

Samantha E. Lawrence

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS) Anticipated 2022

University of Connecticut (UConn)
Specializations: Child and Adolescent Development; Diversity and Culture; Health, Wellbeing, and Prevention
Advisor: [Rebecca Puhl](#)
Committee Members: [Ryan J. Watson](#), [Marlene Schwartz](#)

M.A. HDFS 2019

UConn
Specializations: Child and Adolescent Development; Diversity and Culture; Health, Wellbeing, and Prevention
Thesis: *Comparing the effectiveness and durability of contact- and skills-based approaches to prejudice reduction* (Advisor: [Alaina Brenick](#))

B.A. Psychological Sciences, HDFS 2017

UConn
GPA: 3.97 (psychological sciences major), 4.0 (HDFS major)
Departmental honors
Honors thesis: *You can't sit with us: The role of ethnicity in responding to situations of exclusion bullying* (Advisor: Alaina Brenick)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Experiences of, reasoning about, and responses to group/identity-based discrimination and victimization (e.g., discrimination and victimization based on ethnicity, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, mental health, body weight)

Understanding and preventing mental, physical, and social consequences of group/identity-based victimization, particularly for ethnic/racial, gender, and sexual minority youth, as well as individuals with overweight

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Publications

Brenick, A., Lawrence, S. E., Carvalho, D., & Berger, R. (2019). Teaching tolerance or acting tolerant? Evaluating the effectiveness of skills- and contact-based prejudice

reduction interventions among Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Jewish youth. *Journal of School Psychology*.

Berger, R., Brenick, A., **Lawrence, S. E.**, Lila Coco, & Abu-Raiya, H. (2018). The effectiveness and durability of contact- and skills-based approaches to prejudice reduction. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 59, 46-53. doi:10.1016/j.appdev.2018.04.002 (Impact factor: 2.146).

Manuscripts in Preparation

Lawrence, S. E., Walters, T., Farina, R., & Lefkowitz, E. S. (2020). *Sexual motives and experiences as they relate to alcohol-specific protective behavioral strategies*. University of Connecticut.

Lawrence, S. E., Brenick, A., & Margie, N. G. (2020). *You can't sit with us: The role of ethnicity in adolescents' evaluations of and responses to intra- and intergroup exclusion bullying*. University of Connecticut.

HONORS & AWARDS

2020	University Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
2019	Outstanding Instructor in Human Development and Family Sciences Award
2019	Provost's Acknowledgment for Teaching Excellence
2019	Mattoon-Kline Endowed Scholarship Fund
2019	Human Development and Family Sciences Departmental Award
2018	L. Eugene Thomas Human Development and Family Studies Award
2017	Outstanding Senior Women Academic Achievement Award
2017	Phi Beta Kappa Academic Honor Society
2016	Edward Victor Gant Scholarship Finalist, UConn
2016	Dr. Arnold T. Orza Scholarship, UConn
2016-2017	Raymond and Jeanne Bartman Scholarship in Family Studies, UConn
2016-2017	Frederich C. Teich Award, UConn
2016	Psi Chi Psychology National Honor Society
2015-2016	Babbidge Scholar Award, UConn
2015	Golden Key National Honor Society
2013-2016	University Dean's List, UConn

RESEARCH SUPPORT, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020	Graduate Research Award, UConn Human Rights Institute, \$1,469
2019	Predocutorial Graduate School Fellowship Award in support of summer research efforts in the doctoral program, UConn Graduate School, \$800
2018	<i>Evaluations of school-based rights violations of transgender and gender non-conforming youth: A social ecological perspective</i>

- Wood/Raith Living Trust Summer Fellowship, UConn, \$4,000
- 2018 Summer Fellowship for Advanced Graduate Students in support of summer research efforts, UConn Graduate School, \$600
- 2017 Dr. Michael Ego's Travel Fund to present at the Society for Research on Adolescence in Minneapolis, Minnesota, UConn, \$500
- 2017 UConn Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Award to present at the Society for Research in Child Development in Austin, Texas, \$500
- 2016 *The Relation Between Personal Bullying Experiences with Evaluations of Various Response Strategies to Exclusion Bullying Scenarios, (Advisor: A. Brenick)*
Ocean Rain Family Foundation for Summer Undergraduate Research Award, UConn Office of Undergraduate Research, \$3,200
- 2016 UConn Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Award to present at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development in Vilnius, Lithuania, \$500
- 2016 *Exclusion Bullying in Same- and Cross-Race Contexts: Evaluations of victimization, victimizer goals, and victim responses in relation to ethnicity and personal bullying and victimization experience, (Advisor: A. Brenick)*
Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts Research Experience Award, UConn Office of Undergraduate Research, \$1500

