

CINDEL J. M. WHITE

Department of Psychology
York University
4700 Keele Street, Toronto, ON, M3J 1P3

Email: cjmwhite@yorku.ca
OSF Profile: osf.io/wmg43

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, York University 2021 – Present

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Social and Personality Psychology**, University of British Columbia 2021
Minor in Quantitative Methods
Dissertation: *The cognitive foundations and prosocial consequences of belief in karma and gods*
Committee: Ara Norenzayan, Mark Schaller, and J. Kiley Hamlin
- M. A., Social and Personality Psychology**, University of British Columbia 2017
Thesis: *Belief in karma: The content and correlates of supernatural justice beliefs across cultures*
- B. A. (Honors), Psychology**, King's University College at Western University 2015
Thesis: *Unexpected events as a cue to social surveillance*

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- White, C. J. M.**, Muthukrishna, M., & Norenzayan, A. (2020). Worldwide evidence of cultural similarity among co-religionists within and across countries using the World Values Survey. *Accepted pending minor revisions*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/uetg6>
- White, C. J. M.**, & Norenzayan, A. (Accepted). Karma and God: Convergent and divergent mental representations of supernatural norm enforcement. *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/a7398/>
- Baimel, A., **White, C. J. M.**, Sarkissian, H. & Norenzayan, A. (Accepted). How is analytical thinking related to religious belief? A test of three theoretical models. *Religion, Brain, and Behavior*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/a6d8j/>
- White, C. J. M.**, Willard, A.K., Baimel, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2021). Cognitive pathways to belief in karma and belief in God. *Cognitive Science*, 45(1): e12935. doi: 10.1111/cogs.12935
- White, C. J. M.**, Schaller, M., & Norenzayan, A. (2020). How strongly do moral character inferences predict forecasts of the future? Testing the moderating roles of transgressor age, implicit personality theories, and belief in karma. *PLoS ONE*, 15(12): e0244144. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0244144

- White, C. J. M.,** Baimel, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2021). How cultural learning and cognitive biases shape religious beliefs. *Current Opinion in Psychology, 40*, 34-39. doi: 10.1016/j.copsyc.2020.07.033
- White, C. J. M.,** Kelly, J. M., Shariff, A. F., & Norenzayan, A. (2019). Supernatural norm enforcement: Thinking about karma and God reduces selfishness among believers. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 84*, 103797. doi: 10.1016/j.jesp.2019.03.008
- White, C. J. M.,** & Norenzayan, A. (2019). Belief in karma: How cultural evolution, cognition, and motivations shape belief in supernatural justice. In J. M. Olson (Ed.), *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology* (Vol. 60, pp. 1–63). doi: 10.1016/bs.aesp.2019.03.001
- White, C. J. M.,** Norenzayan, A., & Schaller, M. (2019). The content and correlates of belief in Karma across cultures. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 45*, 1184-1201. doi: 10.1177/0146167218808502
- White, C. J. M.,** & Schaller, M. (2018). Are children perceived to be morally exceptional? Different sets of psychological variables predict adults' moral judgments about adults and about young children. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 44*, 1147 – 1162. doi: 10.1177/0146167218760800
- Hofer, M. K., Buckels, E. E., **White, C. J. M.,** Beall, A. T., and Schaller, M. (2018). Individual differences in activation of the parental care motivational system: An empirical distinction between protection and nurturance. *Social Psychological and Personality Science, 9*(8), 907 – 916. doi: 10.1177/1948550617728994
- White, C.,** Baimel, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2017). What are the causes and consequences of belief in karma?. *Religion, Brain, and Behavior, 7*(4), 339 – 342. doi: 10.1080/2153599X.2016.1249921

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- White, C. J. M.,** Schaller, M., Abraham, E., Rottman, J. (2021). A person-centered approach to punishment: Reprimand and avoidance are differentially directed towards adult and child transgressors. *Revise and resubmit*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/9y3wp>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- Pasek, M. H., Kelly, J. M., Shackelford, C., **White, C.J.M.,** Vishkin, A., Smith, J., Norenzayan, A., Shariff, A., & Ginges, J. (2020). Thinking of God leads to more generosity to members of other religious groups. *Manuscript in preparation*.
- Hofer, M. K., Lai, A., **White, C.J.M.,** & Schaller, M. (2020). Does caring breed contempt?: The impact of temporary activation of a “parental” mindset on moral judgments. *Manuscript in preparation*.

