

The background of the entire page is a grid of brain slices, likely MRI or CT scans, arranged in rows and columns. Each slice is overlaid with a horizontal bar of a different color and pattern, creating a vibrant, multi-colored effect. The colors include shades of blue, green, yellow, orange, red, purple, and pink, with some bars having geometric patterns like stripes or grids.

48th Annual

# Western PA Undergrad Psychology Conference

April 14-15, 2022 (VIRTUAL)

**2021**

# Western PA Undergrad Psychology Conference



ster #



## Virtual Presenter and Attendee Expectations

**Purpose:** The following guidelines establish the expectations for presenter and attendee behavior in the WPUPC virtual conference environment. Because of the virtual nature of the conference, a substantial burden is placed on those attending to ensure that the conference environment is noise-free and otherwise conducive to a productive scholarly atmosphere.

### Virtual Conference via gather.town requirements:

1. Be in a quiet, secure/safe area where you are unlikely to be interrupted.
2. Keep the space around your computer area clutter-free.
3. Before coming into the conference, look at the video you will be sending.
  - a. Is the lighting acceptable (no direct sunlight behind you or in too dark a setting)?
  - b. Is anyone else in the room? If so, can you/they be somewhere else? If not, are they aware that those attending the conference will be able to see/hear them?
  - c. Is there anything in the environment around you that could be distracting, embarrassing, or offensive? If so, remove/cover it or change locations.
4. Be seated at a desk/table/counter (you should not be sitting on a couch or bed).
5. A computer with a video camera and microphone attached/integrated (you may not use a phone or tablet to attend).

## **1. The Association Between Sexual Abuse and Mistreatment with Behavior and Personality**

The purpose of this study was to investigate the research question “What is the association between physical mistreatment in children and their behavior and personalities?” This research question was answered using secondary data analysis of Wave IV of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health dataset. Data was obtained from a nationally representative sample of 5,114 individuals living in all 50 US states in 2008. A self-administered survey was utilized to collect the data. The results showed that there was not a significant association between abuse and behavioral changes. The results of this study suggest that sexual abuse may not always lead to significant behavioral changes, yet further research should widen the scope of which this study was done in.

## **2. Relationship Between Stressful Life Events and Emotional Functioning in College Students**

The present study examined how stressful life events affected the emotional functioning of college students while using PTSD diagnosis and counseling/treatment prevalence as moderators. An online survey was conducted.

that an individual's personality represented by the "big five" personalities traits are related to the individual's political ideology, however more research can be done to expand outside the "big five" to describe one's personality.

## 5. Fort LeBoeuf In VR

Research has demonstrated the positive impact of VR on an individual's wellbeing. VR applications have resulted in individuals feeling less socially isolated, less likely to show signs of depression, and more likely to experience positive effects as well as feel better about their overall well-being (Siani & Marley, 2021). The current VR projects digitally recreate Fort LeBoeuf, a regional historical site with national importance. VR projects such as

## 9. Got It from My Momma: The Relationship Between Parental Incarceration and Teenage Delinquency

The purpose of this study was to investigate the research question “What is the relationship between mothers being incarcerated and teenage delinquency?” This research question was answered using secondary data analysis of Wave IV of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health dataset. Data was obtained from a nationally representative sample of 5,114 individuals living in all 50 US states in 2008. A self-administered survey was utilized to collect the data. The results showed that there was a significant relationship between teenage delinquency and their mother’s incarcerations. Further, a moderation analysis looking at gender showed that males were significantly affected by mother incarcerations while females were not. The results of this study suggest that children with incarcerated parents have a higher probability of being involved in delinquent activities. The next step in research could examine the mental state of individuals who have had parents incarcerated.

10.

### 13. The Association Between Parental Incarceration and Developing Mood Disorders and Suicidal Ideation

The purpose of this study was to answer the research question “Are adults that had their parental figures incarcerated as minors more likely to develop mood disorders or suicidal thoughts?” This research question was answered using secondary data analysis of Wave IV of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health dataset. Data was obtained from a nationally representative sample of 5,114 individuals living in all 50 US states in 2008. A self-administered survey was utilized to collect the data. The results showed that there was significant association between one’s father figure being incarcerated and developing a mood disorder. Countering that finding, there was not an association between mothers’ incarceration and suicidal ideation in the past twelve months, indicating that there are other factors not accounted for when considering this relationship. The results of this study suggest that there is an association between multiple parental arrests and the children developing mood disorders, yet not suicidal ideation. More research in the future should be conducted on the family’s attitudes toward mental health counseling or therapy as an outlet.

