

## COLLOQUIA 2010 - University of Groningen, Department of Sociology

Friday December 17, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room M.0074):

### **Maarten van Zalk (Örebro University, Sweden): Offline and Online Peer Networks and Adolescent Emotional Adjustment**

Although news about what youths do online and what consequences this may have for them appears frequently in media all across the world, empirical research on this topic is relatively limited. A major problem in empirical research on the role of adolescents' online peers for emotional adjustment is that these online peers have not been included themselves. Thus, nearly all prior research is based on adolescents' perceptions of their online peers, which leads to biased estimates of their role in adolescents' emotional adjustment. Additionally, most research has ignored overlap between offline and online friendships. Moreover, prior empirical work on this topic has been exclusively limited to adolescents and their one single friend offline or online, thereby ignoring adolescents' multiple peer relationships offline and online. I will present recent findings from a longitudinal project in which adolescents, their offline peer networks, and their conjoint peers (i.e., peers found both offline and online). Furthermore, I will discuss adopting a social network approach to simultaneously study offline and online peer networks.

**Maarten van Zalk** (previously Selfhout) received his PhD (cum laude) from the Utrecht University in 2009, and received three international prizes for his PhD thesis on the development of friendships and peer networks in adolescence. He has published in many journals in psychology, such as *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Journal of Personality*, *Developmental Psychology*, and *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*. In 2009 he received a NWO RUBICON grant to be able to work at the Center for Developmental Research, Örebro University, Sweden.

November, 18, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room B128):

### **Don Weenink (Wageningen University): Juvenile Street Violence as Shame Ritual**

Several authors have argued that violence is related to feelings of shame. Shame is here understood as a fear of the loss of the social bond. For example, feelings of humiliation, inferiority, being ridiculed or abandoned are all shame related. Scheff and Retzinger have shown how shame that emerges from disturbed intimate relationships may turn into rage. Such 'righteous' one-to-one violence is then directed to the one who is causing feelings of shame. The aim of this paper is to extend the conceptual work of Scheff and Retzinger to collective street violence by juveniles. Based on analyses of judicial reports containing detailed descriptions of violent interactions among Dutch juveniles, the paper argues that feelings of shame can be contagious, that 'righteous' collective rage can be directed to complete strangers, that all forms of group violence have ritual ingredients in common and that street violence shares characteristics with Durkheimian solidarity rituals.

**Don Weenink** is a member of the Rural Sociology Group at Wageningen University. His current sociological interests are social cohesion and violence in rural and urban areas. He regards these social phenomena essentially as situations, consisting of emotionally charged interactions. From this perspective, he tries to see how far he can get using Goffman's motto 'not men (women) and their situations, but situations and their men (women)'. The research on violence in rural and urban areas is funded by the Dutch Scientific Organization (Veni grant). The research on social cohesion is funded by the Science Shop of Wageningen University.

November 17, 2010, 14:00-15:00 (Room M0055):

### **Nicola Barban (Bocconi University, Milan, Italy): Family Trajectories and Health: A Life Course Perspective**

I investigate the role of family trajectory, i.e. the whole sequence of family events, during the life course of early adults in shaping their health outcomes. I jointly consider union formation and childbearing, since the two life domains are highly connected and their intersections may have an effect on health outcomes. Data come from Wave I and Wave IV of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health). The paper is divided in two parts. First, I focus on transitions and investigate if changes in timing (when events happen), quantum (what and how many transitions) and sequencing (in what order), have an effect on the health of young women. In the second part, I classify life course trajectories into six groups representing different ideal-types of family trajectories and I explore the association of these trajectories with health outcomes. Results suggest that family trajectories play an important role on different health outcomes. Controlling for selection and background characteristics, precocious and "non-normative" transitions are associated with lower self-reported health and higher propensity of smoking and drinking.

**Nicola Barban**, PhD, is a research fellow at the Dondena Centre for Research on Social Dynamics, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy. He published in *Housing Studies*.

October 21, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room B128):

### **Marcel Lubbers (Utrecht University): A Longitudinal Study of Euro-scepticism**

In 2008 we re-approached respondents who cooperated in a national survey in 1990. With this unique longitudinal dataset, we compare euro-sceptic attitudes on the eve of the signing of the Treaty of Maastricht to the attitudes after the Dutch no in the referendum on the European constitution. We find a strong increase in euro-scepticism among the respondents. This change did not develop evenly among the educational strata in society. The lower the education, the stronger the change in the direction towards more euro-scepticism. We propose to explain this pattern by the utilitarian, political and identity approach.