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Lawrence, S. E.** & Brenick, A. (2020, June). You're not invited: Racial context and youth's perceptions of and victim responses to exclusionary bullying. In S. Palmer & M. Miklikowska (Chairs), *The role of group processes in reactions to and consequences of bullying and social exclusion*. Paper to be presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Rhodes, Greece.
- Lawrence, S. E.**, Doyon, M., Trahiotis, A., Carvalheiro, D., Karr, E., Flannery, K., & Brenick, A. (2020, May). The role of minority sexual identity in evaluations of sexting victimization. Poster to be presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Rhodes, Greece.
- Brenick, A., **Lawrence, S. E.**, Carvalheiro, D., & Stepka, A. (2020, June). School context and discriminatory bullying: The role of school climate in youth judgments of im/migrant bullying in the U.S. In M. Miklikowska & K. Eckstein (Chairs), *The role of school diversity contexts for intergroup attitudes and adjustment of youth in four Western countries*. Paper to be presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Rhodes, Greece.

- Brenick, A., Zwarycz, C., **Lawrence, S. E.**, & Berger, R. (2018, July). Stand by or speak up: Promoting positive bystander behavior in intergroup contexts with skills- and contact-based interventions. In A. Brenick & A. Duffy (Chairs), *Getting by with a little help from my peers: Individual and social factors that contribute to defending bystander responses to bullying*. Paper presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Goldcoast, Australia.
- Brenick, A., Berger, R., & **Lawrence, S. E.** (2017, October). *Teaching tolerance or acting tolerant? Comparing the effectiveness of skills- and contact-based prejudice reduction interventions among Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Jewish youth*. Paper presented at the 6th International Symposium of Psychology and Human Development, Santa Clara, Cuba.
- Brenick, A., Margie, N. G., **Lawrence, S. E.**, & Veres, M. (2016, July). What should victims do? The relation between bullying experience and choices for victims' responses in same-race and cross-race bullying situations. In A. Brenick & M. Schachner (Chairs), *Effects of Positive and Negative Interethnic Interactions amongst Ethnic Minority Youth in Four Countries*. Paper presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Vilnius, Lithuania.
- Margie, N. G., Brenick, A., **Lawrence, S. E.**, & Veres, M. (2016, July). *Interpreting intent in potential bullying situations: The relation between race/ethnicity, hostile intent attributions, and bullying experience*. Poster presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Vilnius, Lithuania.
- Margie, N. G., Brenick, A., **Lawrence, S. E.**, & Veres, M. (2016, July). *Justifying bullying: How previous experiences predict adolescent moral reasoning about exclusion used to bully in same-race and cross-race situations*. Poster presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Vilnius, Lithuania.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Lawrence, S. E.**, Doyon, M., Trahiotis, A., Carvalheiro, D., Karr, E., Flannery, K., & Brenick, A. (2020, May). The role of minority sexual identity in evaluations of sexting victimization. Poster to be presented at the Society for Research on Child Development Special Topics Conference "Construction of the Other: Development, Consequences, and Applied Implications of Prejudice and Discrimination, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.
- Brenick, A., **Lawrence, S. E.**, Carvalheiro, D., & Berger, R. Prejudice-reduction under conflict: Comparing contact and skills-training interventions. Paper to be presented at the Society for Research on Child Development Special Topics Conference "Construction of the Other: Development, Consequences, and Applied Implications of Prejudice and Discrimination, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.
- Lefkowitz, E. S., Waterman, E. A., & **Lawrence, S. E.** (2020, March). Sex-related alcohol

expectancies: Between-and within-person correlates and changes over time. In E. S. Lefkowitz (Chair), *Online and offline dating and sexual violence: The roles of alcohol, the Internet, and gender*. [Paper presentation]. Society for Research in Adolescence, San Diego, CA. (Conference cancelled).

