

ISRA

THE BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON AGGRESSION

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The European Editor produced this issue

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Editorial

Welcome to the December edition of the ISRA bulletin. This is a very large edition, due in part to the need to produce the membership list on a bi-annual basis to all members (which alone takes up just over 20 pages!). I also feel that the size of the current edition is a reflection of an active society. It is certainly a varied edition, comprising of a thought-provoking article by Menno Kruk, a brief review of the 2006 ISRA World Meeting as we look forward to the 2008 meeting in Budapest, a summary of the ISRA junior award winners, a series of conference announcements, notification of a new society being developed, a comprehensive report on our journal *Aggressive Behavior*, along with a series of other announcements and book reviews.

I must draw particular note to the junior award winners and highlight how positive it is for the ISRA society to recognise emerging talent. Such winners are undoubtedly the future face of our Society and so it is positive that it was possible to choose so many winners from the 2006 meeting. I also feel it is important to draw attention to the award recently bestowed upon Professor Rowell Huesmann [see 'News from members'] for two reasons; First since this an example of how ISRA members have made excellent and lasting contributions to the study of aggressive behavior; and secondly to highlight the importance of having a 'News from members' section to create more of an interested society feel to the achievements of our members.

As always, comments on the bulletin are most welcome, particularly those relating to how it can be developed in the future. Short articles, book reviews, conference reviews and accounts of ongoing research are warmly invited and can be sent to either myself or Eric Dubow, the North American Editor, who will be producing the next edition of the Bulletin.

Jane L. Ireland: European newsletter editor

Conflict and clothing, clashing cultures or camouflage?

Menno R. Kruk

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Currently in a number of Western countries legislation is being proposed prohibiting the wearing of head scarves, burkas and other figure, face or hair covering clothing as used by some Islamic residents and citizens in public. The motive given is that such garments would encourage extremism, or even terrorism. Rather more outlandish is the argument that such clothes would be a perfect way to camouflage weapons for terrorism. The latter seems a spurious argument to me. If I were a terrorist I would certainly choose a less conspicuous way to hide my intentions, such as a backpack, or a car.

One may wonder whether specific legislation for a minority of citizens would not rather encourage extremism, by interfering with deeply rooted cultural traditions and enhancing a process of self-inflicted ostracism. It is true that culture can be used to reduce the freedom of choice and development of individuals (see my review of Amartya Sen, elsewhere in this bulletin), but legislation against an expression of cultural or religious attachment is likely to backfire. Maybe our legislators should exercise a little more patience and try and apply a cultural and historical perspective on our own development. It would be unfortunate if xenophobia would rather be one of the underlying motives.

Everyone who has read Tracy Chevalier's, beautiful book "*The girl with the pearl earring*", or seen the movie, will recall that not showing your hair as a young woman, was still an issue in the painter Vermeer's age. Notably in Holland, a country that was by far the most tolerant society in the Western world in the early 17th century. Even the charming lace bonnet of the Dutch national dress originally was a way to cover a woman's hair. Nowadays, we do accept soutanes, cassocks, turbans, skull caps, necklaces with crosses, and kilts as expressions of cultural, regional, or religious attachment. Nuns from some convents and orders still wear monastic dresses which effectively camouflage face and figure.

Two incidents in my own life, one more than a half a century ago, and another recent, showed me that complying with local dress conventions can be actually camouflage, not of conservatism, terrorism or revolution, but rather of emancipation.

In the winter of 1949 I was still in kindergarten. I used to walk home for half an hour at noon and another half hour back, leaving barely time for a quick lunch. Taking the bus was too much of a luxury in those austere years after WW-II. However, that day, going home was out of the question for a four year old boy. Ten inches of fresh snow covered the sidewalks and an icy snowstorm had turned the roads into glacial mirrors. So I was sitting in a classroom of the primary school, the classroom of my mother. She was cheerfully clearing her class-room together with another teacher after a morning of

needlework and knitting with the girls, while the boys were practicing craftsmanship in another room.

It was extremely cold and both women wore a Guernsey and a pair of long trousers. Suddenly the other teacher noticed the school supervisor approaching across the schoolyard. Instantly their cheerfulness evaporated. Quickly, they hoisted their trouser legs up above their knees, and improvised a set of skirts by wrapping lengths of cloth around their waists. I still see my mother, standing at the entrance of her classroom, as the supervisor walked by in the hall and inquired as to the whereabouts of the headmaster. As the courtesy of the time required, women should have walked the supervisor to the headmaster's office, but that would have exposed their makeshift dresses. So they stayed put and simply pointed down the corridor in the correct direction. That last thing I remember was two women having a fit of giggles after the slightly puzzled supervisor left.

The meaning of the whole episode was only explained to me long afterwards. It was camouflage. No matter how bad the weather was, and how cold it was in the classroom, - fuel was still scarce - a female teacher had to wear skirts. And they were supposed to play a deferential role. In fact, my mother shouldn't have been there at all. Women were fired the day they were married. Have a career and become an old spinster, or stay home and care for husband and children. Those were the options. It was only the scarcity of teachers in the post war period that allowed her to teach, and to pursue a teaching career. So it wasn't just camouflage, it was covering a move towards emancipation, in a society still hostile to women in professional jobs. All that nonsense mostly went by the board in the following decades, but reminding our own development should inspire lenience, patience and the setting examples, rather than a call for legislation against specific groups.

The other episode was more recent and seemingly unrelated. I always enjoy watching my students as they show up in all sorts of casual or fashionable clothing in my classes: bell-bottom denim jeans, skirts, semi bare bellies, low or high necklines, even belt-lines so low as to reveal underwear. But there are also skull caps and head scarves. It helps me to see my students as individuals, as they all express the many dimensions of their personal identity in their clothing and behavior. They form a welcome contrast with my own fellow students 44 years ago at the University. We all came in dark suits, white shirts and neckties. The female students dressed in "Black Watch" or "Royal Stuart" tartan skirts and matching shirts, and they invariably wore (fake) pearl earrings and necklaces.

Currently hair-covering headscarves are on the rise. Despite all sorts of difficulties and objections from their own families, some Muslims women from some countries manage to obtain a higher education. Almost invariably I find that they do extremely well. Often they win prizes in presentation competitions at the medical faculty, though often their native tongue isn't Dutch, but Turkish, Tamazight (Berber), or Arab and their literature and textbooks are in English.

Recently I asked one of these girls directly why she worked so extremely hard. "Well", she said, "my best friend didn't do too well in school. Her father got her recently married to her cousin, an older shepherd directly from his herd. She's gone back to Morocco. I hope she will be happy". An indirect but perfectly clear answer. A medical

degree was her 'escape' route towards acceptance and adaptation to what she wanted to be her new homeland and future.

It became evident to me that her entering the university with a headscarf on could be seen as social signal with several meanings. Towards her fashionable fellow students it meant: "I am not here, like some of you are, to look for an affluent or an attractive partner", and "I want to be part of your culture, without relinquishing the core values of my own culture, accept me as I am" and to her background: "I am still an obedient, decent Muslim, though I am studying at a secular university". In short, again both a sort of camouflage, and a sign of emancipation, rather than a sign of rejection of the majority culture. Forbid these girls their head scarves and they will probably find far more obstacles on their route to become a fully respected member of both their communities and society.

Within the present conflicts around religious fanaticism, the head scarves and related dress conventions should be considered side-issues. Issues detracting attention from profound underlying problems, which are rather related to actual, or perceived social ostracism, and socio-economic disadvantages, even though these are sometimes self-imposed. Viewing traditional dress conventions as serious symptoms of an imagined "clash of civilizations" may become a self-fulfilling prophecy, and an invitation to a kind of social Huntington's disease. We could do, and should do, better than that.