**Marcel Lubbers** is an associate professor of sociology at Utrecht University, affiliated to the European Research Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations (ERCOMER) and the ICS. He earned his M.A.'s in Sociology and Science of Communication at the Radboud University Nijmegen. Marcel received his PhD in 2001, and was awarded a VENI grant

in 2003 for his project on euro-scepticism. In 2008 the VIDI grant was awarded for his project on national cultural consumption. His current research projects are on (1) radical right voting behaviour; (2) opposition towards European integration; (3) national cultural consumption. He published in the *European Journal of Political Research*, *European Union Politics* and the *European Sociological Review*.

*Wednesday October 6, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room B128):*

**Dianna Murray-Close (University of Vermont): Psychophysiological Correlates of Relational Aggression**

Developmental psychologists have recently begun to question the assumption that girls are made of "sugar and spice and everything nice." Findings from a growing body of research suggest that females do engage in negative behaviors such as aggression. However, females tend to exhibit relational forms of aggression (e.g., gossip, social exclusion) rather than the physical forms that have captured the majority of empirical attention. In addition, evidence suggests that both males and females engage in relationally aggressive behaviors and that such conduct is associated with indices of maladjustment. Murray-Close's presentation will focus on potential psychophysiological risk factors for involvement in relational aggression, including autonomic arousal at rest and in response to stress. It will also highlight recent work from the University of Vermont Social Development Lab demonstrating how contextual risk and physiological processes may jointly predict involvement in relational aggression.

**Dianna "Annie" Murray-Close** is an assistant professor at the University of Vermont. She received her Ph.D. at the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota in 2006. Her research interests focus on the development of physical and relational aggression in children, adolescents, and adults. Her recent work examines how resting arousal and reactivity to stress may serve as risk factors for the development of aggressive conduct. Murray-Close is currently the Co-PI on a National Science Foundation grant to examine physiological correlates of physical and relational aggression in a sample of 4th and 5th graders. She is also conducting a number of additional research studies exploring how relational aggression relates to factors such as academic achievement and social status during childhood and adolescence. She has recently published in peer-reviewed journals such as *Child Development*, *Developmental Psychology*, and *Development and Psychopathology*.

*September, 16, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room B128):*

**Geertjan Overbeek (Utrecht University): Parent-Child Interactions and Individuals' Social-Emotional Development: Birth-to-Maturity Prospective Analyses**

One of the primary challenges of present-day developmental psychopathology research is to establish under which conditions harmful parent-child interactions lead to social-emotional maladjustment in adulthood. In doing so, it is absolutely essential that we take a prospective, birth-to-maturity approach. In this presentation, I thus first present an empirically based critique of retrospective measures based on individuals' recollections of parent-child bonds. Analyses from the Swedish birth-to-maturity Solna study ( $n = 212$ ) show that recollections of parenting at age 25 are hardly associated with actual parenting received in childhood, before the age of 12. Using data from this same study, I then examine a "cumulative effects" hypothesis, which holds that the effect of negative parent-child interactions will depend on the presence of subsequent or ongoing detrimental experiences with parents in adolescence. Finally (again using Solna data) I present our recent analyses on the "spillover" of negative affect in the marital dyad to the parent-child bond in childhood, which predicts high levels of parent-child conflict in adolescence and lower satisfaction with romantic relationships in adulthood.

**Geertjan Overbeek** is Associate Professor of Developmental Psychopathology at Utrecht University. His research focuses on parent-child interactions and individuals' social-emotional development in adolescence and young adulthood. He received his PhD in 2003 (Utrecht), and was awarded a VENI grant in 2005 for conducting birth-to-maturity analyses on the consequence of early detrimental parent-child interactions for the development of (young) adult partner relationship quality and emotional maladjustment.

*Tuesday June, 15, 2010, 14:00-15:00 (Room B128):*

**Yuval Kalish (Tel Aviv University): Brain, Brawn, and Time: The Structure and Antecedents of Emergent Military Leadership**

In two studies, we examine the structure and antecedents of emergent military leadership. In study 1, naïve recruits were asked to identify the characteristics of emergent leaders prior to entering a selection process to an elite, all-male unit. In Study 2, 170 recruits (12 teams) were measured on the attributes found in Study 1 at two timepoints during a selection process to the same unit, and were asked to nominate emergent leaders. Results indicate that as time progressed, the structure of emergent leadership got accentuated - a clear, three-tier structure emerged. Further, the attributes associated with being selected as a leader changed across time. Initially, emergent leaders were those with physical ability. Later, they were replaced by those with general intelligence and military-related knowledge. The results integrate the inconsistent findings relating to the structure of emergent leaders and to antecedents to emergent leadership, and provide a theoretical and statistical framework for the study of leadership emergence as a process. The results further show the necessity of modeling within an ERG model framework while accounting for new specifications for directed networks (Robins et al., 2009).

