University of Virginia)  
 Felicia Pratto (University of Connecticut)

David Redlawsk (Rutgers)  
 Hulda Thorisdottir (University of Iceland)

Registration is now open and will close when space is filled or **December 21<sup>st</sup>**, whichever comes first.

**Student Talk:** Graduate students are invited to submit proposals to give a 15-minute talk about work that will not be presented at the regular SPSP conference. **Please email your 250-word abstract and CV directly to [politpsych.spsp@gmail.com](mailto:politpsych.spsp@gmail.com) before November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012.** Please do not include identifying information in the abstract. Proposals that are not accepted for a student talk may be considered for a poster or paper-swap presentation.

**Poster Session:** To be considered for a poster presentation, submit a title and abstract (max. 250 words) along with your registration form before **December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012.**

**Paper Swap:** We invite you to share your work with other conference attendees. Please bring copies of recently published papers, pre-prints, or papers that represent works-in progress. To have your paper listed in the pre-conference program, submit a title and abstract (max. 250 words) along with your registration form before **December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012.**

**Data Blitz:** Participants with outstanding poster and paper swap submissions will be invited to present their work in rapid-pace form. They will give 5-minute talks using 4 slides and will entertain 1 brief audience question.

To submit your work for possible inclusion in the program, to register for the pre-conference, or to obtain more information, please visit:

[http://www.psych.nyu.edu/spsp\\_politpsych](http://www.psych.nyu.edu/spsp_politpsych)

We hope to see you on January 17<sup>th</sup> – it promises to be a great day!

Sincerely,

Erin P. Hennes

Chadly Stern

## ❖ SPSP Morality and Justice Pre-Conference

Dear SPSP Friends,

Aaron Kay, David Pizarro, and I would like to call your attention to the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Morality and Justice Pre-Conference, which will be held in conjunction with the 2013 annual meeting of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) in New Orleans, LA at the New Orleans Morial Convention Center. The Morality and Justice Pre-Conference will take place on Thursday, January 17, 2013, and will run from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Registration is now open!

This year's meeting should be especially exciting, with a distinguished group of speakers including the following: Liane Young, Fiery Cushman, Mike Norton, Eric Knowles, Adam Galinsky, and Susan Fiske (keynote). More information about the pre-conference can be found at <http://www.bus.umich.edu/Conferences/2013-Morality-and-Justice-PreConference/ViewConference.aspx>



This year we will offer a poster session in an effort to increase opportunities for graduate students to present their research. The deadline for poster abstract submission is December 1, 2012. Poster abstract submission guidelines can be found at <http://www.bus.umich.edu/Conferences/2013-Morality-and-Justice-PreConference/CallForPapers.aspx>.

Registration is now open as well. The fees (from now through December 15, 2012) are \$65 for students and \$90 for post-docs and faculty. Please register online at [https://www.bus.umich.edu/Conferences/2013-Morality-and-Justice-PreConference/Register.aspx?conf\\_ord=7152](https://www.bus.umich.edu/Conferences/2013-Morality-and-Justice-PreConference/Register.aspx?conf_ord=7152).

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans!

Regards,

Aaron, David, and Dave

## ❖ New Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Sciences (IBSS) Competition

Dear Colleagues,

Below you will find a multidisciplinary opportunity to work with colleagues in disciplines related to social psychology.

Best,

Rosanna Guadagno & Sally Dickerson  
 Program Directors, Social Psychology  
 National Science Foundation  
 4201 Wilson Blvd.  
 Suite 995  
 Arlington VA 22230

### **NSF Announces New Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Sciences (IBSS) Competition**

The Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation in the U.S. has issued a new Dear Colleague Letter that alerts researchers to a range of options for pursuing support for interdisciplinary research that bridges the social, behavioral, and economic (SBE) sciences. The Dear Colleague Letter is accessible at:

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12123/nsf12123.jsp>

In addition to highlighting opportunities for support of interdisciplinary research through funding by standing programs in the directorate (reviewing proposals either individually or through co-review by multiple programs), research coordination networks, and a new track in the SBE post-doctoral research fellowships competition, the Dear Colleague Letter highlights a new competition for Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Sciences (IBSS) research.