ISRA Meeting 2006

A Tale of Two Twin Cities: Minneapolis and Budapest

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As I write this already four months has past since past since our last international meeting in Minneapolis. Still I retain memories of a beautiful and highly successful meeting in my beloved Minnesota. Michael Potegal our organizer and his wife Kelli Clement should be highly prized for organizing a meeting in the best of ISRA's tradition, providing us with a platform, or rather a Scientific Banquet of the interdisciplinary field of aggression research. In many instances we were witness of cutting edge research. And it was a pleasure to experience that conceptual barriers between the social and biological sciences – never very high in ISRA – are slowly disappearing entirely. I still vividly remember Michael coming almost dazzled out of the meeting rooms exclaiming "Menno, this is really astonishing: I have looked into the future". Subject was a paper combining thoroughly validated behavioral concepts with advanced brain imaging technology. Also, there were five papers by young scientists worthy of a presentation award, and five posters for worthy of a poster presentation award (outlined later in the bulletin).

While there have been reservations on previous meetings that biology seemed to be fading away slowly from ISRA's meetings (though nobodies fault), this conference Michael brought biology back in a most effective way for ISRA, by having plenary

meetings and symposia on Human Biology, a subject that should interest most of us. A strategy to keep in mind. Michael and Kellie: many, many thanks!

Of course everyone has his own favorites among the lectures. I have two favorites. One was the lecture by Fathali Moghaddam on terrorism. Fathali came as a last minute stand-in for another speaker who was ill, but he demonstrated clearly that terrorism lends itself to a scientific scrutiny by giving us a look in the development and the mind-set of terrorist groups. If you have missed that lecture, read his book (see the review, elsewhere in this bulletin). Another favorite of mine was the lecture given by Adrian Raine "Lombroso's Legacy". Raine's lucid story at the intersection of the social sciences, criminology and biology shows that such complex and sensitive issues can be subject of a lecture for a general public. The idea that ISRA meeting should leave a local scientific footprint by a public lecture is attractive. It may be a bit harder to accomplish when we meet in a non Anglo-Saxon country, but we should try.

Keeping one's head cool while organizing a scientific meeting is an accomplishment especially when keeping one's head cool in a real heat wave that reigned during our meeting. Only a few of us, being closer to the organizing business, will have noticed that despite the most careful preparation, a few things unexpectedly threatened to go astray, though nobodies fault. Brilliant improvisation by Michael and his ever vigilant and charming wife Kelli took care of it that most participants only noticed a smoothly running operation.

Already we are looking forward for the next meeting in 2008 in Budapest, another beautiful city that I know very well. And another twin city: Buda and Pest. Dr. József Haller from the Institute of Experimental Medicine has taken on the task to organize that meeting. Suggestions on the scientific programme are already welcome. The Budapest I know is a wonderful place. A place that managed to retain its middle European metropolis charm, while rapidly modernizing. It has a wonderful efficient and cheap public transport system, and I love to walk along the banks of the Danube, Donau or Dunna as it is called locally. A walk in the park in the Hills above Hotel Gellért is a pleasure in summertime. Don't miss a view from the hills near the parliament buildings over town, or a boat ride on the Danube. Hungarians are a proud and hardworking people with a love for advanced fundamental science, a tradition they kept alive in the years of communist dominance. They are also remarkable polite in an unobtrusive way. In the streets in old town along the Danube shopping is a pleasure, and there are plenty of restaurants providing excellent food for very reasonable prices. Shopping or just window shopping in the lively Market Hall is another attraction I never forgo when I am in Budapest. Of course the most attractive aspect of the Budapest meeting will be the opportunity to meet you there in the stimulating atmosphere of another ISRA meeting. I will count the days till then!

A few pictures to try and capture the essence of the conference, with thanks to Menno Kruk for providing these.



The conference venue with a picturesque view of the city



John Archer, the former ISRA president, receiving his Viking hat as an expression of thanks from the committee and in recognition of his British Heritage.



Mike Potegal receiving a formal thank-you, Hawaiian style, from ISRA president, Caroline Blanchard.



From left: Manuela Martinez, Rowell Huesmann, Menno Kruk and Lcyna Kirwil at the Conference banquet.

Minutes of the ISRA Business Meeting 27th July 2006, Minneapolis, MN

- Meeting was called to order by President Caroline Blanchard
- Michael Potegal reported on Conference attendance and activities
- Election results
 - President-Elect: Deborah South Richardson
 - Executive Secretary: John Knutson
 - Members of Council
 - Brad Bushman, USA
 - Marina Butovskaya, Russia
 - Eric Dubow, USA
 - Douglas Fry, Finland
 - Jane Louise Ireland, UK
 - Roger Johnson, USA
 - Simha Landau, Israel
 - Kenneth Leonard, USA
 - Stefano Parmigiani, Italy
 - Stephanie van Goozen, UK
- Jackie White made the Treasurer's report (see report elsewhere in *Bulletin*)
- Jane Ireland reported on *Bulletin* business
- Rowell Huesmann, editor of *Aggressive Behavior*, reviewed changes to the journal. There are now five Associate Editors to process manuscripts and a long list of consulting editors. (See additional information elsewhere in *Bulletin*)
- President-Elect, Menno Kruk reported that there would be five poster and five presentation awards to young investigators at this conference. These will be distributed among disciplines. Each winner will receive a check for \$100, a certificate, and a free one-year membership in the Society.
- President-Elect Kruk announced that Council has approved a proposal from Jozsef Haller to hold the 2008 World Meeting in Budapest.
- Steve Maxson presented a proposal to hold the 2010 meeting in Storrs, Connecticut, USA, with sponsorship by the University of Connecticut. Registration would be \$300; hotel rooms would range from \$80 per night.
- There was extensive discussion of a proposal for a dues increase/adjustment to meet expense of mailing *Aggressive Behavior* outside the United States. After a thorough

review of our financial situation, a formal proposal may be sent to the membership for approval.

- Proposed changes in Constitution that will be to put before membership
 - New officers and Council assume roles at end of Business Meeting at biennial conference
 - Webmaster, Bulletin Editors, Conference organizer, and Journal editor become ex officio members of Council

News

- Officers (past president, president, president-elect, executive secretary, and treasurer) and volunteer from Council will assist Treasurer as financial decision making committee
- President Carolina Blanchard appointed President-Elect Menno Kruk to head membership committee

Winners of the ISRA 2006 Awards

The ISRA are very happy to present here the junior award winners, both in relation to the paper presentations and the poster presentations. Junior researchers are considered vital members of our Society and we are very pleased to have been able to make so many awards at this year's World Meeting.

The selection jury for the presentation winners were Marina Butovskaya, Manuela Martinez, John Archer, Yvon Delville, Larry Owens, Martin Ramirez, Michael Potegal, Steve Maxson, Barbara Krahé, Martje Kruk and Menno Kruk; the jury for the poster presentations were John Archer, Yvon Delville, Licyna Kirwil, Steve Maxson and Marina Butovskaya. The ISRA are grateful to all members of the selection panels for assisting with this process. Contact details (and photographs if available) of the award winners are as follows:

Junior Award Winners (Presentation)



Naomi Eisenberger, Ph.D
Exploring the MAOA -Aggression link: Clues from the brain's response to social exclusion
neisenbe@ucla.edu
Postdoctoral Scholar, Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology, UCLA
UCLA Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology
300 Medical Plaza, Room 3156
Box 957076: Los Angeles, CA 90095-7076
USA



Tanya L. Blasbalg
Omega-3 fatty acid deficiencies in aggression and violence

blasbalgt@mail.nih.gov
National Institutes of Health
5625 Fishers Lane, Room 3N07:MSC 9410
Bethesda MD 20892-9410, USA



Sarah M. Coyne
“Mean, meaner meanest” Indirect, relational and social aggression in high school and on television.

smcoyne@uclan.ac.uk
Department of Psychology,
University of Central Lancashire,
Preston, PR1 2 HE
England (UK)

Aaron Sell

The function of anger expressions: What’s with all the yelling, and why does his face look like that?

sell@psych.ucsb.edu
Tel: 805-637-6720
Department of Psychology
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93117, USA

Graeme Fairchild

Affective modulation of startle reflex in teenagers with early- or adolescent onset conduct disorder and controls.

gff22@cam.ac.uk
University of Cambridge
Developmental Psychiatry
Douglas House
18b Trumpington road
Cambridge
CB2 2AH England (UK).