### 14. Does high school experience affect LGBT college students self-esteem?

~~06203950001 11~~

## 17. Anti Microbial Tables and Covid Fear

We worked with our colleagues in engineering and business to install 20 antimicrobial tabletops on existing tables in multiple buildings across our campus. We labeled the tables as either coated or uncoated and included QR codes where people could complete a survey. In the survey, we measured the amount of information that students already have regarding antimicrobial products including their sentiments and preferences toward these products. We also measured personality factors, feelings of control, and fear of Covid in relation to their senti



## 21. An Analysis of Perceived Efficacy: The Relationship Between Self-Efficacy and the Development of False Memories

This study examines two basic questions: what is the relationship between self-efficacy and performance on a false-memory test, and what role does feedback play in self-efficacy? Subjects took a pretest (Chen et al., 2001) to assess their baseline self-efficacy. A false memory test comprised of altered images was given to all subjects. Afterward, subjects were randomly assigned feedback regardless of their performance: positive, negative, or no feedback. A second self-efficacy test was distributed to all subjects. Analysis determined if individuals with higher self-efficacy perform better on a false memory test; self-efficacy pretest and posttest scores were also compared. Results showed that individuals with higher self-efficacy performed better on the false memory test. Self-efficacy pretest scores were significantly higher than posttest scores,  $F(1, 101) = 119.5, p < .001, \eta^2 = .54$ . Feedback had a significant effect on self-efficacy scores,  $F(2, 101) = 14.9, p < .001, \eta^2 = .13$ . Positive feedback had a significant effect on self-efficacy scores,  $F(1, 101) = 16.5, p < .001, \eta^2 = .14$ . Negative feedback had a significant effect on self-efficacy scores,  $F(1, 101) = 13.5, p < .001, \eta^2 = .12$ . No feedback had a significant effect on self-efficacy scores,  $F(1, 101) = 0.9, p < .001, \eta^2 = .01$ . There was a significant interaction between self-efficacy and feedback,  $F(2, 101) = 6.1, p < .001, \eta^2 = .06$ . Individuals with higher self-efficacy showed a significant decrease in self-efficacy scores when given negative feedback,  $F(1, 101) = 13.5, p < .001, \eta^2 = .12$ . Individuals with higher self-efficacy showed a significant increase in self-efficacy scores when given positive feedback,  $F(1, 101) = 13.5, p < .001, \eta^2 = .12$ . Individuals with higher self-efficacy showed a significant decrease in self-efficacy scores when given no feedback,  $F(1, 101) = 0.9, p < .001, \eta^2 = .01$ . Individuals with higher self-efficacy showed a significant increase in self-efficacy scores when given no feedback,  $F(1, 101) = 0.9, p < .001, \eta^2 = .01$ .



## 29. Ecotherapy: Nature's Effect on Stress

The limited research which has been conducted on ecotherapy suggests a strong correlation between emotional well-being and the potential for therapeutic applications. Through this research, we examine the extent to which correlations exist between exposure to nature and emotional well-being. Emotional well-being is measured through levels of stress, anxiety, and mindfulness. This research will use a survey to determine the strength and nature of these correlations. We hypothesized that higher levels of exposure to nature will predict lower levels of stress and anxiety, and higher levels of trait mindfulness. Collected data was analyzed through SPSS with regression analysis and correlation statistics. This study seeks to fill gaps of past research regarding ecotherapy and college population

## 30. Worry, Stress, and Anxiety in First-Year College Students

~~THE B B IS OPEN TO 1 THE BONE THE ON 25~~

5

### 33. Gender Differences: COVID-19 Anxiety and Worry

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the lives of everyday people, especially college students. The purpose of this study was to look more into the current issue of the pandemic and the gender differences of mental health symptoms of COVID anxiety and worry. The survey includes questions on demographics, worry symptoms using the Penn State Worry Questionnaire, and COVID anxiety using the Coronavirus Anxiety Scale. It was predicted that there would be a significant relationship between COVID anxiety and worry. Also, that females would report higher symptoms of both COVID anxiety and worry than males. This study is crucial in gaining a better understanding and increasing public awareness of the effects of the pandemic on the mental health of college students.

### 34. Death Penalty: Impact of Mental Health and Impact Statement

In deciding death penalty cases, jurors may consider mitigating factors and victim impact statements (VIS). Participants read a case summary, varying the presence of a mitigating factor and VIS support for the death penalty, then assessed the use of the death sentence in the case. The mitigating factor was dropped after a manipulation check. Sentence appropriateness did not differ based on VIS; however, an anti-death penalty VIS was ranked as more important in decision-making.

### 35. Beeing Up: The Impact of Testosterone and Orgasm Achievement on Perceptions of Masculinity and Sexuality

Participants read a hypothetical scenario adapted from a previous study about a male (target) who had naturally low, normal, or high levels of testosterone. In addition, he was, or was not, taking testosterone and his female partner always, or never, had an orgasm during sex with him. The higher the male target's natural levels of testosterone, the higher participants rated his masculinity and sexual esteem. However, if his female partner always had an orgasm during sex with him, there was no difference between ratings of the male target's masculinity when he had low testosterone levels and when he had normal testosterone levels.

### **37. Instructor Presence in Online Learning**

Due to Covid-19, education has been moved primarily to online learning. While safety is the main concern, the effectiveness of different online methods should be considered. The present study was designed to study the effects of online teaching methods (video narration, audio narration, no narration with just slides) on viewer satisfaction and retention of lecture material. We recruited 193 Edinboro University of Pennsylvania students and randomly assigned them to watch a short lecture in one of the three methods. Students were then asked to rate their satisfaction and recall information learned in the lecture through a series of 6 questions. Results indicated no significant differences between the different online teaching methods on viewer satisfaction or retention of lecture material.

### **38. The Past is the Past: Previous Sexual "Success" does not Modify the Reduced Perceptions of Masculinity and Sexual Esteem that Result from Orgasm "Failure"**

---