



THE BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON AGGRESSION

Vol 30, No 2 December 2008

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The European Editor produced this issue

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Editorial

**Professor Jane L. Ireland,
European *Bulletin* Editor**

Welcome to the December 2008 edition of the *Bulletin*. It seems that a considerable amount has changed or occurred since the bulletin that I produced 12 months ago; First, we have had a very successful 2008 World Meeting held in the picturesque city of Budapest, expertly organized by József Haller. Now we begin to look forward to the next meeting in 2010 to be held in Storrs, Connecticut and organized by Steve Maxson; Second, we have seen an almost complete change of officers on the committee. With regards to the latter, I am personally sad to see the departure of our last president, Menno Kruk, whom I thought brought interesting debate and vibrancy to both the committee and the presidential role. I shall miss his contributions to the bulletin, which were many, and for this Menno was a particularly active president. He has also left an endearing mark on ISRA in the form of our logo. I am sure that we all wish Menno well as he departs the shores of the ISRA office.

As is traditional with the December edition of the bulletin, included here is our membership list. Yes I know that it takes up a considerable amount of space but it we are duty-bound to publish this to the membership and it is always something useful to retain. Although ISRA will try its utmost to keep the membership list updated we are entirely reliant on the membership for this and we would urge members to please inform the current treasurer, Eric Dubow, of any amendments required (edubow@bgnet.bgsu.edu).

What I feel is particularly warming in the current edition of the bulletin is the

inclusion of the young researcher and presentation awards. Showcasing and supporting the work of our newer researchers is important. Their work is impressive and I hope that they continue to make a contribution to the field of aggression research.

As I bring this brief editorial to a close, can I take this opportunity to remind members of the content of the bulletin and its reliance on membership support and contributions. We welcome brief summaries of research, brief articles, details of forthcoming conferences, books of potential interest and any further information pertinent to the membership. In emphasis of the title ISRA *Society*, as editors we are particularly interested in emphasizing the society element of our membership. The bulletin is our core medium for this. Thus please do feel free to forward any relevant news on our members to myself or Eric Dubow for possible inclusion.

*Professor Jane L. Ireland,
European Editor,
University of Central Lancashire, UK.*

2008 ISRA World Meeting
Reflections on the meeting, introducing
the awards and outlining marketing



Budapest was undoubtedly a beautiful and historic venue for a World Meeting, with its rich historic content particularly fitting, I thought, for an underlying event theme of society heritage and development.

My impression of the conference as an attendee was one of excellent organization and attention to detail, with an eclectic programme drawn together. Speaking from my own experience, organising conferences is an often stressful and thankless task and so I am sure I speak for all ISRA members in offering our sincere thanks to József and the rest of the organizing team for doing such a sterling job.

What perhaps did not go unnoticed by many members were the riots occurring in the city just prior to the conference. Clearly someone knew we were coming! I would like to be able to say that József was able to organize such an exquisite display of controlled and uncontrolled aggression but I suspect that he had no hand in this.



To return to the conference, I include here the welcome words given by Menno Kruk, and some pictures which capture the experience of the meeting. Our thanks go to Menno for providing these. The welcome is provided here to assist those unable to attend the meeting since it captures in many ways the vision of the Society and some of our history which appears to be a developing theme in the current bulletin.

The welcome.....

Dr Haller, Colleagues, and Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the eighteenth World Meeting of the International Society for the Research on Aggression: ISRA.

Before saying a few words on ISRA and aggression research, let me first thank all persons who have worked so hard to get this meeting together, our local organizer József Haller, Deborah South Richardson, chair of the scientific committee, the members of the various supporting committees, and the ISRA officers John Knutson, and Jackie White. It was a long road between the two twin cities of Minneapolis to the twin cities of Buda and Pest, known as Budapest, but we got here and we have it in our own hands, and now trust it into the hands of all

participants to make this meeting a huge success.

