



THE BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON AGGRESSION

Vol 32, No 2 December 2010

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The European Editor produced this issue

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Editorial
Ingrid Möller,
European *Bulletin* Editor

Welcome to the December 2010 edition of the *ISRA Bulletin*. First of all, I would like to introduce myself briefly as the newly assigned European Editor. I am a social psychologist, affiliated with Potsdam University, Germany. A main part of my research relates to the field of aggression in its primary focus on the media violence aggression link. I remember the first World Meeting in Santorini, Greece, which I attended as a Ph.D student back in 2004. Besides the stimulating academic debate I was impressed by the sociality of the event and the ease with which one could engage in networking activities. This positive image of the World Meetings has not changed for me ever since and I really enjoyed the most recent one in Storrs, CT, this summer. Therefore, I would like to encourage young researchers in particular to attend our biennial meetings to catch up some of this unique “spirit” and to return home with a bag full of new research ideas, encouragement from other junior and even more so from senior colleagues and, ideally, plans for future collaborations. Having experienced so many positive exchanges with colleagues at the ISRA conferences, I really felt honored to fulfill this editorial task and to take a more active role within the society.

This edition is created to inform all members about important ISRA-related facts, including the votes of the elections held in Autumn 2010, the ballots for a partly revision of the Bylaws of the Constitution, and a summary of the Business Meeting held in Storrs. I am also delighted to present you with the winners of the Lagerspetz Awards and the participants of the Young Investigator Program, which were announced at the World Meeting. Thanks to all who contributed articles or provided background information for this issue.

While preparing this Bulletin, I was wondering (a) how many members actually do read it every six months, and (b) if it really does cover the

topics that you as a reader are interested in. Eric has already tried to initiate the publication of abstracts of recent studies conducted by individual members or research groups. The idea behind this was to stimulate the scientific debate and broaden our mutual knowledge of the issues that we are currently engaged with in between the biennial meetings. Unfortunately, just a very few members responded to the suggestion over the last years by sending in an abstract. So at first, I do repeat this call for short summaries: Please e-mail your contributions to Eric (edubow@bgsu.edu) or to me (ingrid.moeller@uni-potsdam.de). Secondly, I do invite you to feel free to contact us if you think the Bulletin should cover other topics. We do appreciate all comments.

While wondering about the active engagement in societal activities, I was also reflecting about the low voter turnout for this year’s election of our new President, Executive Secretary, Archivist, and Council members. As it has been very fortunate to have so many volunteers that were nominated for the Council, it is rather sad that in the end only 37% of the membership were willing to return the ballots.

Finally, in musing about the problems that we might have *within* the society, I would like to draw your attention especially to the article by Menno Kruk on *Reflections on change and adaptation in ISRA*. It focuses on the question of the role of ISRA in the public debate of aggression and violence and, furthermore, on the potential educational role of ISRA. This is a matter of controversy and I would like to encourage all of you to email us your perspectives on this topic. Upon your comments, we will be able to set up a discussion within the next issues of the Bulletin – before we will actually meet again in person in 2012 in Luxembourg.

As always, the ISRA Flyer - designed to describe our society, increase our exposure, and attract new members - is included at the end of the Bulletin; **be sure to share this flyer with your colleagues and students.**

**A Message from Our President,
Craig Anderson**



Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the frozen plains of central Iowa! I'll keep this, my first message as President, brief. First, I offer my thanks to all who contributed to such a successful ISRA World Meeting in Storrs. That includes Steve Maxson, who served as host, local organizer, and program committee member, and Barbara Krahe, who also served on the program committee. In addition, all of the ISRA officers were instrumental in various aspects of planning and coordinating the meeting. But equally important to the success of the meeting were all of the wonderful members (old and new) who contributed papers and posters, who helped with the Young Investigator Program, and our keynote speakers. The broad array of disciplines represented in the various talks was breath-taking, and illustrates the many ways that dedicated scholars can address aggression issues positively and creatively.

Second, I thank all of the members who agreed to stand for election for the Executive Committee and for the various offices. We need such active volunteers to keep the Society operating effectively and efficiently, and to move it forward as our various aggression-related fields change and grow.

