

MARISSA TRAVERSA

1808-430 WESTVIEW ST., COQUITLAM, BC, V3K 0G2
416-524-5898 MARISSA_TRAVERSA@SFU.CA

EDUCATION AND AWARDS

Doctor of Philosophy, Social Psychology In progress

Intergroup Relations and Social Justice Lab
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

Master of Arts, Social Psychology 2022

Intergroup Relations and Social Justice Lab
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

Key Project

Master's Thesis (Dr. Stephen Wright)

Is cancel culture validating? How collective validation mediates the relationship between cancel culture and collective action

Bachelor of Arts, Honours (BA, Hons.), Psychology Major 2016

Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies Minor

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON

Key Projects

Honours Psychology Thesis (Dr. Richard Eibach)

Romantic rejection and masculinity threat: Understanding the connection between rejection and masculine overcompensation

Directed Studies Research Project (Dr. BJ Rye)

Sex differences in family planning aspirations, contraceptive behavior, and abortion decision making

Awards, Grants, & Fellowships

SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship 2024-2028

SPSSI Diversity Graduate Conference Travel Award June 2024

PhD President's Research Scholarship 2023-2024

Graduate Fellowship 2023-2024

Graduate Student Society Professional Development Grant 2023-2024

SPSSI Grant-in-Aid 2023-2024

Graduate Fellowship 2022-2023

CPA Certificate of Academic Excellence for MA Thesis June 2023

SPSSI Clara Mayo 2021-2022

Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Master's Scholarship 2021-2022

BC Graduate Scholarship (BCGS) 2020-2021

Dean's Graduate Fellowship 2020-2021

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS, & CONFERENCES

Refereed Publications

Traversa, M., Tian, Y., & Wright, S. C. (2023). Cancel culture can be collectively validating for groups experiencing harm. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14, 1181872. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1181872.

Rye, BJ & **Traversa, M.** (2019). A psychometric report on Yost's Attitudes toward Sadoomasochism Scale. *Indian Journal of Health, Sexuality, and Culture*, 5(1), 54-76.

Rye, BJ & **Traversa, M.** (2020). Comfort with Sexual Matters for Young Adolescents scale. In R.R. Milhausen, J.K. Sakaluk, T.D. Fisher, C.M. Davis, & W.L. Yarber (Eds.) *Handbook of Sexuality Related Measures* (4th ed.), pp. 573-574. New York: Routledge.

Rye, BJ, **Traversa, M.**, Serafini, T., & Bramberger, T. (2020). Sexual Liberalism scale. In R.R. Milhausen, J.K. Sakaluk, T.D. Fisher, C.M. Davis, & W.L. Yarber (Eds.) *Handbook of Sexuality Related Measures* (4th ed.), pp. 573-574. New York: Routledge.

Conference Presentations

Traversa, M., Lutz, A.E., Schmitt, M.T., Wright, S.C., GhulamYahya, Z. (2024, June). Impacts of exclusive gender questions on agender/gender queer participants. Presentation for *Frontiers of Justice: Using Psychological Science to Reinvigorate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, SPSSI 2024 Conference*, Philadelphia, PA.

Traversa, M. (2023, June). Is cancel culture validating? Presented at *Transforming Our World: Using Research and Action to Address (In)Visible Wounds, SPSSI 2023 Conference*, Denver, CO.

Traversa, M. (2015, April). The relationship between aspirations for parenthood and contraceptive choices. Presentation at the *Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies Research Symposium*, Waterloo, ON.

Dupuis, H. E., **Traversa, M.**, & Girmé, Y. U. (2024, July). Romantic Rejection and Masculine Aggression. [Presentation]. Singlehood Studies Conference, Boston, MA, USA.

Lutz, A.E., **Traversa, M.**, Schmitt, M.T., & Wright, S.C. (2023, June). Activist Stories: What life experiences lead people to environmental activism? *European Association of Social Psychology*, small group meeting, Leipzig, Germany.

Conference Posters

Traversa, M. & Tian, Y. (2023, February). Is cancel culture validating and can it lead to more collective action? Poster Session presented at the *SPSP Annual Convention*, Atlanta, GA.

Traversa, M. & Lee, N. (2022, February). Virtual vs. in-person data collection in an intervention study. Poster session presented at the *SPSP Annual Convention*, San Francisco, CA.

Lutz, A.E., **Traversa, M.**, Schmitt, M.T., Wright, S.C. (2022, Feb. 19). Activist Stories: What Meaningful Experiences Define People's Engagement in Activism? Poster presented at the *SPSP Annual Convention*, San Francisco, CA.

Rye, BJ, **Traversa, M.**, Serafini, T., Bramberger, T., & Maslen, C. (2017, June). Assessment of attitudes toward BDSM. Poster session presented at the meeting of the *Canadian Psychological Association*, Toronto, ON.

Rye, BJ, **Traversa, M.**, Serafini, T., Bramberger, T., Maslen, C. (2017, June). Attitudes toward BDSM. Poster session presented at *SEXposium, Royal Ontario Museum*, Toronto, ON.