ISRA is not just like any other scientific society. As our founding fathers and one founding mother (Kirsti Lagerspetz) understood, ISRA has to be special, because it faces special challenges.

Let me illustrate this with an anecdote. Eight years ago, in 2000, I picked up a journal on my flight to the 14th ISRA meeting in Valencia, Spain. Inside was a report on an International Meeting on AIDS and HIV in South Africa. That meeting had 20.000 attendants, and a budget of 30 million US\$, as I recall. If I remember it correctly, the ISRA meeting in Valencia, had budget of about 30.000 dollar and 200 attendants. Rather a contrast! I wondered, and still wonder, how come, that science and society recognizes AIDS as an overwhelming problem, and pays scant scientific attention to the equally overwhelming problem of aggression. You know, even if I were a narrow-minded AIDS specialist, I would still need to pay attention to aggression. It is very clear that AIDS is closely related to social disruption, conflict and violence against women. Especially so in Southern Africa.

Part of the answer, in my view, is that society is still in denial of aggression and at the same time obsessed with it. That is very similar to attitude towards sex in Victorian times. It was there all the time, but people faced away from it, though that didn't change the biological reality.

That is what makes ISRA special; we try hard to face aggression on scientific terms. However, even we need a wakeup call now and then. Let me try and illustrate that with another, more recent memory.

When we came to our hotel last Saturday, it seemed as if there was a reception committee there in front of our hotel, consisting of heavily armed Hungarian policemen ordered like a Roman army. Now, Dr Haller knows that I have been involved in a large study on squatter's riots, demonstrators, and hooligans. So for a moment, I believed that Haller organized a practical demonstration on crowd control for us. But no, Haller is an excellent organizer, but that would have been beyond his budget and beyond his capabilities. The police was there to face a crowd of angry, beer intoxicated skin heads and protect another group demonstrators from attack.

There we saw aggression in all its complexity. I don't say this to embarrass our Hungarian hosts, but because there, on Saturday, we did see, in real life, many of the factors involved in aggression that will also be part of the scientific program of this meeting. Such as:

- If even the highly sophisticated, orderly and civilized Hungarian society as I know it, sees now and then such explosions of aggression, not just my own traditionally unruly and unkempt Dutch society, then we are seeing something that clearly needs a cross-cultural perspective to understand.
- Also such events deeply affect those who experience it, police, hooligans and bystanders, though in different ways. Such conflicts strengthen bonds of belonging within groups, and adversity between groups: important factors in aggression.
- Yet just around the corner Saturday's shopping went on, mothers strolled with kids, seemingly strangely unaffected by the helicopter noise from above. Yet we know that there may be strong

psychological effects on both participants and bystanders.

- The male hooligans were clearly angry and beer infested, but the police seemed rather controlled and calm. Yet we know that stress hormones in police may be extremely high under such circumstances.
- Then again, even within these conflicts very little time is spent on real fighting. We at least saw very little. We mostly saw posturing and threats.

Again I don't tell you this not to embarrass our Hungarian hosts, I fact I have seldom seen such efficient, professional crowd control. I report this event to highlight the multifaceted aspects of one single conflict that is common to most societies. And I haven't even touched the motives of the contestants. Such complexity again stresses the importance of ISRA as a forum for interdisciplinary exchange on aggression.

That is what makes ISRA special. It attracts specialist scientists from many different fields who are willing to look over the hedge into the other field. Not just because the grass is greener at the other side of the hedge. It isn't. But because the little stream in the other field may become a flood in one's own area or the hill in the other field may produce a landslide in your own.

ISRA is also special because it is a scientific society taking on one of the most challenging scientific problems in the world. It goes where few scientists dare to go. But it is also a network of close relationships. ISRA is a community. It needs to be. Because when disciplines meet over a socially loaded subject, like aggression, heated arguments will fly in a clash of scientific cultures.