Junior Award Winners (Poster)



Joel C. Wommack
**The transitional effects of cortisol on the
pubertal development of agonistic behaviour**
wommack@psy.fsu.edu
209 Copeland St.
Psychology Department
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1270



Aanchal Sharma
**Is impulsivity a necessary condition for peer
rejection among physically and indirectly
aggressive preschoolers?**
sharma27@mcmaster.ca
Department of Psychology,
Neuroscience and Behaviour
Mc Master University
Psychology Building (PC), Room 102
1280 Main Street West
Hamilton Ontario L8S 4K1, Canada



Russ.E. Carpenter
**Aggression and anxiety modulated by CRF in
rainbow trout.**
recarpen@USD.edu
Department of Biology
University of South Dakota
Vermillion, SD 57069
University of South Dakota
USA

Russ is pictured here with his dog Gurkan!



Eric D. Wesselmann
Some like it hot: Does social rejection following a friendly interaction imply a broken sociometer?
edwesse@psyc.purdue.edu
Dept. of Psychological Sciences
Purdue University
West Lafayette
IN 47907- 2004, USA



Sarah M. Coyne
Indirect aggression in animated Disney films.
smcoyne@uclan.ac.uk
Department of Psychology,
University of Central Lancashire,
Preston, PR1 2 HE
England (UK)

Treasurers Report

submitted by Jacquelyn W.White

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: JULY 31, 2005 TO JULY 31, 2006

BALANCE ON JULY 31, 2005 \$91,241.49

INCOME:

Dues:	\$11,220.00
Interest	\$108.39
Wiley	\$38,873.10
Certificates of deposit	\$49,962.43
Transfer	\$6,000.00

EXPENDITURES:

Wiley	\$30,385.35
Bulletin, Meetings, Web, Treas.	
Off, Mailing, etc.	\$8,638.52
Bank charges	\$632.59
Transfer to BB&T	\$95,000.00

BALANCE ON JULY 31, 2006 \$62,748.95

Acknowledgement : ISRA is most grateful to Jane L Ireland for the generous contribution to ISRA of her royalties from her book *Bullying among Prisoners: Innovations in research and theory*. It can be ordered from <http://www.willanpublishing.co.uk> (ISBN-10: 1-843921-21-9; ISBN-13: 978-1-843921-21-9).

Report on Aggressive Behavior

The following represents a summary of the presentation given by Aggressive Behavior's Editor-in-Chief, Rowell Huesmann, at the recent ISRA World Meeting.

Details on Aggressive Behavior, including the more current 'Instructions For Authors' can be found via the Journal website:

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/jhome/32356>



Changes to Aggressive Behavior

- New Editorial Board Structure
 - I and 5 Associate Editors divide up the submissions and act as action editors
 - Expanded and revised set of consulting editors
- Manuscripts must now be submitted through web site on “Manuscript Central” system
- New size, cover, and expanded pages for journal (from 576 to 636 and from 4.5 x7 to 8.5x11).
- To increase pages available for research articles we dropped book reviews and abstracts of conference presentations
- Manuscripts now appear on the web as soon as they can be made ready and often months before paper publication (called “Early View”)

A Few Problems

- Some manuscripts submitted to the previous Editor-in-Chief were unfortunately mislaid in the transfer of editorships.
- “Manuscript Central” is difficult for editors to learn to use and not completely ‘user friendly.’ Authors seem to do OK though.
- “Manuscript Central” does not handle reviewing process until its next phase is implemented.
- Not getting enough biologically oriented manuscripts.
- Publication lag is only decreasing slowly because of large backlog of accepted manuscripts.

Current Editorial Board

Editor - in – Chief

L. Rowell Huesmann

University of Michigan, USA

Associate Editors

Paul Brain

University of Wales, Swansea, UK

Peter Giancola

University of Kentucky, USA

Barbara Krahe

University of Potsdam, Germany

Sergio Pellis

University of Lethbridge, Canada

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University of Central Lancashire, UK

Leonard Berkowitz

University of Wisconsin, USA

Paul Boxer

University of New Orleans, USA

Laurie Brotman

New York University, USA

Emil Coccaro

University of Chicago, USA

Kenneth Dodge

Duke University, USA

Eric Dubow

Bowling Green State University, USA

Douglas P. Fry

Abo Akademi, Vasa, Finland

Sandra Graham

University of California at Los Angeles, USA

Nancy Guerra

University of New Hampshire, USA

Jane Ireland

University of Central Lancashire, UK

John Knutson

University of Iowa, USA

Martin Lalumiere

University of Lethbridge, Canada

Simha Landau

Hebrew University, Israel

Neil Malamuth

University of California at Los Angeles, USA

Klaus Miczek

Medford, Massachusetts, USA

Sheryl Olson

University of Michigan, USA

Farzaneh Pahlavan

Université René Descartes, France

Debra Pepler

York University, Canada

Deborah Richardson

Augusta State University, USA

Christina Salmivalli

University of Turku, Finland

Angela Scarpa

Virginia Tech University, USA

Frank Vitaro

University of Montreal, Canada

Jacquelyn White

University of North Carolina Greensboro, USA

Some Statistics on the Reviewing Process

Manuscripts submitted in 2006 before July 1 = 77
Projected submissions for all 2006 = 154
Manuscripts submitted in 2005 = 135

'Final' Decision to date (24 Jul 06) on Ms received in 2005

Accepted	21%
Accepted subject to review	2%
Rejected	77% (15% without review)
No revision allowed	57%
Revision allowed	20%
Revision submitted	3%
No revision submitted	17%

Reviewing Time for Manuscripts submitted in 2005

Average time to first decision 89.1 days
(Min = 1 day; Max = 271 days)

Publication Lag

Average time from acceptance to "web publication" = 12 months
Average time from acceptance to "paper publication" = 14 months

Wiley Advertising Campaign

Subject Line: Reasons You Should Be Publishing in *Aggressive Behavior*

Aggressive Behavior Provides Authors a Unique Forum to—

- 1. Reach a Multidisciplinary Audience.** *Aggressive Behavior* is widely read by Anthropologists, Behavioral Scientists, Ethologists, Neuroendocrinologists, Psychiatrists, Psychobiologists, Psychologists, Sociologists, Zoologists, and all members of the *International Society for Research on Aggression*.
- 2. Secure Rapid Online Publication through *EarlyView*[®].** Your article will be posted online as soon as it is ready, before the release of the compiled print issue.
- 3. Access a State-of-the-Art Submission System.** *Aggressive Behavior* offers online manuscript submission and peer-review via *Manuscript Central*[™] (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ab>) (Link to tracking URL), a user-friendly system making manuscript submission and tracking quick, easy, and safe.
- 4. Attain High Visibility.** *Aggressive Behavior* is available online through *Wiley InterScience*[®], Wiley's Internet publishing platform (www.interscience.wiley.com). (Link to:). *Wiley InterScience*[®] has more than 29 million user sessions per year.
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Aggressive Behavior is a multidisciplinary journal with an editorial board drawn from a broad range of academic fields, including:

- Animal Behavior
- Anthropology
- Ethology
- Psychiatry
- Psychobiology
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Zoology

The Journal publishes original research concerning the underlying causes or consequences of aggressive, antisocial, and violent behavior. Both behavioral and neurophysiological studies concerning the underpinnings of human and animal aggression are considered, and articles that integrate the two approaches are particularly encouraged. The Journal focuses on empirical studies, but broad theoretical reviews are also encouraged.