The new IBSS competition will support emphasize the conduct of interdisciplinary research by teams of investigators in the social and behavioral sciences. Emphasis is placed on support for

research that involves researchers from multiple disciplinary fields, that integrates scientific theoretical approaches and methodologies from multiple disciplinary fields, and that is likely to yield generalizable insights and information that will advance basic knowledge and capabilities across multiple disciplinary fields.

The two types of projects that may be supported by IBSS are IBSS large interdisciplinary research projects (with maximum award sizes of \$1,000,000) and IBSS interdisciplinary team exploratory projects (with maximum award sizes of \$250,000). The solicitation for the new IBSS competition is accessible

as a HTML at: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12614/nsf12614.htm>

as a PDF at: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12614/nsf12614.pdf>

The proposal-submission deadline for the new IBSS competition is January 23, 2013. In future fiscal years, the submission deadline will be the first Tuesday in December.

Proposals submitted to the IBSS competition will be evaluated both with respect to the standard NSF merit review criteria of intellectual merit and broader impacts and also with respect to special review criteria focusing on three different dimensions of their interdisciplinarity: the interdisciplinarity of the research team, the interdisciplinarity of the research approaches to be used, and the interdisciplinarity of the expected intellectual significance of the research results. No specific topics will be given priority, and research sites may be in or outside the U.S.

There are special requirements regarding researcher involvement in IBSS proposals. Each proposal submitted for the IBSS competition must include three or more senior personnel from at least two different SBE disciplinary fields. (Additional researchers from other fields also are welcome to be members of research teams.) An individual researcher may participate as a principal investigator (PI), co-principal investigator (co-PI), or other member of the senior personnel of a project for only one project submitted for the IBSS competition during a single year.

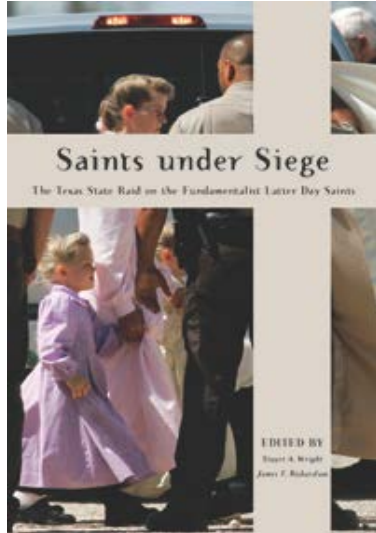
Researcher team members who are interested in pursuing IBSS support should consult the solicitation. If they have additional questions, they should contact one of the program officers managing the IBSS competition, Thomas Baerwald ([tbaerwal@nsf.gov](mailto:tbaerwal@nsf.gov)) and Brian Humes ([bhumes@nsf.gov](mailto:bhumes@nsf.gov)). E-mail contact is preferred, and if researchers want to determine whether a project may be appropriate for the IBSS competition, they should send a prospectus of not more than one page. The prospectus should briefly describe the conceptual framework of the project, the research methods that will be used, the composition of the researchers on the research team, and the anticipated intellectual merit and broader impacts of the proposed work.

## ❖ Recent Justice-Related Books

***Wright, S., & Richardson, J.T. (2011). Saints under Siege: The Texas State Raid on the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints. New York: New York University Press.***

In April 2008, state police and child protection authorities raided Yearning for Zion Ranch near Eldorado, Texas, a community of 800 members of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints (FLDS), a polygamist branch of the Mormons. State officials claimed that the raid, which was triggered by anonymous phone calls from an underage girl to a domestic vio-

lence hotline, was based on evidence of widespread child sexual abuse. In a high-risk paramilitary operation, 439 children were removed from the custody of their parents and held until the Third Court of Appeals found that the state had overreached. The anonymous caller was in fact an emotionally unstable 33-year old woman in Colorado Springs. Not only did the state fail to corroborate the authenticity of the hoax calls, but evidence reveals that Texas officials had



targeted the FLDS from the outset, planning and preparing for a confrontation.

*Saints under Siege* provides a thorough, theoretically grounded critical examination of the Texas state raid on the FLDS while situating this event in a broader sociological context. The volume considers the raid as an exemplar case of a larger pattern of state actions against minority religions, offering comparative analyses to other government raids both historically and across cultures. In its look beyond the Texas raid, it provides compelling evidence of social intolerance and state repression of unpopular minority faiths in general, and the FLDS in particular.