In ISRA, a society that studies aggression in scientific terms, we learned to fight as friends, and remain friends. After all science is a social activity too. There are many persons in this audience and in our membership whom we are proud to call friends. So many persons from different disciplines who we would never have met but for ISRA. We share many happy memories of successful, insightful meetings and trips. On the bookshelves in our home I cherish a special American Songbook. It is a gift from the most prominent founding father of ISRA John-Paul Scott and his wife Mary. A reminder on a trip ISRA-members made to visit our fellow member, the late Vladimir Poshivalov, in Leningrad, then behind the Iron Curtain. I had asked Kaj Björqvist to bring his guitar and we killed time on the long train trip from Turku to Leningrad by singing with Mary and John Scott, Marguerite Vergnes, Kaj a few others. John Paul Scott is no longer among us, but we still honor him in our JP Scott lecture.

As I told you, ISRA is special indeed, a society, a community and an elite tackling one of the most difficult in science. Very special indeed. If you haven't joined us yet, please join us now and you will find that you are very welcome. And with these words, I would like to officially open the 18th World Meeting of ISRA.

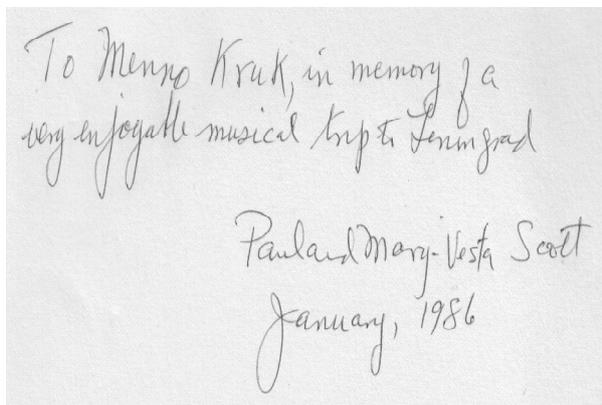
Menno R. Kruk PhD
President ISRA 2006-2008

The conference in pictures

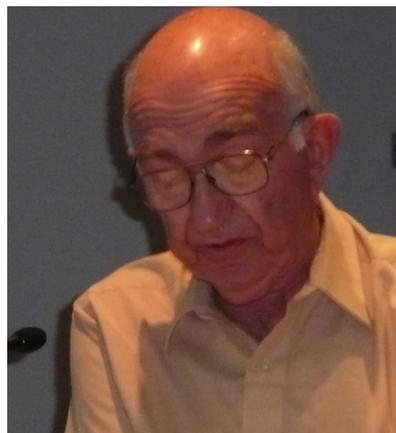
The pictures I feel perhaps speak for themselves and largely require no introduction, but brief commentary is included to assist.



Two of our 'ISRA greats' – Professor John Archer (left) presenting Professor Murray Straus (right) with a life fellowship.



A poignant note depicting our heritage as a Society. A note from 1986 to our exiting president from Paul Scott, the namesake for our senior award.



With the Scott lecture given by another of our highly esteemed heritage members, Professor Len Berkowitz.



The ISRA badge and gavel, a gift from our exiting president, Menno Kruk, to be passed to each incoming President.

Our awards.....

Continuing with the theme of heritage, 'young' [as in experience, not age!] investigators are very much the developing branches of our Society. It is positive to see such a range of worthy research being conducted. Presented here are those obtaining the best presentation and young investigators award. Where available, abstracts indicating their contribution are included, along with photographs (where made available).



The overall young investigators award presentation, presided over by our current and past-president (far-right), with Kenneth Leonard (far right). The winners were:

N.C. Dewall, S. Sage, D. Parrot, A. Teten, A. Murray, C. Cervantes, W.L. Heppner, M. Strenziok.