Do you read *Aggressive Behavior*? Here are the articles your colleagues have most frequently downloaded from the journal in 2006:

- **The reactive-proactive aggression questionnaire: differential correlates of reactive and proactive aggression in adolescent boys.** Adrian Raine, Kenneth Dodge, Rolf Loeber, Lisa Gatzke-Kopp, Don Lynam, Chandra Reynolds, Magda Stouthamer-Loeber, Jianghong Liu, (Vol. 32/2)
- **Violent Computer Games and Their Effects on State Hostility and Physiological Arousal.** Patricia Arriaga, Francisco Esteves, Paula Carneiro, Maria Benedicta Monteiro, (Vol. 32/2)
- **Convergent, Discriminant, and Predictive Validity of Aggressive Driving Inventories: They Drive as They Live.** David L. Van Rooy, James Rotton, Tina M. Burns, (Vol. 32/2)
- **Genetic and environmental sources of continuity and change in teacher-rated aggression during early adolescence.** Elina Vierikko, Lea Pulkkinen, Jaakko Kaprio, Richard J. Rose, (Vol. 32/4)
- **Characterization of aggressive behavior and phenytoin response.** Rebecca J. Houston, Matthew S. Stanford, (Vol. 32/1)
- **An ethopharmacological assessment of agmatine's effects on agonistic encounters between male mice.** José Francisco Navarro, Gema Luna, (Vol. 31/4)
- **Friendship as a Moderator of the Relationship Between Social Skills Problems and Peer Victimization.** Claire L. Fox, Michael J. Boulton, (Vol. 32/2)

Does Your Library Subscribe? Go to the *Aggressive Behavior* homepage at www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/ab (Link to tracking URL) and click on “Recommend to Your Librarian” to access our convenient e-mail Library Recommendation Form.

Need a Personal Subscription? Membership in the *International Society for Research on Aggression* includes a subscription to **Aggressive Behavior**. Contact the society at: www.israsociety.org (Link to tracking URL)

Editorial Office Information

Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts online at:
<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ab>

If for any reason you are unable to do so, please contact the Editorial Office to discuss the possibility of alternate arrangements:

By E-mail: Aggressive.Behavior@umich.edu

By Phone: Prasanna Baragi, Editorial Assistant, *Aggressive Behavior* at 1-734-764-8385

By Mail: *Aggressive Behavior*, Research Center for Group Dynamics, ISR, The University of Michigan, 426 Thompson Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48106, USA.

Breaking Aggressive Behavior News

Editor-in-Chief, Rowell Huesmann has been pursuing ensuring that *Aggressive Behaviour* appears in Pub Med. On the 31.10.06, Rowell writes:

“Our application for abstracting in Pub Med has been submitted, and the National Library of Science has agreed to review our application and make a decision in January. The application required that we specify more formally in the author's instructions our requirements for ethical treatment of subjects and animals and revealing conflicts of interest. That has been done now. As you may know being abstracted in Pub Med is critical to get submissions from more biologically oriented researchers”.

Forthcoming conferences

Below are some details on forthcoming conferences that may be of interest to the ISRA membership. Both included coverage of material relevant to aggression researchers.

International Academy of Law and Mental Health [IALMH]: 30th International Congress June 2007, University of Padua, Italy.

Website: www.ialmh.org Email: admin@ialmh.org

This conference may prove of interest to ISRA members. There is good representation of areas directly or indirectly related to aggression. The IALMH is a very large conference with over 1350 papers being presented. Examples of papers submitted and accepted by the conference organizers include:

- Neurobiological and Neuropsychiatric Mechanisms in Aggression
- Stalking, Domestic and Relationship Violence
- Developments in Forensic Psychological Assessment and Understanding: Applications to Forensic Mental Health/Aggression
- Understanding and Managing Violence Among Forensic Populations
- Dangerous People with Severe Personality Disorders
- Issues In Dangerous and Severe Personality Disorder
- Domestic Violence and Mental Health
- Risk Assessment of Violent Offenders
- Domestic Violence
- Topics in Clinical Criminology
- Criminal Profiling

- Mental Health and terrorism
- Victims of Stalking
- Social, Cultural and Psychological Constructions of Stalking
- Stalking and its Association with Other Forms of Violence
- Gender-Based Violence
- Stalking: Threat Management by Joint Task Forces
- Using control behaviours to classify domestically violent relationships: A dyadic approach
- Cross-cultural differences in physical aggression between partners: A social role analysis
- Cyberstalking: stalking method or stalking type?
- Investigating Former-intimate stalking and its correlates in a prison sample
- The intergenerational continuity of family violence: Implications for assessment
- Hostage taking in secure services: Assessing and managing the role of mental illness and/or disorder
- Violent offender treatment programme: The differing needs within High Medium and Low security
- Bullying within prisons: Typologies and aggression frequency
- A typology of sexual murder: Implications for treatment

**International Family Violence & Child Victimization Research
Conference
FAMILY RESEARCH LABORATORY & CRIMES AGAINST
CHILDREN RESEARCH CENTER
Sheraton Harborside Hotel and Conference Center
Portsmouth, New Hampshire
July 8th - July 10th, 2007**

The Family Research Laboratory (FRL) & the Crimes Against Children Research Center (CCRC) are independent research units devoted to the study of family problems.

Dear Colleagues:

We are eagerly planning our 2007 conference and we would like to thank you for your interest in the Family Violence Research Conferences. These conferences are sponsored by the Family Research Laboratory and Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire. They are part of an ongoing series of conferences on all aspects of family violence and child victimization dating back to 1981. This year we have adopted a substantive theme on:

“Nurturing parenting & the prevention of child maltreatment and multigenerational family violence.”

How does this conference differ from other child abuse/family violence conferences?

Every year, many excellent conferences on child victimization and family violence take place around the country, and in several different regions of the world. Our conferences differ because of their research focus. Our conferences offer a unique opportunity for researchers and scientist/practitioners from a broad array of disciplines to come together for the purpose of sharing, integrating and critiquing accumulated knowledge on family violence.

Can people who are not researchers attend? Are students welcome?

Absolutely! At previous meetings, participants have included professionals and graduate students from psychology, sociology, psychiatry, social work, nursing, women's studies, law, criminology, criminal justice, anthropology, medicine, public health, and child development. While many sessions do focus on methodological issues (more of interest to researchers), there is also cutting-edge research on all aspects of family violence and victimization of children. We are especially interested in encouraging students to attend and present. The number of conference attendees is generally small enough to give students, and others, a chance to mingle and meet others with similar areas of interest. Many fruitful collaborations have arisen from our meetings.

What is the conference format? Each year, 300 to 400 researchers from around the world attend our conference. There are three types of presentations that take place at our conference. The first is our invited program, where outstanding researchers present their latest findings, or synthesize findings in the field. The second format is research paper presentations of approximately 20 minutes each. We will also accept proposals for panels or symposia comprised of 3 or 4 papers focused on one theme. Our final format is a poster format, and we have poster sessions running throughout the three-day conference.

When and where is the 2007 conference? The 2007 conference is July 8-10 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. This picturesque area is located an hour north of Boston, Massachusetts, and close to New Hampshire's White Mountains. Many excellent restaurants, quaint shops, and interesting historical landmarks are within easy walking distance. There's something for everyone in your family to enjoy. Plan to begin or end your summer vacation here in New England.