Third, I urge all members to encourage other colleagues and students to join ISRA. It is important to further diversify our membership in several ways, by discipline, research approach, and geographic region. So if you have colleagues in your own or other departments who are doing interesting work on aggression, please contact them about ISRA, urge them to join our group, urge them to consider submitting their work to *Aggressive Behavior*, and ask them to consider attending our next World Meeting in 2012 in Luxembourg.

That's all for now.

Craig

Important ISRA Notices

ELECTION RESULTS

President-elect: John Knutson
Executive Secretary: Michael Potegal
Archivist: Roger Johnson

Council Members

elected for a 4-year term, expiring in 2014:

Sarah Coyne (USA)
Ken Leonard (USA)
Karin Österman (Finland)
Dominic Parrott (USA)
Georges Steffgen (Luxembourg)
Wayne Warburton (Australia)

elected in 2008, expiring in 2012:

Kaj Björkqvist (Finland)
Michel Boivin (Canada)
Ann Campbell (UK)
Jozsef Haller (Hungary)
Manuela Martinez (Spain)
Sergio Pellis (Canada)
Adrian Raine (US)
Peter Smith (UK)
Ulrich Wagner (Germany)
Jackie White (U.S.)

All current officers are listed at:
<http://www.israsociety.com/officers.html>

ISRA WEBMASTER

Our ISRA webmaster is Yvon Delville, Dept. of Psychology, The University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

Please contact Yvon at Delville@psy.utexas.edu if there is information you would like to see on the website.

The website is: www.ISRASociety.com

Results of the 2010 ISRA Ballot on

Proposed Amendments to the

Constitution and Bylaws:

- (1) Amendments to place the responsibility for the minutes in the office of the Archivist and provide guidelines for the distribution of those minutes.
- (2) Amendments to permit secure confidential electronic balloting as an alternative to paper balloting for elections and amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.

Both ballot initiatives passed. On the next pages you can find the revised version of the Constitution; revised sections appear in bold.

CONSTITUTION

(As revised, October 2010)

I. NAME. The name of this organization shall be: The International Society for Research on Aggression.

II. PURPOSE. The purposes of this Society shall be exclusively scientific and educational; specifically, to promote and encourage the discovery and exchange of scientific information concerning the destructive and constructive aspects of aggression.

III. MEMBERSHIP. There shall be four-classes of members:

- 1) Fellows who shall be scientists from any nation working in any of the biological, psychological or social sciences on problems of aggression.
- 2) Associates who shall be scientific or professional persons who wish to support the goals of the Society but who are not themselves actively engaged in research on aggression.
- 3) Life fellows shall be Fellows or non-members nominated by the Nominations Committee and confirmed by the Council, who shall in the opinion of the Committee have made distinguished lifetime contributions to research on aggression. They shall not be officers of the Society at the time of election, and no more than three Life Fellows may be designated in any one biennium. The title shall not be contingent upon payment of dues.
- 4) Student Members shall be graduate students nominated by a Fellow of the Society. Dues for student members will be half the rate for other classes of members. Student membership may be retained for up to three years.

Fellows, Associates, and Life Fellows shall have voting rights. Only Fellows or Life Fellows may be elected officers of the Society.

IV. OFFICERS.

The officers of the organization shall be as follows:

- A. The President shall serve for a period of two years, shall preside over all meetings of the membership and of the Council, and be a voting member of the latter body; shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, and shall perform such other functions as are described in the Constitution and Bylaws.
- B. At the end of his term of office, the President shall become the Past-President and as such shall continue to serve as a member of the Council for two years.
- C. The President-Elect shall serve for a period of two years and then succeed the President in that office; shall carry on the functions of the President in the absence or incapacity of the President, and shall be a voting member of the Council.
- D. The Executive Secretary shall serve for four years, and shall be the chief executive officer of the Society in carrying out decisions of the Membership and Council. The Executive Secretary may establish subsidiary regional secretariats, headed by assistant secretaries, if needed to carry on the functions of the Society.
- E. The Treasurer shall serve for four years, shall collect dues and disburse funds to meet the obligations of the Society, shall prepare an annual written report on the Society's finances for the Council, present a similar biennial report to the Membership at its biennial meeting, and be a voting member of the Council. The term of the Treasurer shall commence on a biennium alternating with the commencement of the term of the Executive Secretary.
- F. The Archivist shall serve for four years and shall **record, and make available to the membership, minutes of Council Meetings and Business meetings through appropriate ISRA vehicles.** The Archivist shall preserve documents, records and other papers of historical interest received from the files of officers and other members of the Society. With the approval of the Council, the Archivist may arrange for deposit of materials at a suitable institution to assure security and continuity. Papers so deposited may be transferred, by vote of Council, to a different location, particularly to a permanent Society headquarters if one is established in the future. The Archivist serves on Council.
- G. The Council shall consist of the six above officers and not fewer than ten nor more than twenty other councilors. Councilors shall be chosen to represent different scientific disciplines and regions