RESEARCH GRANTS OBTAINED

Issachar Fund Doctoral Dissertation Sub-Grant (\$50,000) PI: Cindel White <i>The Evolution of Science and Religion as Meaning-Making Systems: Karma, Naturalistic Explanations for Misfortune, and Prosocial Behaviour</i>	2020 - 2022
John Templeton Foundation, Early Career Grant (\$25,000) PI: Cindel White; Co-investigator: Brent Stewart <i>Gratitude to God: Exploring the role of mind attribution and awe as determinates of non-personal gratitude</i>	2020 - 2021
Arts Graduate Research Award (\$1000) PI: Cindel White; Co-investigator: Joshua Rottman <i>Asymmetries in moral disgust elicited by adults' and children's norm violations</i>	2019
John Templeton Foundation seed grant (\$11,200) Co-investigators: Kathleen H. Corriveau, Kurt Gray, Aiyana K. Willard <i>Do You Believe in Magical Objects? The Importance of Artifacts in Ritual Success</i>	2018 - 2019
John Templeton Foundation seed grant (\$11,200) Co-investigators: Jordan P. LaBouff, Kathleen H. Corriveau, Jennifer M. Clegg, Kurt Gray <i>It's only weird if it doesn't work: The role of intentions and emotions in magical thinking</i>	2018 - 2019

OTHER GRANT-WRITING ACTIVITY

The John Templeton Foundation (\$621,224) <i>Children's and adults' responses to people who seek to learn about religion</i> PI: Larisa Heiphetz; Research team member: Cindel White	2020 – 2023
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FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

President's Academic Excellence Initiative PhD Award (\$552.60)	2020 - 2021
Delroy L. Paulhus Scholarship in Psychology (\$1,200)	2020
UBC Four Year Fellowship for PhD Students (\$13,685.36)	2017 - 2021
SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship (\$116,667) <i>The developmental origins, mental representation, and behavioural consequences of belief in karma</i>	2017 - 2020
SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's (\$17,500)	2016
UBC Graduate Fellowship (\$17,500)	2015

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

White, C. J. M., Muthukrishna, M., & Norenzayan, A. (2021, June). Worldwide evidence of cultural similarity among co-religionists. Presented at the *Cultural Evolution Society Conference* [Virtual].

White, C. J. M., Schaller, M., Abraham, E., Rottman, J. (2021, February). A person-centered approach to punishment: Reprimand and avoidance are differentially directed towards adult and child transgressors. Presented at the *22nd Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology* [Virtual].

White, C. J. M., Muthukrishna, M., & Norenzayan, A. (2021, February). Worldwide evidence of cultural similarity among co-religionists within and across countries using the World Values Survey. Presented at the *22nd Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Religion and Spirituality Preconference* [Virtual].

White, C. J. M., & Schaller, M. (2020, July*). Differences between adults' evaluations of adults' and young children's moral transgressions. To be presented at the *European Association of Social Psychology General Meeting*, Kraków, Poland.

* Cancelled because of COVID-19 pandemic

White, C. J. M., Baimel, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2020, February). Cognitive pathways to belief in karma and belief in God. Presented at the *21st Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Religion and Spirituality Preconference*, New Orleans, LA, USA.

White, C. J. M., Van de Vondervoort, J. W., Hamlin, J. K., & Norenzayan, A. (2019, May). Third-party punishment, vigilante justice, or karma? A comparison of reactions to interpersonal and cosmic justice. Presented at the *31st Annual Conference for the Human Behavior and Evolution Society*, Boston, MA, USA.

White, C. J. M., Kelly, J. M., Shariff, A. F., & Norenzayan, A. (2019, February). Thinking about Karma and God reduces believers' selfishness in anonymous dictator games. Presented at the *20th Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology*, Portland, OR, USA.

White, C. J. M., Norenzayan, A. (2018, October). Mental models of supernatural morality. Presented at the *Cultural Evolution Society Conference*, Tempe, Arizona, USA.

White, C. J. M., Kelly, J. M., Shariff, A. F., & Norenzayan, A. (2017, September). God is still watching: Reminders of God, but also Karma, increase prosociality. Presented at the *Inaugural Cultural Evolution Society Conference*, Jena, Germany.