How do I submit a paper? The deadline for paper submissions will be posted in late November 2006. When you have a submission ready, you can submit it through this website: <http://www.unh.edu/fri/conferences/index.html> You will be notified in April 2007 of acceptance and which presentation category you were assigned.

Questions about the 2007 conference can be directed to conference staff at fri.conference@unh.edu.

Call for Abstracts

AIMS OF THE CONFERENCE

The Family Research Laboratory and the Crimes against Children Research Center are pleased to announce the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference. This conference is part of a two decade series of conferences on all aspects of family violence. Our conferences have historically been a unique opportunity for researchers and scientist/practitioners from a broad array of disciplines to come together for the purpose of sharing, integrating and critiquing accumulated knowledge on family violence. At previous meetings, participants have included professionals and graduate students from psychology, sociology, psychiatry, social work, nursing, women's studies, law, criminology, criminal justice, anthropology, medicine, public health, and child development.

PROGRAM TOPICS

We invite submission of abstracts on all aspects of family violence including abuse between married, cohabitating, and dating couples; elder abuse; all forms of child maltreatment including sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect; child witnessing domestic violence; peer and school violence; bullying; corporal punishment; and sexual harassment. This year we have adopted a substantive theme on:

“Nurturing parenting & the prevention of child maltreatment and multigenerational family violence”

We are also interested in research on methodological issues, and on special populations including people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, gays and lesbians, and populations outside of the U.S. In addition to research which supports the conference theme, papers on the following topics are encouraged:

- International perspectives
- Developmental and ecological approaches
- Program evaluation & Community participatory research
- Methodological issues
- Prevention research
- Emotional abuse
- Ethnic minority populations
- Consequences of family violence and child victimization
- Ethical issues
- Disabilities
- Re-victimization
- Historical changes or trends in reporting and incidence
- Military families
- Mandatory reporting and protection from harm

SESSION FORMAT

The conference format is almost entirely devoted to research paper presentations of approximately 20 minutes each. We will also accept proposals for panels or symposia comprised of 3 or 4 papers focused on one theme. Additionally, we will consider submissions to be presented in poster format. Papers can describe findings from empirical studies or reviews of the literature. Literature reviews should represent an advance for theory, methodology, practice, or policy.

In previous years, we have received more papers than we can accept. In order to give the widest number of people an opportunity to participate, we may limit each presenter to only one paper. If you make multiple submissions, please indicate which paper you would prefer to present in the event that we must limit presentations to only one per author. There are times when we may need to limit the number of pre-organized panels. However, we are increasing the number of poster sessions this year so that we can accommodate the greatest number of presenters possible.

CONFERENCE SETTING

The Sheraton Harborside is a full-service hotel in the heart of the historic seaside city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. This picturesque area is located an hour north of Boston, Massachusetts, and close to New Hampshire's White Mountains. Many excellent restaurants, quaint shops, and interesting historical landmarks are within easy walking distance. There's something for everyone in your family to enjoy. Plan to begin or end your summer vacation here in New England.

23rd CICA Symposium in Augusta (Georgia)

The 23rd CICA symposium on "Categories of Aggression will be held this coming January in the Augusta (Georgia), organized by our President Elect, Deborah S. Richardson, Georgina Hammock, and Martin Ramirez.

A small group of researchers from several countries that are doing interesting and innovative research in aggressive behavior will gather in Augusta State University, from 11 to 14 January 2007, to analyze the main trends in classifying aggression and their measurements.

J. Martin Ramirez, MD, PhD (temporary address) Research Fellow, International Security Program Kennedy School of Government Harvard University phone: 1 617 496 3916 e-mail address: <martin_ramirez@ksg.harvard.edu> (permanent address) Head, Aggression Research Group Department of Psychobiology & Institute for Biofunctional Studies Universidad Complutense Madrid e-mail address: <mramirez@med.ucm.es>

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT
2007 CICA/STR International Conference
Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression & Terrorism

Featuring: The 25th CICA Meeting & the 1st STR Conference

Co-sponsored by: CICA (International Colloquium on Conflict and Aggression); STR (Society for Terrorism Research)

Location: La Cristalera, University of Madrid's Conference Center, Miraflores de la Sierra, Spain (<http://www.lacristalera.com/>)

Dates: 28th - 30th September 2007

About the co-sponsoring organizations: Since 1983, CICA has promoted and supported a multidisciplinary understanding of conflict and aggression through international, residential colloquia on the relationship between the brain and the social context of aggression. STR was launched in mid-2006 as an international, multi-disciplinary organization of theoretical and empirical researchers in the behavioral sciences. STR's mission is to enhance knowledge and understanding of terrorism through the integration of findings from the fields of anthropology, biology, economics, political science, psychology, sociology, law and other behavioral sciences.

About the Conference: Both organizations hold that when research on aggression and terrorism is informed by the integration of theoretical frameworks and findings from multiple disciplines, more effective policies worldwide will emerge.

Join members of CICA and STR to learn, share, and influence.

- Learn – Researchers from around the world will present their findings and offer directions for future study.
- Share – Through structured discussion, play, and casual conversation, share your questions, answers, and ideas with colleagues.
- Influence – Your research will contribute to worldwide policy as each country grapples with managing their response to terrorism and other aggressions.

Open to all interested persons. Pre-Registration deadline: March 1, 2007

Since space is limited, admittance is on a first registered-first served basis. If you need to contact us for any reason, or would like to receive the next CICA/STR conference announcement, please send an email to both of the following addresses:

tkwstr@gmail.com
CICA@psi.ucn.es

For more conference information, call for papers, and registration details
<http://societyforterrorismresearch.org/CICA-STRconferenceSept2007.html>

Tali K. Walters, Ph.D.
STR Conference Planning Director

Martin Ramirez, MD, Ph.D.
Chairman, CICA

25th CICA and 1st STR 2007 Conference
On Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression & Terrorism
CALL FOR PAPERS

Submission Due Date – May 1, 2007

The conference is dedicated to the international, interdisciplinary understanding of aggression and terrorism through theoretical and empirical research from all the behavioral sciences.

We invite submission on all topics related to the brain, aggression, and terrorism.

The following are only suggested categories for presentations.

- Defining the terms of conflicts
- Societal and personal reactions to terrorism
- Psychological characteristics of the terrorists
- The role of “hearts and minds” in policy making
- Global context of terrorism and aggression
- Biology and evolution of aggression
- Torture
- Systemic approaches to aggression and terrorism
- Vicious cycles of war and conflict
- Suicide and homicide attacks as vehicles for terrorism
- The effect of dialogue on terrorists
- Providing platforms to terrorists to get their message out peacefully
- Complex causation of terrorism and aggression

Challenges to conventional wisdom are especially welcome.

Format of Presentations:

Symposia

We welcome topic suggestions for symposia with recommended panelists. The symposium presenters will offer the attendees an opportunity to hear a discussion of a particular topic from several different lenses (i.e., one topic from the perspective of different disciplines). Please e-mail your ideas to us at the addresses below.

Papers

These seminars will present research findings and be in lecture format, followed by plenty of time for questions and answers.

Poster Presentations

The emphasis will be on visual presentations accompanied by dialogues with small groups of people. Most people informally interact with presenters in this venue around the posters. A brief presentation to the group at large will precede the poster period. Full papers or short summaries should be made available.

Presenters must register for the conference. Conference registration details and more information:

<http://societyforterrorismresearch.org/CICA-STRcallforpapersSept2007.html>

Pre Registration deadline for conference: 1 March, 2007

Publication: A selection of conference papers will tentatively be published in STR's new *Journal of Terrorism Research*.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS :

E-mail the following information for all presenters and co-presenters:

Name:
Address:
Email address:
Telephone number:

Affiliation:
Title:

Where did you hear about this announcement?