of the world. The Council shall be the principal decision-making body of the Society, and shall conduct its business either at regular meetings of the Society, by mail, **or electronically**. The Council shall submit a report of its activities for approval of the Members every other year. Councilors shall serve for four years but may be re-elected. Councilors' terms will be staggered; so 5 to 10 will be elected every two years. Subject to the above restrictions, additional Councilors may be elected by majority vote of the Council to serve until the next regular election. If not serving on the Council as an officer or elected member, the Editor-in-Chief of *Aggressive Behavior*, the two editors of the *ISRA Bulletin*, and the ISRA member serving as the Web Master shall serve as ex-officio members of the Council

H. Additional subsidiary officers may be established as needed by the Council to carry on special functions of the Society.

I. Vacancies. If the office of the President becomes vacant prior to the expiration of the term of the incumbent, it shall be filled by the President-Elect, who shall serve for the unexpired term plus the term for which he or she was elected. If any other elective office becomes vacant, the President, with the approval of the majority of the Council, shall appoint a replacement who shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term until a successor is elected at the next regular election.

V. **COMMITTEES.** Standing or ad hoc committees may be appointed from the membership by the President with the advice of the Council.

VI. **ELECTIONS.** For a regular election, a Nominations Committee, headed by the President-Elect, shall submit to the membership a slate of at least two nominees for each office then falling vacant. Any group of five members may submit an additional nominee for any office, if the nomination is received before the date set for the mail ballot. Voting shall be by mail, and the nominee receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. Elections shall be completed by June 15 of the election year.

VII. **MEETINGS.** Regular meetings of the membership may be held independently or in connection with the meetings of international organizations of disciplines concerned with scientific research. Such meetings may be held as often as feasible, but in no case less than once every two years. In addition, members may set up special or regional scientific meetings in the name of the Society, provided that they inform the Executive Secretary of this activity.

- VIII. **OTHER ACTIVITIES.** The Officers and Council may conduct activities consistent with the purposes of the Society not specifically mentioned in the Constitution and Bylaws.
- IX. **AMENDMENTS.** Amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to a vote of the membership by mail ballot, **or secure confidential electronic balloting**, and shall be adopted if favored by two-thirds of those voting, provided that at least one-third of the total membership vote. Amendments may be proposed either by the Council or by any group of five members.

BYLAWS

- I. **DUES.** The amount and mode of payment of dues shall be set by the Council and submitted to the Members for their approval at any biennial meeting.
- II. **QUORUM.** A quorum for the purpose of doing business by the Council shall consist of one-third of the total Council membership, of which number at least two shall be officers, or for business conducted by mail, replies from at least 50% of the total Council. A quorum for business meetings for the membership shall consist of 25% of the Members; or for business conducted by mail ballot, replies from at least one-third of the total membership.
- III. **HEADQUARTERS.** The headquarters of the Society shall be established in the office of the Executive Secretary.
- IV. **POLICY STATEMENTS.** Statements on public policy concerning problems of aggression shall be handled by the Society in the following manner: The President, with the advice and approval of the Council, shall appoint a special Commission to review the specific problem. After suitable study, the Commission may issue a public statement. The Commission shall bear sole responsibility for any statement issued.
- V. **ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP.** Charter Members shall be all those persons who have accepted invitations to membership before June 30, 1973. After that date an open invitation to apply for membership will be issued to interested scientists and professional individuals. Applications shall be made by means of forms supplied by the Executive Secretary on which the applicant shall give information regarding his professional qualifications and evidence of research interests, usually in the form of publications.