White, C., & Norenzayan, A. (2016, June). Content and correlates of belief in karma. Part of symposium: Digging at the roots of religion: How mentalizing abilities and group processes at the heart of religious beliefs and rituals help sustain human cooperation. Presented at the

28th Annual Conference for the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Vancouver, Canada.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS: POSTERS

- White, C. J. M.,** Norenzayan, A., & Schaller, M. (2020, February). How strongly do moral character inferences predict forecasts of the future? Testing the moderating roles of transgressor age, implicit personality theories, and belief in karma. Presented at the 21st Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA, USA.
- Kelly, J. M., **White, C. J. M.,** Shariff, A. F., & Norenzayan, A. (2019, February). Christians increase generosity towards both atheists and fellow Christians following a religious cue. Presented at the 20th Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, USA.
- White, C. J. M.,** & Norenzayan, A. (2018, May). Beliefs about Karma and God, Interpersonal Morality, and Prosocial Behaviour. Presented at the workshop *Future directions in the evolution of rituals, beliefs and religious minds*, Erice, Italy.
- White, C. J. M.,** & Norenzayan, M. (2018, March). God and Karma beliefs and prosocial behaviour, among Christians, Hindus, Buddhists, and the non-religious. Presented at the 19th Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, Georgia.
- White, C.,** & Schaller, M. (2017, January). Intentionality and disgust affect moral judgments about children less than moral judgments about adults. Presented at the 18th Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, Texas.
- White, C.,** & Norenzayan, A. (2016, August). Belief in karma. Presented at the conference for the *International Association for the Cognitive Science of Religion*, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- White, C.,** & Schaller, M. (2016, January). Do babies have special moral status? Predictors of the moral standing granted to adults and infants. Presented at the 17th Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, California.
- White, C.,** Penner-Wilger, M., & Broad, G. (2015, July). Historical Cognition: An investigation of factors affecting reasoning about historical causality. Presented at the 37th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting, Pasadena, CA.
- Penner-Wilger, M., Waring, R. J., Newton, A. T., & **White, C.** (2015, July). Finger Gnosis and Symbolic Number Comparison as Robust Predictors of Adult Numeracy. Presented at the 37th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting, Pasadena, CA.
- White, C.,** Buckland, C., Penner-Wilger, M., Broad, G. (2015, June). Historical Cognition: Cognitive Biases in Historical Reasoning. Presented at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, & Cognitive Science, Ottawa, ON.

Penner-Wilger, M., Waring, R. J., Newton, A. T., & **White, C.** (2015, June). Calculation: A Digital Domain. Presented at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, & Cognitive Science, Ottawa, ON.

INVITED TALKS

Developing Moral Values Lab, Franklin & Marshall College (January 2021).
 Social and Moral Cognition Lab, Columbia University (October 2020).
 Social Learning Lab, Boston University (May 2019).

INVITED WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Emergent Themes in the Study of Science & Belief in Society (April 2021), Online.
 Gratitude to God Workshop (February 2021), Online.
 Summer Institute in Social and Personality Psychology (July 2019), New York University.
 Early-Career Psych of Religion Workshop (October 2016), Oceanside, CA.

AD HOC REVIEWER

Psychological Science; Cognition; Journal of Experimental Psychology: General; Journal of Experimental Social Psychology; Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin; The International Journal for the Psychology of Religion; Psychology of Religion and Spirituality; Evolution and Human Behavior; Religion, Brain & Behavior

COMMITTEES

Student Representative, Faculty Search Committee for hiring Tenure-Track Position in Social/Personality Psychology	2020-2021
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CONTRACTOR WORK

Statistical and Survey Design Consultant Munro Thompson Communications Inc.	2019-2020
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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Association for Psychological Science
- Society for Personality and Social Psychology
- Human Behaviour and Evolution Society
- Cultural Evolution Society

REFERENCES

Ara Norenzayan

Department of Psychology
University of British Columbia
2136 West Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z4
Email: ara@psych.ubc.ca
Phone: 604-827-5134

Mark Schaller

Department of Psychology
University of British Columbia
2136 West Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z4
Email: schaller@psych.ubc.ca
Phone: 604-822-2613

Azim Shariff

Department of Psychology
University of British Columbia
2136 West Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z4
Email: shariff@psych.ubc.ca

Kristin Laurin

Department of Psychology
University of British Columbia
2136 West Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z4
Email: klaurin@psych.ubc.ca