Brenick, A., Carvalheiro, D., **Lawrence, S. E.**, & Berger, R. (2019, March). The effectiveness of two intervention programs for promoting youth intergroup prosociality in the Middle-East. In J. Grütter & J. Peplak (Chairs), *Children's emotions and prosocial behavior in the context of intergroup relations*. Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Brenick, A., **Lawrence, S. E.**, Carvalheiro, D., & Berger, R. (2019, March). Stand by or stand up? Interventions to promote prosocial intergroup bystander behavior among youth in the Middle-East. In S. Palmer & A. Brenick (Chairs), *But What Do *They* Say? The Role of Group Dynamics in Bullying Behaviors and Bystander Responses to Bullying*. Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Carvalheiro, D., **Lawrence, S. E.**, Karr, E., & Brenick, A. (2019, March). *Gender, age, group norms: How do they relate to adolescents' evaluations of intergroup exclusion?* Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Lawrence, S. E., Wink, M., & Lefkowitz, E. S. (2019, March). *Mother-child sex communication: Do acculturation and ethnic identity matter?* Poster presented at the Society for Research on Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Lefkowitz, E. S., Wesche, R., Wink, M., & **Lawrence, S. E.** (2019, March). *Sexual motives vary by adolescents' romantic relationship status and commitment*. Poster presented at the Society for Research on Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Lawrence, S. E., Brenick, A., & Zwarycz, C. (2018, April). *I've Got Your Back: Does Positive Bystander Intervention Relate to Adolescents' Judgments of Social Exclusion Bullying?* Poster presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN.

Lefkowitz, E. S., Wesche, R., Carvalheiro, D., **Lawrence, S. E.**, & Wink, M. (2018, April). *Daily predictors of contraception and condom use*. Poster presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN.

Brenick, A., Margie, N. G., & **Lawrence, S. E.** (2017, April). *Moral judgments about exclusion bullying: The role of previous bullying experiences and ethnicity of participants, excluders, and victims*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Margie, N. G., Brenick, A., & **Lawrence, S. E.** (2017, April). *The role of ethnicity and prior victimization in youth's moral reasoning about exclusion bullying in same and cross-race*

scenarios. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Brenick, A., Margie, N. G., **Lawrence, S. E.**, & Veres, M. (2016, March). *The relation between personal bullying experience with evaluations of various response strategies to exclusion bullying scenarios*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Baltimore, MD.

UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Karr, E., Brenick, A., Carvalheiro, D., & **Lawrence, S. E.** (2019, April). *Send nudes: Ratings and reasoning about sexting victimization among hetero and LGB emerging adults*. Presented at the [7th Annual Spring Frontiers in Undergraduate Research Poster Exhibition](#), UConn, Storrs, CT.

Brenick, A., **Lawrence, S. E.**, Berger, R., & Tarrasch, R. (2018, February). *Evaluating a school-based mindfulness & compassion training intervention to reduce Jewish-Israeli youth's prejudice of Arabs*. Presented at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Diversity Poster Session, UConn, Storrs, CT.

Lawrence, S. E. (2016, February). *Understanding the effects of ethnicity in peer exclusion bullying scenarios*. Presented at the [Center for the Study of Culture, Health, and Human Development Seminar](#), UConn, Storrs, CT.

Brenick, A., Margie, N. G., **Lawrence, S. E.** & Veres, M. (2016, October). *The relation between personal bullying experience with evaluations of various response strategies to exclusion bullying scenarios*. Presented at the 4th Annual Fall Frontiers in Undergraduate Research Poster Exhibition, UConn, Storrs, CT.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

HDFS, UConn

2020- Present Graduate Research Assistant, [UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity](#), Advisor: [Rebecca Puhl](#)

2017- Present Graduate Research Assistant, Developmental Aspects of Sexual Health ([DASH](#)) Lab, Advisor: [Eva S. Lefkowitz](#)

2015- 2020 Lab Manager and Principal Research Assistant, The Developmental Approaches to Identities, Inequalities, and Intergroup Relations ([DAIIR](#)) Lab, Advisor: [Alaina Brenick](#)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

HDFS, UConn

Diversity Issues

Instructor (Summer 2020)

Adolescent Development

Instructor (Fall 2019, Spring 2020)

Teaching Apprenticeship (Fall 2017; Advisor: Alaina Brenick)

Research Methods in Human Development

Instructor (Spring 2019)

Teaching Assistant (Fall 2018; Advisor: Keith Bellizzi)

Family Interaction Processes

Teaching Assistant (Fall 2017, Spring 2018; Advisor: Louisa Baker)

Human Development: Infancy through Adolescence

Teaching Apprenticeship (Fall 2017; Advisor: Alaina Brenick)

PROFESSIONAL AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

2019 *Graduate Certificate Program in College Instruction*, NEAG School of Education, UConn
Enrolled in a certificate program intended to deepen instructors' theoretical and practical understanding of teaching at the college-level

2018, 2019 *Young Scholars Senior Summer Mentor*, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program, UConn
Facilitated and supervised the research lab immersion experience of academically talented high school students from high poverty backgrounds

Professional Membership and Affiliations

UConn's Center for Culture, Health, and Human Development (CHHD)

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCDD)

Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA)

International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development (ISSBD)