

**ISRI**

**The International Society  
for Research on Identity**

**25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

April 11, 2018  
Minneapolis, MN, USA

# The International Society for Research on Identity

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Carol Markstrom	Jean Phinney								
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# General Meeting

**Wednesday, April 11, 2018**  
**1:00 pm – 4:30pm**

Hilton Minneapolis (Downtown)  
 Conrad B/C  
 1001 S. Marquette Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403

- 1:00 Registration/Social Time: Coffee, Tea, and Snacks
- 1:30 Welcome from ISRI President, Moin Syed
- 1:45 Featured Event: “*Methodological Issues in the Study of Identity Development*”  
 Panel Discussion followed by Small and Large Group Discussions
- 3:00 Business Meeting
- 3:30 Break for Poster Set Up
- 3:45 Poster Session
- 4:30 Conclusion of Pre-Conference

## Methodological Issues in the Study of Identity Development

In the past several years there have been numerous methodological developments in the study of identity. At the same time, there has been an increasing awareness across psychology and related fields on the need for improving our research practices, including attention to replicability of research findings and open science practices. This featured event brings together a panel of researchers with diverse methodological expertise (quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods) who will engage in a discussion of broad methodological issues.



Moin Syed  
 University of Minnesota  
 Moderator



Sara K. Johnson  
 Tufts University  
 Panelist



Kate C. McLean  
 W. Washington University  
 Panelist



Onnie Rogers  
 Northwestern University  
 Panelist

# **Social Dinner Gathering**

**Wednesday, April 11, 2018**

**5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

The Local

931 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55402

[www.the-local.com](http://www.the-local.com)

612.904.1000

## **Directions from the Minneapolis Hilton to the Local**

**Walking Distance:** 0.1 miles

**Walking Time:** 5 minutes

### **Walking Directions:**

1. Exit the Hilton Minneapolis from the Main Entrance (on S. Marquette Avenue)
2. Turn right (northeast) onto S. Marquette Avenue.
3. At the first traffic light, cross over S. Marquette Avenue and turn left onto S. 10<sup>th</sup> street.
4. The next traffic light is Nicolet Mall. The restaurant is on the corner of S. 10<sup>th</sup> street and Nicollet Mall.
5. Turn right onto Nicollet Mall. The entrance to the restaurant is immediately on your right.

## **Poster Session Abstracts** (Alphabetical Order by First Author)

### **“I Didn’t Learn that from the Playbook, Coach:” The Impact of Coaches’ Identity and Team Climate on Student-Athlete Development**

*Brianna L. Anderson, Kelly Bost, and Randy Ballard*

The university environment is well-suited to the developmental tasks of emerging adulthood, including identity exploration. If commitment to an identity occurs without opportunities for exploration, then alternative identities may be underdeveloped and risk of unhealthy outcomes increases. Growing evidence supports this notion in student-athletes. This study aims to (1) explore the identity development of student-athletes; (2) consider how coaches’ identities shape team experiences; and (3) investigate the relationship between the identities of the coaches and their athletes. The findings can be used to identify ways coaches can support identity exploration among student-athletes, improving outcomes both in college and adulthood.

### **A Comparison of Clinical and Developmental Conceptions of Identity**

*Stevevn L. Berman, Rowan Crowder, Sonali Tewatia, Alison Bryant, Kirsten Klein, Jing Wen Ong, Maya Tatro, Robin Thorne, and Alliyah Veilleux*

Although there have been many studies of clinically related correlates of the identity statuses, the statuses themselves have greater developmental relevance than clinical application. The Self-Concept and Identity Measure was created to differentiate clinically relevant identity disturbance from more normative identity concepts. The purpose of the present study was to provide greater understanding of the SCIM categories by examining their relationship to other identity constructs. A number of interesting patterns emerged suggesting avenues for diagnosing maladaptive identity patterns, and creation of prevention and intervention programs to address those dysfunctional conditions.

### **How Do You Measure Whether Participating in a Life Story Interview Results in a Changed Narrative Identity?**

*Danya Braunstein and Simon Boag*

Media stories provide inspiration for both the structure and content of narrative identity, consistent with McAdams’ life story approach. Participation in the life story interview provides opportunity for self-reflection on autobiographical memories and, as a result, may encourage new self-meanings to emerge. Could this experience also result in changed perceptions of the influence of media stories on identity? The proposed research aims to examine how narrative research may be used to promote self-reflection and media literacy skills. To achieve this, how do we best measure changes in narrative identity after participation in a life story interview?

### **The Role of Disturbed Identity in Eating Disorders**

*Rowan Crowder and Steven L. Berman*

Individuals with an eating disorder are over-represented in the moratorium and diffusion identity statuses, however, these are considered normative statuses on a healthy developmental trajectory toward achievement. This suggests the need to look beyond the traditional status model to better understand the relationship between identity and eating disorders. Using the SCIM in a sample of

college students, it was found that age, psychological symptoms, and disturbed identity were all significant predictors of eating disorder symptom score, but not consolidated identity or lack of identity. Implications for interventions are discussed.