**Yuval Kalish** is assistant professor at the Leon Recanati Graduate School of Business in Tel Aviv University. He received his PhD in 2007 from the University of Melbourne, working with Prof. Philippa Pattison and Prof. Garry Robins. His work has been published in *Social Networks*, *Asian Journal of Psychology* and *Journal of Applied Psychology*. He was invited to write chapters in the *Advances in Social Sciences* and for *New Frontiers in Industrial and Organizational Psychology*. His current research focuses on the interplay between individual attributes, network

structure and context as it applies to leadership, organizational learning, turnover, diversity and stress.

*Tuesday June, 15, 2010, 12:45-13:45 (Room B128):*

**Bernard Nijstad (University of Groningen): Standing out and Fitting in: Differentiation, Cooperation, and Creativity in Teams**

Recent work in organizational behavior and psychology suggests that team creativity and innovation benefit from the willingness of individuals within the team to take a divergent perspective (i.e., differentiation) rather than conform to the team. One reason to stand out is within-team competition, and some people have consequently argued that competition is good for team creativity. However, this is at odds with the general finding that teams often perform better when cooperation rather than competition is emphasized. I argue that differentiating oneself from the team will only be beneficial for team creativity and innovation under cooperative circumstances. This hypothesis is tested in laboratory studies conducted both in The Netherlands and Korea, and in a field study among top management teams. **Bernard Nijstad** is professor of Decision Making and Organizational Behavior at the Department of Economics and Business of the University of Groningen. He received his PhD in 2000 from Utrecht University (as member of the ICS research school), and was previously affiliated with the department of psychology at the University of Amsterdam. His main research interests are behavioral decision making and creativity and innovation, and he studies both topics at both the individual and group level. He has received an NWO VIDI grant in 2004 on the topic of individual and group decision. He has published two books (*Group Creativity*, Oxford University Press, 2003, with P. B. Paulus and *Group Performance*, Psychology Press, 2009) and research articles in major scientific journals such as *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, *Psychological Bulletin*, *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, and *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*.

*Thursday May, 20, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room B128):*

**Nico W. Van Yperen (University of Groningen): The goal to win, or not to lose, at any cost: The impact of achievement goals on cheating**

The numerous ethical scandals concerning high-profile firms and business executives, but also outcomes of scientific research have raised many concerns about the emergence of unethical and irresponsible behavior in organizations. Also at college, almost three quarters of students engage in some form of cheating, like paraphrasing without acknowledgement, inventing data, or allowing coursework to be copied by another student. Similarly, despite the Olympic oath in which respect for the rules, sportsmanship, and refraining from doping and drug use are emphasized, dishonesty and rule-breaking behaviors seem to be quite common in elite sports, as indicated by the great number of doping scandals in sports each year. Because of the high and stable prevalence across achievement settings and the serious consequences of cheating, it is important to understand why people engage in unethical behaviors. In this talk, I will argue and demonstrate that cheating can be theoretically explained and predicted by the achievement goal approach to achievement motivation, which has emerged as a highly influential framework for understanding how people define, experience, and respond to competence-relevant situations, including the workplace, the classroom, and the ball field.

**Nico W. Van Yperen** studied psychology in Groningen, did his PhD in Nijmegen, and worked as an assistant professor at the University of Nijmegen at the Department of Work & Organizational Psychology. In 1994, he returned to the University of Groningen, Department of Social and Organizational Psychology for a position as an associate professor. Today he is a full professor of psychology at the University of Groningen, chair of the I/O Psychology group and the program in Work, Organizational, and Personnel Psychology (AOP), and director of the Graduate School for Behavioral and Social Sciences, including the Research Master's program in Behavioral and Social Sciences. His research interests include achievement, stress, and motivation. He has published in many peer reviewed journals, including *Academy of Management Journal*, *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology*, *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, and *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*.

*April, 15, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room B128):*

**Jeroen Smits (Radboud University Nijmegen): Database Developing World: Unprecedented Opportunities for Comparative Multilevel Research on Developing Countries**

In the last decades, many large-scale representative household surveys have been conducted in developing countries. In these surveys, for millions of individuals, demographic, socio-economic, health and other information has been gathered. At this moment, the datasets from these surveys cover over 100 countries in all regions of the developing world. In the [Database Developing World](#) (DDW) these datasets are brought together, harmonized for a basic set of variables, and enriched with contextual data at the sub-national and national level. In this way, a unique window to the developing world is created that makes it possible to study important processes taking place there on a scale and with a degree of detail that has never been possible before. The DDW is currently used for comparative research on reproductive health, child mortality, education, child labor, women's employment and economic development in developing countries. In all this research the role of the context is central. With context factors available for over 100 countries and over 1000 sub-national regions within these countries, the DDW offers exciting new possibilities for studying how the behavior of individuals and households in the developing world is shaped by the context in which they live. In my presentation I will discuss the content of the database, the way it is structured, the research opportunities offered by it and I will demonstrate its possibilities by presenting findings of recent work on child mortality and school dropout.