Conference Round Table Discussions

Traversa, M. (2024, February). What is empowerment and how do we measure it? Discussion at *SPSP Annual Convention*, San Diego, CA.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CERTIFICATIONS

Workshops and Courses

- *PROCESS vs. Structural Equation Modelling: The Analysis of the Mechanisms and Contingencies of Effects* (2024)
 - *Statistical Horizons*
 - *Speaker: Dr. Andrew Hayes*
- *Writing Assignments that Work for Multilingual Student Success* (2024)
 - SFU Centre for Educational Excellence
- *Giving Feedback to Multilingual Learners* (2024)
 - SFU Centre for Educational Excellence
- *Indigenous Reconciliation Committee Workshop with Dr. Karlee Fellner* (2024)
 - Indigenous clinical psychology tools and approaches

- *TCPS CORE Certificate* (2012, 2021, 2022)
- *Decolonization workshop on colonial history and anti-colonial activism* (2022)
 - Speaker: Harjap Grewal
- *San'ya's anti-racism Indigenous Cultural Safety Training Program* (2021)
- *Decolonizing Practices Workshop* (2021)
 - Facilitator: Ta7taliya Michelle Nahanee, Squamish Nation
- *Introduction to NVivo for Windows* (2021)
 - Hosted by SFU Library
- *Inclusive Language Workshop* (2021)
 - Speakers: Tiara Cash & Chantelle Spicer
- *More Feet on the Ground Certificate* (2017)
 - Mental health awareness and support for students
 - Hosted by University of Waterloo
- *Making Spaces: LGBTQ+* (2017)
 - Queer inclusivity and support
 - Hosted by University of Waterloo

Guest Lectures

- *An introduction to stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination* (2024)
 - Course: PSYC 260 Introduction to Social Psychology (SFU)
 - Instructor: Jason Proulx
- *Sexism and Patriarchy* (2023)
 - Course: PSYC 363 Intergroup Relations Psychology (SFU)
 - Instructor: Maitland Waddell
- *How to write an argumentative essay* (2018)
 - Course: PSYCH 318 Psychosexual Organisation (UWaterloo)
 - Instructor: Dr. BJ Rye

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher and Project Coordinator - PRISM Project 2021-2022

Engendering Success in STEM Consortium, Simon Fraser University - Burnaby, BC

The PRISM project studies an intervention approach with young adolescents to shift girls' perceived fit in STEM fields and shift boys' beliefs about girls in STEM fields.

- Organize and facilitate remote data collection with young adolescents in science and engineering camps in Waterloo, Ontario and Vancouver, British Columbia
- Data analysis and poster presentation at SPSP Annual Convention 2022
- Hiring, training, and supervising four research assistants who were responsible for collecting data
- Organizing and facilitating regular team meetings, as well as regular check-in meetings with research assistants and lab managers
- Supervising and managing data collection processes in Qualtrics
- Drafting ethics applications and materials for remote iteration of the study for multiple data collection sites

Research Assistant 2016-2020

Psychology Department, University of Waterloo/St. Jerome's University – Waterloo, ON

- Assisted Dr. BJ Rye with research regarding sexual practices, sexual identity development, and family planning and reproductive choices
- Managed data collection and entry, and provided statistical analysis for research projects related to transgender identity, transphobia measures, BDSM and BDSM attitude measures, etc.

- Drafted applications and modifications for ethical review boards and journal publications
- Reviewed grant applications for current and upcoming research projects conducted by Dr. Rye
- Maintained participant confidentiality
- Provided support to participants' questions while also directing them to appropriate resources
- Assisted with the development and preparation of study materials

Graduate Peer Reviewer

2020-2022

Undergraduate Journal of Psychology (SFU)

- Reviewed four articles written by undergraduate researchers on topics related to social identity theory, prosocial behaviour, and technological impacts on student wellbeing.
- Provided meaningful feedback, review, and suggestions for improvements for undergraduate authors.
- Made publication decisions for the journal in a timely manner

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Psychology Department

2016-present

University of Waterloo/ St. Jerome's University – Waterloo, ON

Simon Fraser University – Burnaby, BC

- Assist Dr. BJ Rye (Psychosexual Organisation), Dr. Steve Wright (Intergroup Relations), and Dr. Lara Aknin (The Science of Happiness) with grading assignments and tests
- Plan and facilitate themed group discussions with students
- Oversaw student research projects, grading, and hosting review sessions
- Aid students with course-related questions or concerns and direct them to appropriate resources
- Assist in the development of course materials (assignments, syllabus, and a writing guide lecture)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Administrative Assistant

2016-2018

Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies Department, St. Jerome's University – Waterloo, ON

- Assisted the department Chair with administrative and operational tasks including: recruitment of teaching assistants and proctors, scheduling, liaison with other departments, tracking program and course changes, departmental meeting minutes, and ordering supplies
- Aided in the decision-making of program and course changes/offerings and prepared documents for Senate review
- Organized departmental events and coordinated appropriate event staffing schedules
- Acted as lead Symposium Project Manager
 - Coordinated an annual research conference to showcase student, faculty, and community research in the areas of sexuality and gender, relationships, and families
 - Created and distributed event advertisements
 - Sourced and handled planning logistics regarding speakers and volunteers

REFERENCES

Dr. Stephen C. Wright

Professor
Department of Psychology
Room 8308
Robert C Brown Hall
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, BC
Tel: 778-554-5897
Email: scwright@sfu.ca

Dr. Michael T. Schmitt

Professor
Department of Psychology
Room 6325
Robert C Brown Hall
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, BC
Tel: 778-782-6861
Email: mschmitt@sfu.ca