- VI. **CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP.** Persons who have not paid dues to the Society for a period of one year shall be given notification of such arrears and will be automatically dropped from the rolls of the Society if dues in arrears are not received within six months.
- VII. **OPERATIONAL YEAR.** New officers of the Society and new members of Council shall take office at the conclusion of the business meeting of the Society at the Biennial World meeting in the year of the elections.
- VIII. **AMENDMENTS.** Amendments to the Bylaws may be made by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the total Council Membership, either at an actual meeting of Council, by mail ballot, **or electronically**. Bylaws may alternatively be amended by the procedure described in Article IX of the Constitution.
- IX. **DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AND OF MEMBERSHIP LIST.** A copy of the Constitution and Bylaws shall be sent by the Executive Secretary to all present Officers and Members of Council and to all newly elected officers and Council members immediately after their election. A copy of the membership list shall be mailed to all Members at the end of each non-election year, in anticipation of the nomination and election process, and in order to acquaint Members with the membership in its entirety.
- X. **ELECTION PROCEDURES.** In order to be counted, a paper ballot must be returned to the Executive Secretary in an envelope bearing the member's name; **electronic ballots must be conducted in a manner that assures confidentiality and verification of membership.** When there are more than two candidates for an office (excluding Council member), voters will rank order the candidates and the "Hare" system will be used to determine the winner.
- Five to ten Council members will be elected every two years. For council, at least 15 candidates will be listed in random order on the ballot. Members may vote for up to 10 candidates. The 5 candidates with the most votes will be elected automatically. The current Council may declare up to 5 additional candidates as elected in order to ensure adequate representation of different scientific disciplines and regions of the world.
- XI. **MINUTES.** **Minutes of the biennial business meeting and formal Council meetings shall be recorded by the Archivist. After approval by**

the officers, the minutes of the biennial business meeting shall be made available to the membership via either the ISRA Bulletin or the ISRA website. Formal decisions made by the Council through mail ballots, or electronic communication, shall be recorded by the Executive Secretary and conveyed to the Archivist to be retained and distributed to the membership. Minutes of Council meetings shall be distributed electronically to members of Council as soon as practical.

XII. ISRA AWARDS.

A. The John Paul Scott Award for a lifetime or substantial contribution to aggression research shall be awarded at each Biennial World Meeting. The Scott Award Recipient will receive a Scott Award Certificate and a \$1000 travel award honorarium to attend the ISRA Biennial World Meeting, where he or she will deliver the Scott Award Address. The recipient of the Scott Award will be determined by a Committee appointed by the President and chaired by the Past-President. The committee should be appointed in the year prior to the scheduled Biennial World Meeting to assure the committee has time to review nominees and to notify the recipient with sufficient time to make travel arrangements to attend the meeting.

B. At each Biennial World meeting 2 to 8 Kirsti M. J. Lagerspetz Awards will be made to young investigators delivering either poster or podium presentations. To be eligible for a Lagerspetz Award, a presenter must be either a student in a terminal degree program or a person who is within 2 years of having completed a terminal degree (e.g. Ph.D., M.D., J.D.). Recipient of the award must be the first author of the paper or poster presentation. Organizers of Biennial World Meetings will provide a mechanism where persons submitting papers to the ISRA meeting would be able to identify themselves as a young investigator and eligible for the award. The award committee, comprised of established ISRA Fellows, will be appointed by the President of the Society. Committee members will be charged with the responsibility of evaluating the merit of eligible presentations during the course of the meeting, with awards made at the end of the meeting. Recipients of the award will receive a certificate documenting the award and a cash honorarium. The value of the honorarium, and the number of recipients will be determined by a committee comprised of the ISRA Officers, the Biennial Meeting Organizer, and the Chair of the Lagerspetz Award Committee, taking into account the projected number of young investigators attending the meeting and the financial position of the Society at the time of the World Meeting.

MINUTES of the BUSINESS MEETING (July 31, 2010)

1. Officers and Council reviewed the circumstances that resulted in a delay in the conduct of the biennial election. Current officers & Council will continue until the election is completed in the early fall. Current plan is for the nominations committee to complete the ballot and distribute it by mail by Sept. 1st, have it returned by Sept. 15th, permitting a finalizing of the election by Oct 1st. **(Editors Note:** The election was completed a few weeks later than planned, and the results are reported in *The Bulletin*.)