As the first book to examine the raid on the FLDS, *Saints under Siege* makes a powerful contribution to both the study of New Religious Movements and the public record.

## ❖ Justice-Related Special Issues

### *Call for Special Issues in Social Justice Research*

The editors of Social Justice Research are inviting proposals for Special Issues to be published in our journal. Proposal should include

- The names of the guest editor(s).
- The title of the special issue.
- A brief description of the special issue topic with a clear focus.

Furthermore, we would like to encourage, but not be confined to, special issues focusing on the areas discussed in the journal's 2011 mission statement (Törnblom & Kazemi, 24:1-5).

Proposals will be evaluated with respect to the following criteria:

- Clarity of purpose and relevance
- Originality/novelty (e.g., approach, methodology, theory)
- Integration across disciplines and internationalization
- Cross-fertilizations
- Organization and coherence
- Insight for future work

Once a proposal for a special issue has been given the go-ahead, there will be an open call for submissions to the special issue. All submissions will be peer-reviewed and the guest editors will decide on their acceptance for publication in the special issue.

Please email your Special Issue proposals to Kjell Törnblom ([kjell.tornblom@his.se](mailto:kjell.tornblom@his.se)) or Ali Kazemi ([ali.kazemi@his.se](mailto:ali.kazemi@his.se)) no later than April 15 2013.

***Call for Contributions to Water and Justice: A Special Issue of Water Policy***

Guest Editors: Marian J. Patrick (Australian National University), Anna Lukasiewicz (Charles Sturt University) and Geoff J. Syme (Edith Cowan University)

Water allocation is a fundamental part of water resources management. Water allocation has been described as an unavoidable conflictual process because it is a political process and it involves multiple uses and users of water. The scarcity of water resources, driven by anthropogenic and/or natural means, exacerbates the already politically sensitive process of water allocation. Issues of justice arise when resources are, or are perceived to be, in short supply. In these situations individuals or groups of people are concerned about getting their fair share and arrangements are made, or institutions created, to allocate resources.

For this Special Issue, we welcome contributions that investigate how issues of justice influence water management and allocation in any context or application. There is much confusion regarding the use of the terms justice, equity and fairness, and there are also many forms of justice (eg distributional, procedural, comparative, social and environmental) each of which impact on how decisions are made and what the outcomes of these decisions are. This field of research draws on many disciplines (social psychology, political science, water governance, law, sociology, ecology etc) and this Special Issue aims to highlight a side of water management that is recognised as vitally important yet is seldom explicitly discussed.

Process of submission

We would welcome expressions of interest to contribute papers to the Special Issue by **December 15, 2012**. These can be sent to the Guest Editors by e-mail ([marian.patrick@anu.edu.au](mailto:marian.patrick@anu.edu.au); [ALukasiewicz@csu.edu.au](mailto:ALukasiewicz@csu.edu.au); [g.syme@ecu.edu.au](mailto:g.syme@ecu.edu.au)). If authors could submit a preliminary title and short abstract at this stage, it will help with the planning of the Special Issue and provide us with an opportunity to discuss proposed topics prior to inviting authors to submit a full manuscript.

All full papers are to be submitted by August 15, 2013

## ❖ Justice-Related Dissertations

***“General Belief in a Just World of Chinese and Its Function in Psychological Adaptation”***, by **Michael Shengtao Wu**

*Supervised by Professor Buxin Han, Chinese Academy of Sciences*

Viewing the world as orderly and nonrandom is the fundamental motivation of human beings, in which people often imbue their social, physical, and metaphysical environments with order and structure (Kay et. al., 2009; Whitson & Galinsky, 2008). According to Just-World Theory (Lerner, 1980), individuals need to believe that they live in a world where good people get rewarded and bad people get punished, so that they can live in a environment as though it was orderly. Belief in a just world (BJW) is a kind of positive delusion of the objective world where justice doesn't always prevail upon injustice. In particular, the general BJW concerning others and the whole world, which loses its importance during adulthood, relates to anti-social attitude independent of personal BJW (Dalbert, 1999; Oppenheimer, 2006). However, researches on disadvantaged group and people in developing countries revealed that they construed general BJW in the different way (Wu et al., 2010; Sutton et al., 2005; Sutton & Winnard, 2007).