### **Identity as Protective Factor over the Impact of Negative Peer Influence for Substance Use in the Underage Population, West Virginia, 2017**

*Augusto Barón Cruz, Megan L Smith, Alfgeir L Kristjansson, and Michael J Mann*

The presented study ventures on to describe the observed trends in a share of the young population of West Virginia between 10 and 20 years old to investigate how the sense of identity might play a modulator role in the overall impact that negative peer influence might exert for substance use. It was hypothesized that a strong, positive, sense of identity can act as a protective factor to diminish the effectiveness of peer influence for substance consumption. In this study, the trends for both illicit and licit substances were taken in count.

### **Distinctiveness as a Marker of Identity Formation**

*Lotte van Doeselaar, Theo A. Klimstra, Jaap J. A. Denissen, and Wim Meeus*

Experiencing distinctiveness is theorized to be a feature of an adaptive identity, but its importance has remained somewhat ambiguous. We investigated distinctiveness' nomological network and compared it to a well-validated marker of identity formation: identification with commitment. In our sample of 320 university students, both markers of identity formation were positively associated with self-esteem and relatedness. However, identification with commitment was significantly more strongly associated with identity distress, rumination about identity choices, peer-related loneliness, and life satisfaction. Our findings indicate that in young adulthood identifying with commitments is a stronger marker of identity formation than distinctiveness.

### **Bystander Actions Influence Sociomoral Identity Among Ethnically Diverse Adolescents**

*Zoe Higheagle Strong, Karin S. Frey, Ada C. Onyewuenyi, and Ian Waller*

Social roles (e.g., friend) may entail obligations to respond when peers are victimized. Past research has investigated only a few types of responses and almost none has considered how responses affect actors' sociomoral identity. This study shows how varied actions influence identity-relevant emotions and beliefs among African-, European-, Mexican-, and Native-Americans adolescents. Across all groups, youth felt more pride and less shame and guilt after helping to calm or reconcile a victimized peer than after amplifying a peer's anger. Avenging the peer occupied an intermediate position. Variations in feelings like a good friend displayed the same pattern of significant differences.

### **Spirituality, Identity Development, and Adjustment**

*Shengnan Li, Sonali Tewatia, and Steven L. Berman*

Although a number of studies have explored relationships between spirituality, identity, and adjustment taken two at a time, no research to our knowledge has looked at all three together and posited a developmental pathway linking them. It was hypothesized that identity development might mediate the relationship between spirituality and psychological adjustment. Although initially spirituality appeared to predict both internalizing symptoms and existential anxiety in a sample of college students (N = 1,016), after controlling for identity exploration and identity

commitment, spirituality was no longer a significant predictor. Developmental implications of these findings are further discussed.

### **How Do We Assess Individual Empowerment within Creative Design Experiences for Adolescent Girls and Gender Minorities?**

*Jenna C. Lindberg, Anna Cechony, Mike Scanlon, and Samantha W. Bindman*

Since 2015 we have produced two week-long creative design experiences in partnership with a non-profit focused on empowering young women, serving roughly 50 youth. We examined creative pursuits as a vehicle for individual empowerment through engagement with identity. By collecting surveys and conducting interviews with participants before and after the experience, we know the youth feel the impact of the caring community which is authentically youth-centered (Deschenes et. al 2004). Despite these findings, it has been difficult to demonstrate individual empowerment outcomes quantitatively. We are considering how to approach this as our partnership continues in 2018.

### **Ego Identity Status and its Relationship to Quality of Life in College Students**

*Georgia Martin and Frank J. Provenzano*

The purpose of this research is to determine if there is a correlation between a person's self rating of the quality of their life (QoL) and their identity status and where that person is in the formation of their identity, based on Erikson's stages of psychosocial development.

### **Investigating Identity and Social Support among Veterans Transitioning to Civilian Life: A Mixed Methods Study**

*Lauren L. Mitchell and Moin Syed*

Identity disruption is the experience of an acute, sudden change in the sense of self, often brought about by major life events such as losing a job, immigrating, or becoming disabled. The present study examines the relation between identity disruption, social support, and mental health among veterans reintegrating into civilian life. Using data from the Military to Civilian Study, 245 veteran's narratives were coded for identity disruption and other changes in self and context. Latent growth curve models were then used to examine 6-month trajectories of social support and mental health, and their relation to identity disruption.

### **Some of my Best Friends are Gay: How LGB Exposure and Attitudes Impact Heterosexual Identity Development Among Young Men**

*Elizabeth M. Morgan, Laurel Davis-Delano, and Sara K Johnson*

The present study explores how knowing people who identify as LGB and general attitudes toward LGB people are associated with both awareness of one's own and others' sexual orientation, a desire to appear heterosexual, as well as three types of heterosexual identity marking and heterosexual identity exploration among a sample of 176 exclusively heterosexual-identified young men recruited from Mechanical Turk. The structural equation modeling analyses revealed several interesting associations between the variables. Overall, the findings provide new evidence of relationships between heterosexual identity development and exposure and attitudes toward LGB people among heterosexual young men.