Type of presentation format: Paper Poster Symposium

150 word abstract in English:

Submissions:

- Send proposals via e-mail to both of the following addresses:
tkwstr@gmail.com
CICA@psi.ucn.es
- Put “CICA/STR Proposal Submission” in the subject line.

Submission Due Date – May 1, 2007

Tali K. Walters, Ph.D.
STR Conference Planning Director

Martin Ramirez, MD, Ph.D.
Chairman, CICA

XXV C.I.C.A.
International Colloquium on the Brain and Aggression
20 years after the Seville Statement on Violence:
A bioethic dimension
Querétaro, México
6-8 September, 2007

The International Colloquia on The Brain and Aggression (CICA) have been characterized by a continuing interdisciplinary discussions regarding current factors that affect violent and aggressive behavior. One of the main contributions of CICA is the Seville Statement on Violence, signed by 15 international scientists in 1986 and adopted by the UNESCO in 1989. This document proposed that is scientifically incorrect consider violence and war as biological human feature.

It is my pleasure, together with the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, to invite you to participate in the upcoming CICA, to be held in the City of Querétaro, Mexico. The meeting will be held from September 6 to 8th, 2007, marking the 25th anniversary of the first meeting of the CICA, originally held in Mexico City in 1982. In consideration to the actual international situations on violence, the central topic to be discussed refers to the bioethic approach involved in the Seville Statement on Violence.

Colloquium Venue: Well known world wide as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Querétaro, has traditionally been a crossroads and meeting place during important events in Mexico's history. Charming cobblestone streets attest to its long history, just as its important academic institutions direct its focus towards the future. Here you will be welcomed by typical huapango music, famous Mexican cuisine, exquisite colonial architecture and friendly people; everything to make you feel comfortable and welcome: from vibrant night life, captivating museums and cultural activities, to romantic streets perfect for placid strolls.

Academic events will be conducted in the Academic and Cultural Center of the Neurobiological Institute, UNAM, Campus Juriquilla; which derives from the Mexican School of Investigation on Integrative Neurobiology, dating back to 1940. The oldest University in Mexico, UNAM's tradition of academic excellence was established more than 450 years ago in 1551, and continues today as it commits to the study of the structure and function of the brain.

Activities: The three-day Colloquium will feature six round table discussions in total. Important topics relating to the contribution of the sciences towards the resolution of social violence will be deliberated. Two round table discussions per day are scheduled.

Theme: The central theme of the Colloquium is the alternatives available towards the resolution of violent and aggressive behavior, related ethical discussions, and the application of human rights concerned to the Seville Statement on Violence.

Round Table Discussions: These issues will be deliberated in six round table discussions, according to the following subthemes:

1. *Biological bases of aggression:* Presentation of current scientific evidence regarding the evolutionary, physiological and neuronal mechanisms that regulate aggressive behavior.
2. *Difference between aggression and violence.* Discussions regarding the concepts, behavioral manifestations, cognitive processes and methodologies that distinguish between aggression and violent behavior.
3. *Antisocial and prosocial behavior.* Presentation of evidence regarding the biological and social causes of antisocial, normal and pathological behavior, as well as behaviors and systems that facilitate social cohesion.
4. *Social violence.* Presentation and discussion regarding the dynamic social factors that favor and evidence violent behavior.
5. *Human rights.* Presentation of topics regarding the inclusion of human rights in the study of aggression and violence.
6. *Alternatives to violence.* Integrative proposals for the formation of mechanisms and systems that favor a nonviolent interaction in human societies.

Participation in the XXV CICA Colloquium

Proposals for participation in any of the six aforementioned discussions are welcomed, as well as for the presentation of posters.

Round Table discussions: Using the submission and registration form, proposals and an abstract should be sent via Email to rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com as an attachment, in .doc format, using Times New Roman, Font size 12. Please include the title of the paper, complete name of the author(s), the affiliated institution, telephone and fax numbers, and Email address. The deadline for reception of proposals is **March 15, 2007**.

Proposals will be evaluated by a scientific committee, and acceptance to participate in the Colloquium will be notified via e-mail. Authors whose proposals are accepted will be exempted from registration fees, hotel accommodations, meals and transport between México City and Querétaro.

Authors shall prepare a written version of their participation, which will be published in the Memoirs of the XXV CICA. This document shall not exceed 25 pages, and should state the central problem of the specified theme, current status, evidence that supports the proposal and an explanation of the same and a brief summary regarding the implications that the proposal will have on the propositions of the Seville Statement on Violence, signed in 1986 during the IV CICA and adopted by the UNESCO in 1989. The final

version of the completed paper shall be formatted in Times New Roman, font size 12, and sent by email as an attachment to rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com no later than June 15, 2006.

Posters: Using the submission and registration form (below), all abstracts should be sent via email to rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com. The abstract shall be sent as an attachment, in .doc format, in Times New Roman, font size 12, no later than March 15, 2006. Accepted posters shall be printed in a 90 x 120 cms. format. Abstracts shall be published in the Memoirs of the XXV CICA.

Registration

Fees: Before April 30, 2007 registration fee for the event will be 120 US Dollars, which includes attendance to all academic sessions, certificate of attendance and participation and copies of the printed memoirs. Registrations after this date will cost 170 US Dollars.

Deposit: For specific information regarding the bank data, please contact rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com.

Grants: Grants for the amount of the registration fee for students who wish to apply for economic assistance to attend or participate in the event, are available. Please contact rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com.

Travel

Hotel Accommodation: The Hotel Misión Juriquilla, whose architecture captures the essence of Mexican haciendas characteristic of the 19th Century, has been designated as the official hotel for the CICA guests. Information about costs can be requested from Roberto Mercadillo at rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com

International Flights: Officially named Santiago de Querétaro, the capital of the [State of Querétaro](#), is located 220 km to the north of [Mexico City](#) by the federal highway 57D. Many major cities have flights to the Mexico City International airport (Aeropuerto Internacional Benito Juárez de la Ciudad de México). From there, a comfortable bus leaves every hour for Querétaro. The bus costs approximately 18 US Dollars and arrives in about 2 hours. If you are arriving from the US, direct flights to the Querétaro (City) International Airport are available.

Transportation within the City of Querétaro: For transportation to the hotel, tickets for safe, reliable, taxis can be purchased at the local airport and the bus station in special booths for about 10 US Dollars. Special transport from the local bus station (Terminal de Autobuses de Querétaro) to the hotel will be available as well. Specific information can be obtained by request, once arrival times have been confirmed.

Visas: Information will be made available upon request, please contact rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com.

Deadlines

March 15, 2007 Proposals for participation in Round Table Discussions and Posters should be received no later than this date.

April 30, 2007 Pre-Registration: 120 US Dollars. Registration after this date will cost 170 USD.

June 15, 2007 Written versions of participations in round table discussions and/or posters should be received no later than this date.

Enquiries

Please contact Roberto Mercadillo regarding any doubts or questions regarding the organization and participation in the Colloquium:

Roberto Emmanuel Mercadillo Caballero
Instituto de Neurobiología
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Tel. (52 55) 5623 4053
Fax. (52 55) 5623 4017
rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com

XXV CICA - Querétaro, México
6-8 September 2007
Submissions & Registration form:
please send to:
rmercadillo_cica@hotmail.com

Name

(including my first name as I want it to appear on my name tag)

Affiliation (if applicable)

E-mail address

Please carefully verify your email address.

I would like to participate in:

- Round Table Discussion.

Theme: _____

Topic of my participation: _____

- Poster Presentation.

- Title:

The usual slide and overhead projectors will be available. However please indicate if you will require special audio-visual equipment (e.g., video or computer presentation). Be specific about your needs.