2. Discussion of the amendments to Constitution and by-laws proposed by Council. These amendments would permit electronic balloting, expand the responsibilities of the Archivist, and clarify the archiving and distribution of Business Meetings and Council meetings. The proposed amendments will be distributed with the election ballot.

3. Treasurer's report by Eric Dubow:

Assets as of 6/30/2010

- Key Bank (Checking), Toledo: **\$4,295.53**
- Key Bank (Money Market), Toledo: **\$61,462.70**
- Hills (Iowa City) (as of 5/28/10): **\$71,327.21**
- Hills (Eron Memorial Fund) (as of 3/31/10): **\$2,609.86**

TOTAL: \$139,695.30

Projected balance at the end of 2010:
\$133,597

Discussion occurred about income from dues and John Wiley, membership rolls, and projected expenditures over each biennial period.

4. Report on Young Investigator Program (YIP) by Michael Potegal

\$12,500 was allocated to support the YIP. There were 10 YIs in attendance at the Storrs meeting, selected from 15 applicants. Feedback has been very positive regarding the pre-conference workshop, the meeting, and the mentoring program. A formal poll and assessment will be completed after the meeting. Organizers of the Luxembourg meeting intend to continue the program at the Luxembourg meeting. It was noted that 3 of the 6 YIs from Budapest meeting attended the Storrs meeting.

Ken Leonard proposed we consider expanding the YI service so that more can attend without increasing ISRA cost.

5. Steve Maxson report on the Storrs meeting:

About 159 registered, 111 from U.S., 35 Europe. Additional late registrations not counted yet.

Financial picture: May balance the budget or even return a small profit. (9 room-nights short with hotel). Additional web site program costs for meeting, about 3K incurred at Iowa State University.

ISRA members expressed appreciation for Professor Maxson's efforts in support of the meeting.

6. Action of Council: Appointment of Ingrid Möller as European Editor of *The Bulletin*, who was introduced to the membership.

7. Presentation by the organizers of the Luxembourg meeting detailing the plans for the meeting.

8. Description of topics currently under consideration by the ISRA Council and discussion by members.

(a) Joining the National Partnership for Ending Interpersonal Violence. Formal proposal needed, since there could be financial costs to ISRA to meet the attendance requirement.

(b) "War Is Not Inevitable" statements to be handled by the procedures specified in the Bylaws (i.e. IV). President to appoint committee to come forward with a proposal.

9. Presentation of a new initiative to enhance the vitality of ISRA presented by Deborah Richardson and John Knutson:

Objectives:

- Increase Officer/Council engagement
- Encouragement of young scholars and generation of new leadership
- Financial stability: \$125,000 reserve fund

Methods:

- Reduce Council to no more than 10 at large members (Elect 5 this year, 5 in 2012)
- President & Officers assign specific responsibilities to Council members (e.g., YIP, Lagespetz Program)

Budget template slide detailing partial financial support (conditional on costs and resources) for Council registration at meetings, financial support of Officer

registration, and some contribution to travel or lodging costs

Initiative to enhance the vitality of ISRA was approved by unanimous voice vote of the members

New Business:

The need for an ISRA Listserv was considered. Because it would need to be a moderated listserv, it was recognized that it could be a major task. There was considerable discussion pro and con. It was moved and seconded that the listserv issue and related web-site issues be included on the agenda of the Mid-winter officer meeting. An amendment was proposed and seconded that President Anderson appoint a Council Member to look into the specifics of a listserv prior to the mid-winter meeting and send a report. Motion passed unanimously.

ISRA web site discussion:

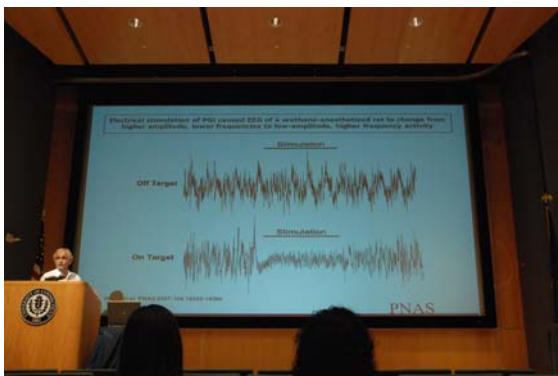
General thrust of the discussion was that the web site needs to be more up-to-date, and responsive.