**Jeroen Smits** studied sociology and psychology at Radboud University Nijmegen and is currently working as associate professor at Nijmegen Center for Economics (NiCE). His major research interests are (all forms of) inequality, intermarriage, databasebuilding and the role of the context in social processes. He has published on a broad range of topics in the fields of health, education and the labor market. In recent years he managed a VIDI project on educational participation in developing countries. As part of this project he has build the Database Developing World, a multilevel data infrastructure containing demographic, socio-economic, health and other data for over 10 million persons in 100 developing countries. See also [his website](#).

*Thursday March, 4, 2010, 12:30-13:45 (Room B128):*

**Marcel A.G. van Aken (Utrecht University): Personality in Adolescence: Stability, Change, Consequences, and Development in Interaction with the Environment**

This presentation focuses on personality, defined as individual differences between humans in their thoughts, feelings, and actions. It is discussed that personality is clearly visible from early childhood on (often labelled as temperament), and shows moderate stability across adolescence into adulthood. Various forms of stability and change in personality are presented, and the mechanisms by which personality develops are illustrated. It is also shown how personality, in a transactional relation with environmental factors, influences adolescents' functioning. To conclude, the implications of our current knowledge of personality development for pre- and interventions in case of inadequate functioning or psychopathology are discussed.

**Marcel A.G. van Aken** is professor in Developmental Psychology and director of the Linschoten Institute for Research in Psychology of Utrecht University. He received his PhD at the University of Nijmegen, on a longitudinal study on the development of competence, and held positions at the Max-Planck-Institute for psychological research in Munich (Germany), and at the University of Nijmegen. His current research focuses on the way that transactional relations between personality characteristics of children and elements of their social relationships with parents and peers may result in (mal)adaptation.

*Wednesday March, 3, 2010, 15:30-16:45 (Room B128):*

**Brett Laursen (Florida Atlantic University): The Origins of Peer Homophily: A New Look at an Old Problem**

Adolescents are remarkably similar to their friends and romantic partners. What are the origins of this homophily? Much of it arises from a preference for the company of similar others, but conformity also contributes to shared resemblances. Agreement about this broad outline obscures the considerable difficulties confronting scholars who wish to partition homophily into its constituent components. In this talk, Professor Laursen will present results from several longitudinal studies that specify the degree to which participants in friendships and participants in romantic relationships are similar to one another at different stages of their relationships. New analytic procedures will be described that clarify patterns of influence that drive similarity, identifying characteristics that distinguish more influential partners from less influential partners, specifying the relative influence of each, during the establishment of the relationship and afterward.

**Brett Laursen** is Professor of Psychology at Florida Atlantic University. He received his Ph.D. in Child Psychology from the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota. Prof. Laursen has served as a Visiting Research Professor in the Department of Psychology and as a Research Scientist in the Center of Excellence for Human Development and Its Risk Factors, at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, where he holds the position of Docent Professor of Social Developmental Psychology. He is a recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from Örebro University, Sweden. He is currently Methods and Measures Editor for the International Journal of Behavioral Development. His research concerns adolescent relationships with parents, friends, and romantic partners, and the influence of these relationships on individual social and academic adjustment. His work has been supported by grants from the US National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the Jacobs Foundation, and most recently, the US National Institute of Mental Health. Prof. Laursen has co-edited several books, the latest (with Kenneth H. Rubin and William M. Bukowski) entitled, [Handbook of Peer Interactions, Relationships, and Groups](#).

*February, 18, 2010, 13:00-14:15 (Room B128):*

**Martijn van Zomeren (University of Groningen): A Dynamic Dual Pathway Model of Coping with Collective Disadvantage**

I introduce a dynamic dual pathway model of coping with collective disadvantage that integrates many of the most common explanations of collective action against collective disadvantage (i.e., group identity, injustice, anger, support, and efficacy). The model conceptualizes collective action as a form of approach coping with collective disadvantage that can be explained by two distinct pathways: Emotion-focused and problem-focused coping. Emotion-focused coping with collective disadvantage proceeds from an appraisal of external blame for injustice through group-based anger. Problem-focused coping proceeds from an appraisal of group-based coping potential through group efficacy beliefs. I review the empirical support for the model and extend it by identifying possible feedback loops in the coping process, thereby making the model dynamic rather than static. I discuss the theoretical and practical implications of a dynamic dual pathway model of coping with collective disadvantage for theory and research on collective action.

**Martijn van Zomeren** received his PhD (cum laude) from the University of Amsterdam in 2006, and received two international prizes for his PhD thesis on different psychological pathways to protest (i.e., collective action). Two years after joining the Department of Social Psychology at the VU University Amsterdam, he joined the Department of Social Psychology at the University of Groningen. In 2009 he edited a volume of the *Journal of Social Issues* on collective action and received a NWO VENI grant.