The current research recruited ordinary adults in four cities of China (study 1A), adult survivors losing their family in the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake (study 1B) and adolescents in the poverty-stricken county (study 1C), and found that Chinese in harsh realities held more general BJW than personal BJW, and the general BJW predicted their resilience independent of personal BJW. Meanwhile, the cross-cultural survey on future consideration (study 2A), the priming of future in the real life (study 2B) and the experimental priming of long-term investments (study 2C) showed that general BJW functioned in the long term perspective, and participants with strong general BJW and long-term investments expressed more emotional stress, and reported more tendency of perpetrator revenge and victim blame when encountering the justice threat, whereas those with no long-term investments didn't reveal this model.

Furthermore, the big sample covering 13 cities nationwide replicated the robust effect of general BJW (study 3A). Also, the Implicit Association Test (IAT) confirmed the self-others distinction of justice motive. That is, participants performed faster in the association of “self” category and “wrongedness” category than that of “others” category and “wrongedness” category, namely they believed that themselves rather than others were treated unfairly. At mean time, those faster in others-righted association task responded faster in the self-future association task and revealed less negative emotion, while preferred less altruism behavior (study 3B).

In sum, both explicit and implicit evidence demonstrated that Chinese revealed the robust general BJW, believing that the world is more just generally than for themselves. These findings could be explained by the need for order and justice compensation of the disadvantaged group (Kay et. al., 2007; Kay et al, 2009), and the natural transcending in Chinese traditional culture (with low religiosity) also accounts for this phenomenon partially (Yu, 2006; Zhang & Veenhoven, 2008). Nevertheless, the paradox that general BJW relates positively to individuals' adaptation via the long term perspective in harsh realities but negatively to prosocial rationality and altruism, should be seriously concerned in future directions.

***“Self-forgiveness as a Restorative Process Following Interpersonal Transgressions”, by Lydia Woodyatt, Flinders University***  
*Supervisor: Associate Professor Michael Wenzel*

At its heart self-forgiveness is about the way people recover after wrongdoing, namely the ability to maintain appropriate responsibility while releasing the self from damaging aspects of shame and self-condemnation. Self-forgiveness, at least at a lay level, is generally a concept people use and refer to as a good thing (Bauer et al., 1992). However self-forgiveness as a theoretically explored concept is in its infancy with mixed results in regards to its advantages and disadvantages (Wohl & Thompson, 2011).

In this thesis the mixed results are described as a consequence of the disconnect between theoretical conceptualizations and the measurement of self-forgiveness. Conceptualizations proposed by philosophers (Dillon, 2001; Holmgren, 1998) and psychologists (Enright, 1996; Fisher & Exline, 2006; Hall & Fincham, 2005; Thompson et al., 2005) suggest self-forgiveness involves the experience of, and then the release from, pervasive feelings of shame and guilt following a negative event, without excusing, ignoring, or minimizing the wrongdoing, while still accepting and working through one’s responsibility (Fisher & Exline, 2006, 2010; Hall & Fincham, 2005). Where people fail to take responsibility this is equivalent to false or pseudo self-forgiveness, essentially letting the self off the hook (Hall & Fincham, 2005). From an offender’s perspective the outcome of these processes may look the same, namely a lack of shame, guilt or self-condemnation (Hall & Fincham, 2005).

However despite these theoretical and conceptual assertions, measurement of self-forgiveness as a whole has focused on end-states that result from self-forgiveness, in the form of positive self-regard or lack of self-punitiveness. Thus by focusing on the measurement of self-forgiveness as an end-state, research is continually confounding genuine with pseudo self-forgiveness, and possibly other dispositions that relate to positive self-regard or the lack of self-punitiveness. This is exacerbated in some of the self-forgiveness research where the self-forgiveness measures are dispositional rather than state based.

The research presented in this thesis attempts to measure genuine self-forgiveness consistent with definitions and theoretical understandings of genuine self-forgiveness as a process distinct from pseudo self-forgiveness or simply a lack of self-condemnation. The implications of these differentiated processes for inter and intrapersonal restoration of an offender and evaluated. Finally the literature of shame and shame processing is utilized to examine the underlying needs of an offender, and to explore ways that we can encourage genuine self-forgiveness following interpersonal transgressions.