Craig Anderson raised a question about adding a links page to allow advertisement of other aggression/violence meetings and to get reciprocity from other societies. It was proposed that the web site update also be a focus of the midwinter officer meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

PHOTOS of the 2010 ISRA World Meeting (STORRS, CT)

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT







Photos kindly provided by Menno Kruk, Simha Landau, and Marek Smulczyk

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR PROGRAM 2010

The highly successful 2008 YI Program in Budapest included planned but informal interactions with a panel of mentors during the course of the meeting, networking among the young investigators and with ISRA members, and awarding of prizes. As Chair of the 2010 YI Program, I worked with Deborah Richardson, Ken Leonard and Craig Anderson and, with help from meeting organizer Steve Maxson, added a Pre-Meeting Workshop for the YIs which focused on emerging & alternative career paths. Shirley Fecteau (Laval University) led a discussion about Trans-Cranial Magnetic Stimulation as a new and powerful experimental and therapeutic tool for major scientific research and clinical treatment. Daryl Kroner (Southern Illinois University) talked about careers in forensic criminology, and Deborah & I had an open discussion about career development in aggression research with and without grant funding. We also gave copies of Victor Bloomfield's "The Chicago Guide to Your Career in Science: A Toolkit for Students and Postdocs" to the YI's.

The 2010 YI Program was funded by ISRA, came in under budget, and was judged successful by the feedback I received. An informal poll of the YIs indicated a consensual interest in grantsmanship. Discussions with local organizers Georges Steffgen and André Melzer about how grantwriting can be made a focus of the 2012 YI Pre-meeting Workshop in Luxembourg have been initiated. I propose to contribute to this workshop.

Michael Potegal

Enrolled in this year's YIP:

Daniel Antonius
(New York University School of Medicine, USA)

Katja Bertsch
(Heidelberg University, Germany)

Justin Carré
(Duke University, USA)

Violet Cheung
(University of San Francisco, USA)

Jennifer Fanning
(University of Southern Mississippi, USA)

Coreen Farris
(University of Pittsburgh, USA)

Kate Gallagher
(Georgia State University, USA)

Kevin Swartout
(University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA)

M. Nicole Warehime
(Oklahoma Baptist University, USA)

Evrin Cetinkaya Yildiz
(Middle East Technical University)

LAGERSPETZ AWARDS 2010

The 2010 winners of the Lagerspetz Awards were chosen by a committee chaired by Dominic Parrott, who provided the following information.

AWARD WINNERS: PODIUM PRESENTATIONS	
Jamie Abaied (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA)	Maternal socialization of coping with peer victimization: Links to coping and aggression in children
Jane Baibazarova (Cardiff University, UK)	The role of maternal sensitivity and intrusiveness in children's emotional reactivity and recovery
Erika Baker (Cardiff University, UK)	Does fear in infancy predict guilt in toddlers?
Melissa Griffin (State University of New York at Buffalo, USA)	Predictors and prospective consequences of incapacitated unwanted sexual experiences in college students: A replication and extension of previous findings
David Yeager (Stanford University, USA)	Reducing aggression in an urban high school by teaching adolescents that people can change: Results from a social-psychological intervention
AWARD WINNERS: POSTERS	
Julie Messinger (Long Island University, USA)	Dissociation mediates associations between trauma and aggression
Amélie Petitclerc (University College Dublin/Université de Montreal, Canada)	Effects of institutional placement for young offenders: A propensity-score matching approach
Jared Schwartzer (Northeastern University, USA)	The anterior hypothalamic dopamine system modulates adolescent AAS-induced aggression through D2 but not D5 receptors
Edward Swing (Iowa State University, USA)	Attention problems and impulsiveness as mediators of media violence effects on aggression

QUO VADIS, ISRA?

A Reflection on Change and Adaptation in ISRA

By Menno Kruk

On the flight back to Amsterdam after our World Meeting in Storrs, and finally free from all official duties for ISRA, I found myself reflecting on the many changes our Society had undergone the last years. Old traditions such as the Life Fellows and Presentation Awards have been reinstated. The John Paul Scott-Award and address for a scholar with a life time accomplishment in aggression research has been given its proper, prominent place in our meetings and our Society.