- I will attend, but I will not present any paper

If you need any financial help, please state your necessities:

Proposed Societies

International Family Violence Society: Call for Expressions of Interest

An International Family Aggression Society (IFAS) is being formed. IFAS will be dedicated to understanding the causes and consequences of family aggression, with the aim of promoting and facilitating cutting edge research, evidence based practice, and effective governmental responses.

Aims of IFAS

- To be a multidisciplinary society open to all who work (either paid or on a voluntary basis) in any area of family violence.
- To be international
- To facilitate knowledge transfer within the family violence fields, both within and between disciplines
- To act as a clearing house for information on family violence for governments and the media
- To facilitate inter and intra disciplinary collaboration in order to enhance family violence research and practice

A meeting to discuss the formation of this society is being arranged (hopefully at the forthcoming 2007 International Family Violence Conference in New Hampshire <http://www.unh.edu/frl/conferences/index.html>). All those interested in joining or being kept informed on the progress of this society are requested to complete the form below and return it via email (preferred option) to Dr Nicola Graham-Kevan:

Ngraham-kevan@uclan.ac.uk

Or by mail to:

Dr Niki Graham-Kevan
Department of Psychology
Darwin Building
University of Central Lancashire
Preston, Lancashire, PR1 2HE: UK

Please note: Returning this form does not place you under any obligation to join IFAS. It is only to enable us to keep you informed of the progress of IFAS.

IFAS Information form

Name	
Country of Residence	
Institution	
Job Title	
Email address	
Confirm email	

Family Violence Area of Expertise/Interest

Please tick as many as applicable

Aggression between Spouses (Married, dating, ex-partners)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aggression towards Children by Adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sibling Aggression	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aggression Towards Older People (Elder Abuse)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aggression Towards Companion Animals	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Aggression (Adult Victims)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Aggression (Child Victims)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Aggression & Mental Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Aggression and Offending Behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Aggression and Substance Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treatment of Violent Behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>
Victims	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perpetrators	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discipline

Please tick as many as applicable

Anthropology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criminology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forensic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Law	<input type="checkbox"/>
Psychiatry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Psychology (research)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Psychology (clinician)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sociology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Victimology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treatment of Violent Behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>
Victims	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perpetrators	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Post of interest

Faculty of Science

Reader/Professor in Psychology

University of Central Lancashire, Preston, UK

[salary: currently for Professor £51,000+ (under review)]

As part of the University's commitment to enhancing the existing research reputation of the Department of Psychology, we are seeking to appoint a Professor or Reader. The successful candidate will join a progressive Department, with a strong cohort of staff who are in the early stages of their research careers, and will be expected to play an important role in contributing to the future direction and development of research in the Department.

The Department's existing research strengths are in the following: aggression; health psychology; cognitive psychology; social cognition and evolutionary psychology. Candidates whose research lies in one of these existing areas, or will help the development of Neuroscience research, or will contribute to the further development of Forensic psychology, are particularly encouraged to apply, as are candidates whose research integrates existing research strengths.

The successful candidate will have an established research reputation based on publication in international journals, together with a record of obtaining external funding for research. Experience of successful supervision of research students, and of research administration, are also important. The appointee will continue to provide high-quality research outputs, obtain research grant income, contribute to research administration, and provide specialist advanced-level teaching and research project supervision.

Potential applicants are invited to contact or phone John Archer for informal enquiries:

e-mail: JArcher@uclan.ac.uk

phone: (+44) (0)1722 893430

Staff research website:

<http://www.uclan.ac.uk/facs/science/psychol/research/research.htm>

News from members

L. Rowell Huesmann was named the **Amos N. Tversky Collegiate Professor of Communication Studies and Psychology**, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan, effective Sept. 1, 2005. In recognition of having received this collegiate professorship, on November 15, 2005, Rowell presented a public lecture at the University of Michigan entitled, "Why Those Who Observe Violence Behave More Violently." In addition, effective September 1, 2006, Rowell assumed the directorship of the Research Center for Group Dynamics at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research.

Reviewers still needed for PsycCRITIQUES

Dr. Danny Wedding has asked ISRA members to sign up as reviewers for the journal *PsycCRITIQUES: Contemporary Psychology—APA Review of Books*. This online journal replaces the former paper journal, *Contemporary Psychology*, which published about 300 reviews each year. The new electronic format permits APA to publish almost 1,000 reviews each year with hyperlinks from the review's references to full text articles and web sites.

Many of the books reviewed in the journal deal with aggression, violence and trauma, and Dr. Wedding, the journal editor, is eager to have our members reviewing books in these areas.

Anyone willing to serve as an occasional reviewer should sign up at www.jbo.com/cpreview/. You can list your areas of interest and expertise at this site, and the PsycCRITIQUES staff will work hard to match your interests with incoming books. If you are too busy to review when a request is made, simply decline the opportunity.

More information about the journal is available at <http://www.apa.org/psycritiques/> and <http://www.apa.org/monitor/jan04/wedding.html>.

ISRA Website

Roger Johnson will soon be retiring as webmaster for ISRA. Invitations are open for anyone who wishes to become webmaster (or who can recommend someone). The society is also looking for a new web designer. Perhaps someone could fulfil both positions or recommend a web designer? Please reply to the executive secretary with copies to rjohnson@ramapo.edu.

Book reviews

Menno R. Kruk
Leiden,
The Netherlands.
m.kruk@lacdr.leidenuniv.nl

Two important books dealing with the problem of political violence recently appeared, written for specialist and lay person. **“From the terrorist point of view: what they experienced and why they come to destroy”** is by Fathali M. Moghaddam, professor of psychology at Georgetown University. Professor Moghaddam was plenary speaker on our recent meeting in Minneapolis, where I bought the book. The other book *“Identity and violence: the illusion of destiny”*, is written by Amartya Sen, professor at Harvard University, and Nobel Prize winner in Economics. Both are both wonderful and clear books each high-lighting terrorism from a different angle, yet wonderfully complementary. In the end they come to similar, not entirely pessimistic messages.

Importantly, both authors were born outside the so-called “Western World” to use that somewhat inexact term, and both are now respected scholars and scientists in major centers of the academic world in the United States. Moreover, both bring their direct personal experience with political violence in their countries of origin into their discourse, Professor Moghaddam in Iran, Professor Sen in Bangladesh.

Amartya Sen develops the thesis that a destiny derived from one single “identity” particularly a religious “identity” is a dangerous illusion. Professor Sen argues that reducing the multiple “identities” of individuals to one single religious, or ideological “identity”, is in the interest of the powers that profit from, or hope to gain from terrorism.

Fathali Moghaddam shows us how that reduction to a “one dimensional person” with only one option, is achieved. The author makes compellingly clear how, in search of a constructive identity, people under certain social conditions can get caught in a system that develops them almost “naturally” into terrorists.

“From the terrorist point of view”, demonstrates the steps that ultimately lead to terrorism. Professor Moghaddam uses the metaphor of a staircase with five rungs, each leading to more confined room with fewer behavioral and social options. The author is not sympathetic to terrorism. He rejects the idea that “one person’s terrorist is another person’s freedom-fighter” and advocates a “common sense approach”. He paraphrases: “if it walks like a terrorist, shoots like a terrorist, and explodes bombs like a terrorist, then it is a terrorist”. Professor Moghaddam defines terrorism as “politically motivated violence, perpetrated by individuals, groups, or state-sponsored agents, intended to bring about feelings of terror and helplessness in a population in order to influence decision-making and to change behavior”. The author clarifies why simplistic explanations of terrorism, such as “psychopathology”, “low education”, “economic deprivation” and “immorality” do not explain terrorism at all.

According to the author a “pervasive crisis of identity” across Islamic societies around the world, is the underlying cause. In his view there are two extreme examples confronting an Islamic world that is trying to face the challenges of the modern world. Trying to imitate the West with its amazingly advanced technology and its widely

advertised alluring freedom, opportunities and individualism, or they can turn back to a largely imaginary collective “pure Islam” from the past. This presents a “good copy problem”, since none of these examples are rooted in the problems of present or recent past of those societies, and they do not provide readily available solutions.