Overall the findings suggest that a process of genuine self-forgiveness is more than replacing desire to punish the self with compassion for the self. Transgressions constitute a threat to the offenders’ social/moral identity and need for belonging (Shnabel & Nadler, 2008), which need to be directly addressed in order to help transgressors move forward in ways that restore both themselves and the victim.

Woodyatt, L., & Wenzel, M. (In Press). Self-forgiveness and the restoration of offenders after an interpersonal transgression. *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*.



## ❖ Short Articles / Research Reports

### *Do Militaristic Peoples Tend to Kill Themselves? Paradox of Global Peace Index Scores Predicting Low National Suicide Rates*

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#### **Introduction**

It is frequently in the news that soldiers engaged in military occupation and control of civilian populations have elevated suicide rates, for example, among US soldiers (Zoler, 2012), UK soldiers (Milmo, 2006) and Israeli soldiers (Greenberg, 2010). The explanations for this are usually focussed on the psychology of the individual soldiers (Lee, 2012; Paulson & Krippner, 2010). However, it is plausible that part of the explanation can be found in the societal values, beliefs, and political culture that lead to the military invasions and occupations. If so, then suicidal consequences of the militarism motivating invasion and occupation might appear among civilians in the society as well as among the soldiers.

The purpose of this study was to search for evidence consistent with this possibility. More specifically, the goal of this study was to examine correlations between measures of militarism and suicide rates in order to test the hypothesis militarism is a positive predictor of societal suicide.

#### **Method**

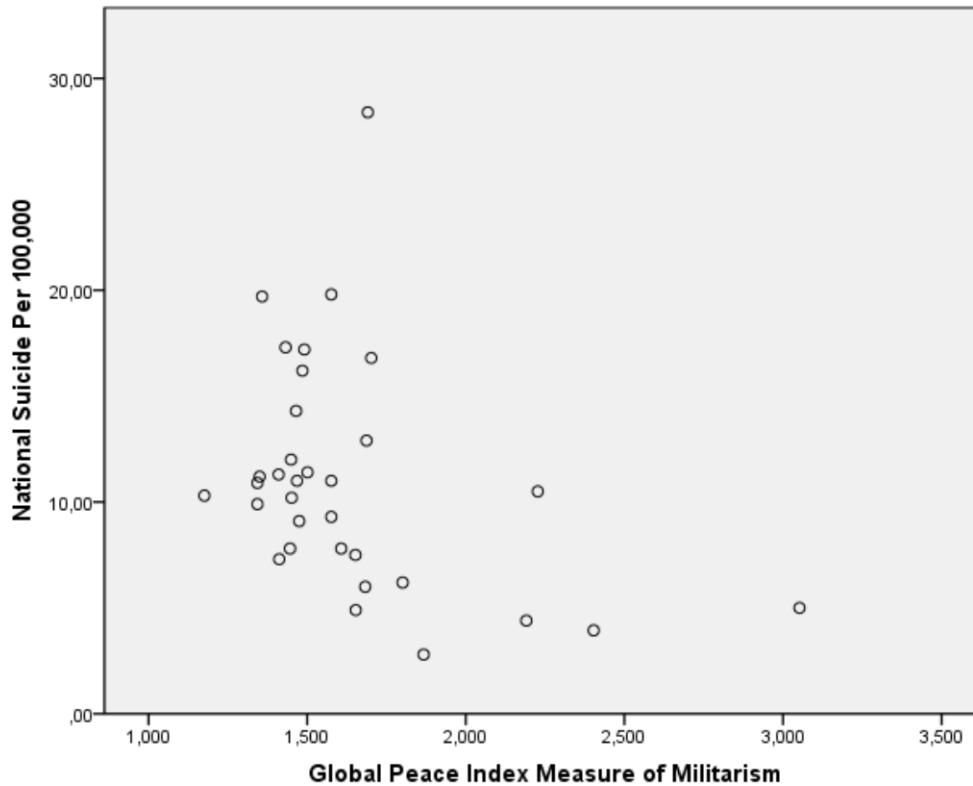
The Global Peace Index (GPI) has been compiled annually since 2007 by the Institute for Economics and Peace and the Intelligence Unit of the magazine *The Economist* (Global Peace Index, 2012). The GPI ranks more than 100 nations on how militaristic they are, based on numbers of wars, deaths due to wars, degree of organized internal conflict, relations with neighbors, number of homicides, perceived criminality, amount of violent crime and violent demonstrations, number of prisoners, number of police, number of internal and external refugees, political instability, potential for terrorism, military expenditures, size of military, amount of heavy weaponry, import and export of weapons, ease of access to small arms, and general military sophistication. Higher scores on the GPI signify that a nation is less peaceful, more militaristic. For example, in the 2008 GPI tabulation used in this study, the two most peaceful nations, and their respective index scores, were Iceland (1.176) and Denmark (1.343), and the two most militarized nations were Iraq (3.564) and Somalia (3.293).