With the initial help of the NSF a Young Investigator scheme was started, to attract “new blood”, and we found the courage to continue this successful but costly scheme supported by our own treasury. The bylaws and constitution were changed to allow new officers and councilors to take up their duties immediately after a World Meeting. Bulletin Editors and Webmaster are now “ex-officio” i.e. non-voting members of the council, which will facilitate their role as active interfaces between council and membership.

ISRA’s officers started a tradition of meeting with the organizers of the next World Meeting in the winter directly after the previous one, which greatly enhances planning, scientific balance and quality of our meetings. A new attractive website was produced and a new logo, a mission statement was created, and a (downloadable) distribution leaflet advertising our society as a forum for interdisciplinary exchange was made available.

ISRA started using its allotted free space in “Aggressive Behavior” again. We entered the age of electronic mail by distributing our nicely redesigned and upgraded bulletin by E-mail in color. There are plans to link up ISRA by internet with related societies. Approaching members and council by internet will greatly facilitate ISRA’s election and voting procedures. Such developments will certainly enhance ISRA’s visibility as a worthwhile interdisciplinary society.

There are still things to consider when it comes to our educational aims. ISRA has no tradition and mechanism in place to advertise its expertise to a more general public, especially when issues on aggression and aggression control arise. That is not an easy subject, since some feel that entering into the public domain, could endanger the scientific discussion in ISRA somehow. But there is clearly an apparent potential conflict between our scientific and educational ambitions.

I have no ready-made answers, but concerned members could start considering possible solutions, and prepare proposals on this issue. The right place to discuss and decide would be our next meeting in Luxembourg. I have the feeling that ISRA has a great potential to enhance its educational impact in society. In my view ISRA is in good shape, but the problem of aggression in the world has not abated in the 40 years of ISRA’s existence. However, as we are heading to the 20th World Meeting in 2012, we should take it as a measure of ISRA’s enhanced visibility and vitality that we had the luxury to chose between two excellent proposals for the 2012 World Meeting. Hope to see you there and then.

Books Recently Published by ISRA Members

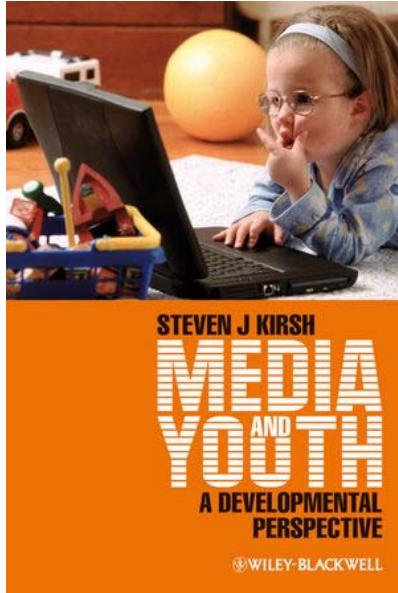


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- Ch. 12: Media Effects: Magnitude, Risk, and Media Literacy

Media & Youth: A Developmental Perspective

provides a comprehensive review and critique of the research and theoretical literature related to media effects on infants, children, and adolescents, with a unique emphasis on development.

Reviews

"Young people today are immersed in the media, like fish in water. Finally, here is a textbook that describes the impact of media immersion on how young people think, feel, and behave. Rather than relying on anecdotes or hunches, Professor Kirsh uses the findings from scientific studies. The book is a must read for anyone concerned about the impact of the media on youth."

Brad J. Bushman, University of Michigan and VU University Amsterdam

"An excellent and easily readable book, written in an engaging style and using perfectly suited anecdotal examples to introduce new subjects on a diversity of media experiences and effects on children and adolescents today. A perfect overview for all interested readers, especially parents, teachers, and practitioners."

Ingrid Möller, University of Potsdam

Discussions on Context, Causes and Consequences of Conflict.

A record of the of the 4C workshop at the Lorentz Center, Leiden University, The Netherlands, 31 August – 4 September, 2009. Published by the Lorentz Center (2010). Paperback 144 pgs. Eds. M.R. Kruk & M.Kruk-de Bruin, ISBN 978-90-6824-031-3. Copyright: M.R. Kruk.