This diabolic dialectic is reinforced by the oppression of public debate, press, and organization of political and social alternatives, often by governments that are backed by the West. When the possibility to get heard and to get involved in matters of public interest is blocked, the only place left to discuss the problems of society often is the Mosque, an institution that arguably most governments are reluctant to touch. Not surprisingly most of the invective and some of the violence of terrorism is directed towards the West and shrouded in religious terms. But the main stated aim of many terrorist groups is to reform the society in which they live. And most of their violence is local.

According to Professor Moghaddam, the problem of terrorism is reinforced by the different perspectives of different societies on their own history. In his view the history of nations like the US is “dead history”. That is, these nations are forward looking and history is something rather left to museums and memorials. The individual is supposedly in command of their own destiny, their history doesn’t matter so much, but their future potential does. In other nations the past is a living part of the present and past grievances, and perceptions of a more glorious past are an integral part of the identity and social agenda. Moreover, the individual is determined by that collective identity, which can be a recipe for social immobility.

In five most interesting chapters Professor Moghaddam takes us up the rungs of a narrowing and oppressive staircase to terrorism. Starting from the ground floor “*Dissatisfaction among the multitudes*” to the first floor “*How do we fight this unfair system?*” to the second floor: “*Those Americans are to blame!*” Then on to the third and fourth floor: “*The ends justify the means*” and “*It is us against them*”. And we end up with only a few, but dangerously committed individuals on the fifth floor: “*This ‘heroic’ act will improve the world*”.

In other chapters Professor Moghaddam explains why terrorism seems a rational strategy from the perspective of its leaders. There is an interesting view on the structure, personalities and roles in terrorist groups. There is an explanation why large oil revenues seem to hamper, rather than help democracy, civil cooperation and participation in government. That is, governments in such countries do not need the taxes and therefore the cooperation of the citizens in order to function.

Finally the notion is presented that democracy is more than just a procedure with ballots, votes and a parliament. Elementary forms of civil participation in government, discussion of public interests, and a more or less independent juridical system are often already present, even in countries without a Western style parliamentary democracy. In Professor Moghaddam’s vision, such local institutions should be the starting points in efforts to enhance civil participation and democracy in such countries.

In conclusion, this book is essential reading for every scientist and politician worried by the impact of terrorism. The book is well researched, well written with extensive recourse to relevant theories from different fields. There is an extensive list of references. Yet it stays close to the real world of terrorism. In the end, it offers a long

term vision and a practical approach on the serious challenge of terrorism. I read it once, I read it twice, and I will probably read it again a couple of times.

Identity and violence: the illusion of destiny, by Amartya Sen highlights the causes of political violence and terrorism by taking a critical look at the concepts of identity of culture, identity and the idea of a destiny determined by culture and identity. This is not a critical account of the loose way the concept of culture is often used in academia, such as Adam Kuper's critic in "*Culture the anthropologist's account*". It rather is a critic of the concept of cultures as rigid immutable structures such as it is often used to keep people locked in place and prevent the development of individuals and society.

Professor Sen forcefully argues that culture and identity should and can be a personal choice. He argues that every individual has many identities at the same time, or, phrased differently, that the identity of an individual has many interlocking dimensions. In a beautiful long phrase on himself Professor Sen makes clear what he means with the many identities or affiliations a person can have: "*I can be, at the same time, an Asian, an Indian citizen, a Bengali with Bangladeshi ancestry, an American or British resident, an economist, a dabbler in philosophy, an author, a Sanskritist, a strong believer in secularism and democracy, a man, a feminist, a heterosexual, a defender of gay and lesbian rights, with a nonreligious lifestyle, from a Hindu background, a non-Brahmin, and a nonbeliever in afterlife ...*". He argues that everyone has such multiple identities.

Religious identity is genuine, in Professor Sen's view, but "*what is done to turn that sense of self-understanding into a murderous instrument is (1) to ignore the relevance of all other affiliations and associations, and (2) to redefine the demands of the 'sole' identity in a particularly belligerent form. This is where the nastiness as well as 'the conceptual confusions are made to creep in*". "*Hating people is not easy*" Professor Sen says, as he cites a line from a Ogden Nash's poem "*a plea for less malice towards none*"; "*Any kiddie in school can love like a fool, but hating my boy, is an art*" and he goes on with a key phrase "*If we nevertheless see a great deal of hatred and violent conflict between different groups of people, the question that immediately arises is 'How does this art work?'*". *The illusion of a singular identity, which serves the violent purpose of those orchestrating such confrontations, is skillfully cultivated and fomented by the commanders of persecution and carnage*".

In his discussion of culture Professor Sen argues forcefully that what one considers as single homogenous cultures e.g. the "Islamic world" or the "Hindu world" are not single entities, but rather groups of quite different cultures with different pasts and different social structures in which religion is often not the most defining characteristic. There are a bewildering number of religious directions and factions in Islam. India, often depicted as a "Hindu civilization", has 145 million Muslim citizens, a Muslim president, a Sikh prime minister and a Christian president of the ruling party.

Taking a long term view on culture, Professor Sen depicts culture as a process of adaptation to local conditions. According to this view so it is evident that culture cannot be static or it will become stagnant since conditions change. Professor Sen uses history to show that cultures influence and enhance each other by exchange of values, concepts

and technology. He reminds us that many of the accomplishments of antiquity have reached the Western world via the religious tolerant, open and scientifically advanced Islamic world of the past. Rather than seeing culture as something that must be conserved and used to provide people with a fixed identity, culture can also be worked as a mechanism of exchange, to promote individual choice and development.

When Professor Sen discusses how certain social conditions give rise to political violence and terrorism, he points to similar factors as Professor Moghaddam does: It is not poverty per se that does create terrorism, but rather the inequality in opportunities to share and advance. Global of information technology makes such inequalities more visible than ever before. Feeling excluded, and the absence of mechanisms to produce change, then may lead to militarization according to a singular cultural identity in individuals aware of such inequalities.

Professor Sen argues that how we define our identity, and what aspects of culture one wants to adopt into our identity should be a personal choice. Impeding public debate on culture and personal identity will lock individuals and society in place. Like Professor Moghaddam, Professor Sen warns that seeing democracy mainly as a formal procedure with ballots, rather than the outcome of an open public debate, will delay the development of culturally open democratic from local roots. The book ends with a moving recollection of an eleven year old Amartya Sen, sitting in his father garden with the head of a bleeding, Muslim victim of religious violence, in his lap. He recalls that he could not do much for this dying man, “*But*” Professor Sen says “*I can imagine another universe, not beyond our reach, in which he and I can jointly affirm our many common identities*”.

In summary, this is a short, clear, and well written and well researched book. Its important view on the sources of political, religious violence and terrorism is well illustrated with both personal and historical examples. Debunking generally accepted notions in the public domain, often little more than “bar-room stories” is one of the important functions of science. Amartya Sen accomplishes that job admirably in this book. It is important that this voice of a Noble Prize winner in economy, and expert in development, be heard by academics, politicians and the general public.

- 1 *From the terrorists’ point of view: what they experience and why they come to destroy.* Fathali M. Moghaddam (2006) Praeger Security International, Westport, Connecticut / London ISBN 0-275-98825-2.
- 2 *Identity and violence: the illusion of destiny.* Amartya Sen (2006) WW Northon & company, NewYork/London ISBN -13:978-0-393-06007-2.
- 3 *Culture the anthropologists’ account.* Adam Kuper (1999) Harvard University Press, Cambridge Massachussetts. ISBN 0-674-17957-9