## **Charting Derailment's Trajectory: A Longitudinal Study of Perceived Identity Change**

*Kaylin Ratner and Anthony L. Burrow*

Derailment is the sense that one has gotten "off-course" and, as an emerging construct, studies aimed at bolstering derailment's theoretical framework are needed. We sought to chart derailment's trajectory over time. College students (N = 939, 63.6% female) completed the Derailment Scale four times over one academic year. On average, derailment's trajectory was rather stable. Upon further inspection, a linear spline function fit the data best such that participants began the academic year with elevated derailment scores relative to later observations. Explanations for this knotted trajectory, theoretical implications, and future directions are discussed.

## **To Be or Not to Be Vegetarian: Development and Validation of the Dietarian Identity Questionnaire**

*Daniel L. Rosenfeld and Anthony L. Burrow*

In navigating decisions about what to eat, people both construct and rely on a food-choice identity. Yet food choice is multifaceted, as people apply different dietary schemas to different types of food, engaging various domains of food-choice identity. In this poster, we focus on dietarian identity: one's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors with respect to consuming or eschewing animal products. First, we present a Dietarian Identity Questionnaire (DIQ). Second, we validate the DIQ's factor structure, construct validity, internal consistency, test-retest reliability, and replicability. Lastly, we highlight directions for the use of the DIQ in future research.

## **How Do You Interview Adolescents to Ask About Relatedness and Identity Development through Team Participation?**

*Mike Scanlon and Jenna C Lindberg*

Extracurricular arts activities are an excellent forum for studying relational activity and adolescent identity development. We have run after-school hip hop dance programs at high schools since 2014. Survey data from these programs suggests that students view them as highly collaborative, and that relatedness needs factor into students' decisions to participate in the clubs, personal goals in the club, club enjoyment, and club-related challenges. We are preparing for qualitative interviews to understand how hip hop teams foster a sense of relatedness among members, and to identify interpersonal and team processes contributing to identity development in hip hop dance.

## **The Role of Ethnic Identity in Academic Efficacy of Urban, Community College Students**

*Lisa R. Silverman and Mia Budescu*

The current study examines the role of ethnic identity in the academic efficacy of urban, community college students. Data came from a pilot study aimed at identifying factors that make it more or less likely for students at public, non-residential colleges to complete their degrees. The current analyses were conducted on an ethnically diverse sample of freshmen (N=44; 12 males and 32 females). It was found that a strong sense of ethnic identity predicts high levels of academic efficacy. Results will be discussed in relation to extant theory and research about ethnic minority achievement and ethnic identity.

## **Honors Student Identity: A Preliminary Investigation**

*Peter Skaza and Janet L. Gebelt*

This study examines identity development in honors students, focusing on how program involvement and personality might influence that sense of identity. Participants completed measures of importance of the honors identity, group identity, program involvement, and the Big 5 personality factors. Consistent with prior research, for Honors students, group identity strengthens over time and is related to involvement in the group. However, it appears personality does not relate to their group identity in the way it does for people involved in more socially oriented groups; extraversion was not related to group identity or involvement for this group.

## **Exploring Racial Identity and Hyperarousal among African American Adolescent Males**

*Dena Phillips Swanson*

As part of ongoing research exploring the impact of stress exposure on adolescent identity development, this presentation examines the relationship among recent stressful life experiences, positive racial identity, depression, and hypermasculinity among adolescent African American males. Hypermasculinity is a proxy for hyperarousal associated with post-traumatic stress. Participants were 225 8th-10th grade males who completed several self-report measures in small groups during school. Multiple regression results, predicting hypermasculinity, show a statistically significant model [ $F(3, 221) = 11.57, p < .001$ ]. The findings provide an initial step in advancing knowledge about the role of identity development on symptoms of post-traumatic stress.

## **We Can Have It All –But at What Cost? A Mixed-Method Approach to the Inter- and Intrapersonal Costs of a Dual Work/Family Priority in Swedish Early Adults**

*Ylva Svensson and Ann Frisé*

Frequencies, costs and strategies to handle a dual work/family priority was explored, based on domain centrality across domains. Using a mixed methods in a sample of 124 Swedish adults (age 32-34, 50% male), results showed that 36 participants (29%) had a dual work/family priority. Despite describing both inter- and intrapersonal costs, those with a dual priority did not report lower well-being or satisfaction. Thematic analyses showed a large number of creative strategies that the participants used to manage a dual priority, suggesting that it is possible to have it all without too high cost, at least short-term.

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International Society of Research on Identity



### **About ISRI**

International and multidisciplinary, the International Society for Research on Identity provides a forum for identity theorists and researchers around the globe to share their ideas and findings regarding the problems and prospects of human self-definition. The unifying theme of ISRI is “identity” in its various manifestations throughout the life course. Identity issues transcend national, political, and cultural boundaries, taking on global proportions. ISRI seeks to provide a forum in which theoretical and research analyses find practical applications in dealing with identity processes and problems.

Membership is invited and encouraged from all fields using a full range of methodologies to provide multiple bridges, across nations and disciplines, and between theory and research. ISRI’s goal is to provide a nonpartisan forum within which identity researchers from a variety of areas can communicate their findings and stay apprised of the findings of others, especially among those who use different technical vocabularies.