Download as a free pdf from:

<http://www.lorentzcenter.nl/lc/web/2009/343/info.php3?wsid=343>,
and click [Discussions \(pdf of book\)](#).

This unusual book is a record of five days of open discussions between specialists from virtually all disciplines involved in the study of conflict at a workshop in Leiden. Experts' lectures inspired questions that challenged disciplinary boundaries. The lengthy, electronically recorded discussions were transcribed in Leiden, and corrected by the discussants later. Finally, relevant literature references were added.

The book is not intended as a rehearsal of published facts, though presentation content can be traced via abstracts and references. The aim is to show how an open confrontation of views, concepts and approaches exposes unexplored gaps in our knowledge and generates new questions. There are many places in this book where the discussants transgress the limits of their own expertise, and express their expectations and reservations on novel avenues to advance the field

Discussions as reported here often take place between a few individuals at the fringes of larger meetings. Hence they are lost on the general audience. Yet, the exchange of ideas, theories and results is crucial to advance the study of conflict. This small book shows that such interdisciplinary exchange in the study of conflict is possible, fruitful and even enjoyable.

Menno R. Kruk
Leiden University

The International Handbook of Anger

In March 2010, “The International Handbook of Anger” with 32 chapters from many major contributors, and edited by myself, Gerhard Stemmler and Charles Spielberger, was published by Springer. The introductory section, which notes historical, cross cultural & contemporary views of anger, is followed by 8 topic sections. Chapters in the “Biology” section cover anger genetics, brain mechanisms, neurochemistry/ psychopharmacology, and autonomic psychophysiology. “Expression and Experience of Anger” includes cross cultural, facial, vocal, and linguistic aspects. “Anger in Child Development” covers the appearance of anger in infancy, toddler tantrums, and in later childhood. Chapters in “Appraisal and Information Processing” review appraisal models & their critiques and the effects of anger on perception, judgment and action. “Lifespan and Gender Differences” includes sociology, sex differences and evolutionary psychology of anger. “Time Course of Anger” contains chapters on anger state and trait, escalation and resolution, rumination and revenge. The “Clinical Aspects” section covers cardiovascular health, pain, psycho-pathology, and treatment of anger. The last section, on “Family, Workplace and Community”, reviews the role of anger in parent-child and intimate partner relationships, business negotiation, and armed political conflict. I recommend this book.

Michael Potegal

- Work in Progress - *Aggression: An Integrated Biosocial Survey*

My plans for 2011 include a sabbatical at Netherlands Institute of Advanced Study to work on an advanced undergraduate/grad level text on aggression. It will be based on my: 1) previous direct experience in the behavioral neuroscience of aggression in other species, 2) current clinical neuropsychological practice, which involves kids who have problems with anger & aggression, with or without relevant clinical diagnoses of ODD, CD etc, & 3) having organized & taught a broad graduate level seminar on aggression in 2007 & 2009. Working title: Aggression: An integrated biosocial survey. The book’s chapters will cover current (& some past) questions and research in aggression ranging from ethological observations, game theory, and brain mechanisms through child development, personality and psychopathology to aspects of war and genocide and the hope for peace. Unifying themes will include ways in which proximal behavioral processes instantiate distal evolutionary demands and comparisons of human behaviors to that of other species within each area. I will be signing a publishing contract with Wiley-Blackwell for a publication date in 2012. Members of ISRA acted as reviewers for Wiley, and I will be calling on ISRA members to critique individual chapters as I write them. I am open to suggestions about topic coverage & narrative approach.

Michael Potegal

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THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON AGGRESSION

Founded in 1972

ISRA: an Interdisciplinary Society

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

The Social Burden of Violence

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

home page: www.israsociety.com

ISRA's Core Mission

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

Members, Meetings and Media

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

From Understanding to Solutions

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

Join ISRA & Turn page! ►

A Multidisciplinary Society

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

Awards

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

The ISRA Logo

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

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

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Membership

ISRA has four kinds of members:

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

Joining ISRA

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Dues including *Aggressive Behavior* subscription
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Updated Information see *ISRA home page*.

Official Journal: *Aggressive Behavior*
www.interscience.wiley.com