The World Health Organization (WHO) has not been compiling national suicide rates since the 1980s (Rudmin, Ferrada-Noli & Skolbekken, 2003). However, the website *Nation Master* links to *Wikipedia*, which presents the most recent suicide rates for 2009 for 34 nations reporting causes of mortality to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (List of OECD countries by suicide rate, 2009). The two nations with the fewest suicides, and their respective suicides per 100,000, were Greece (2.80) and Turkey (3.94), and the two nations with the most suicides were South Korea (28.4) and Hungary (19.8).

Suicide rates for men, for women, and for total population were entered into the SPSS spread-sheet for the 34 nations that also had Global Peace Index scores. Pearson correlations were computed between Global Peace Index measures of militarism and suicides rates for men, for women, and for total populations.

## Results

The significant negative correlation between the militarism measure and the total population suicide rate ( $r = -.37$ ,  $n = 34$ ,  $p < .05$ ) weighs against the hypothesis and indicates that militaristic nations tend to have less suicide, not more, as was hypothesized. The correlation of militarism with male suicide rates ( $r = -.36$ ,  $n = 34$ ,  $p < .05$ ) was significant but that with female suicide rates was not ( $r = -.29$ ,  $n = 34$ ,  $p > .05$ ). However, these two correlations are themselves not statistically different ( $Z = 0.29$ ,  $n = 34$ ,  $p = .77$ ).



*Figure 1.*

Scattergram of 34 nations, showing 2008 Global Peace Index measures of militarism and 2006-2009 OECD measures of suicides per 100,000 population.

As shown in Figure 1, some nations were high in militarism but low in suicidality, for example, Israel with GPI = 3.052 and suicide rate = 5.00. Other nations were low in militarism but moderately high in suicidality, for example, South Korea with GPI = 1.691 and suicide rate = 28.40. These two extreme cases illustrate the negative correlation between militarism and suicidality; however, they are not the cause of the correlation because if they are removed from the analysis, the negative correlation get even stronger ( $r = -.44$ ,  $n = 32$ ,  $p < .05$ ). Although there were nations low in militarism and low in suicidality, for example, Portugal with GPI = 1.412 and suicide rate = 7.30, there were no nations high on both measures as originally hypothesized.

## Discussion

A single small-N study cannot be conclusive, and there are many caveats by which to criticize the data, including doubts about the validity of suicide mortality measures, doubts about the validity of the militarism measure, and the self-selection of the nations reporting their data. However, one aspect of these data biases them towards the hypothesis, namely, that soldiers' suicides are included in the national suicide incidence reports; nevertheless, it was among men that more militarism correlated with less suicide.

This study invites speculation. For example, future studies might consider homeostatic theories of national suicide: as violent mortality rises in one aspect of social behavior, it decreases in another aspect. Or, perhaps highly organized and apparently peaceful populations are a prerequisite for militarization. In any case, these data do seem to be a paradox, and further studies are well warranted.

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## ❖ Awards to SJR Members

### ***Laurie Barclay: Ontario Early Researcher Award***

Laurie Barclay was awarded the 2012 "Ontario Early Researcher Award". This award will support her research examining how to help employees who experience unfairness recover from these experiences. The grant is to help her fund a team of researchers, including post-docs and graduate students.

## ❖ Recent Justice-Related Publications of ISJR Members

- Barclay, L. J., & Kiefer, T. (in press) Approach or avoid? Exploring overall justice and the differential effects of positive and negative emotions. *Journal of Management*. DOI: 10.1177/0149306312441833
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