The presentation award winners, with our past president, Menno just visible at the back with Adrian Raine and Deborah Richardson (far right). The award winners were:

Georgia Ktistaki, Eva Syngelaki, Yu Gao, Nizete-Ly Valles, Gemma Warren, Anthony Walsh, Robina Khan, Kyle Gobrogge, Marie Claude Salves (not present in picture), Pfetch, Jan (not present in picture)

And introducing some of our winners.....



C. CERVANTES

SEROTONIN 5HT_{1A} AND 5HT₃ RECEPTORS IN AN ANIMAL MODEL OF IMPULSIVE AGGRESSION.

CERVANTES MC & DELVILLE Y.

In our laboratory, H-Agg hamsters express a phenotype characterized by a convergence of highly aggressive responses, repetitive behavior, emotional reactivity, and impulsive choice behavior, supporting an animal model of reactive aggression in humans. This impulsive-aggressive profile is also associated with a deficit in the serotonergic system. In order to investigate further neurobiological mechanisms within this phenotype, we compared the densities of 5HT_{1A} and 5HT₃ receptor immunoreactivity between L-Agg and H-Agg animals, which showed to be greater in H-Agg animals in several areas implicated in aggression and impulsivity.



YU GAO

POOR AUTONOMIC FEAR
CONDITIONING FROM AGES 3 TO 8
YEARS IS ASSOCIATED WITH
AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR AT AGE 8

YU GAO & ADRIAN RAINE

Little is known about the association between fear conditioning and aggressive behavior in children. In the current study, electrodermal fear conditioning responses to aversive auditory stimuli were recorded in 200 male and female children when they were aged 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8, whereas aggressive and non-aggressive antisocial behavior and hyperactivity data were collected when they were aged 8. Latent class analyses were conducted and results indicate that poor electrodermal fear conditioning from ages 3 to 8 years was associated with aggressive behavior at age 8. Findings are consistent with a neurodevelopmental perspective suggesting that poor fear conditioning early in life is a risk factor for the later development of aggressive behavior.

KYLE
GOBROGGE

ANTERIOR HYPOTHALAMIC
VASOPRESSIN REGULATES
SELECTIVE AGGRESSION IN MALE
PRAIRIE VOLES

After mating, male prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*) reject potential mates by displaying selective aggression toward stranger females yet maintain affiliative bonds with their familiar partner. Our previous work demonstrated that activation of vasopressin (AVP) neurons in the anterior hypothalamus (AH) was associated with selective aggression. At the 2008 ISRA meeting, we reported data from a series of experiments demonstrating the direct role of AH-AVP in selective aggression. In summary, our data suggest that AH-AVP plays a critical role, within a neural circuit, regulating selective aggression in male prairie voles.



WHITNEY L.
HEPPNER

MINDFULNESS CAN REDUCE AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR: DISPOSITIONAL AND SITUATIONAL EVIDENCE

WHITNEY L. HEPPNER AND MICHAEL
H. KERNIS

Considerable research focuses on factors linked with greater aggression, including various personality variables and situational instigators. Just as important, however, is research directed toward understanding factors associated with lower levels of aggression. Toward that end, the research we report focused on mindfulness, which refers to enhanced attention and awareness in the present moment (Brown & Ryan, 2003). Recent research and theory suggest that mindfulness may relate to relatively low ego-involvement (i.e., not investing one's self-esteem in a particular outcomes), implying that it may have implications for lowering hostility and aggressive behavior. Specifically, when not ego-involved, insults or other self-esteem threats are less likely to provoke aggressive behavior (Baumeister, Smart, & Boden, 1996; Kernis, Grannemann, Barclay, 1989). Accordingly, we conducted two studies to examine the potential aggression-mitigating role of mindfulness. In Study 1, we found that dispositional mindfulness correlated

negatively with self-reported aggressiveness and hostile attribution bias. In Study 2, participants who were made mindful prior to receiving social rejection feedback displayed less aggressive behavior than rejected participants who were not made mindful. Discussion centers on potential mechanisms (e.g., promotion of secure high self-esteem, lower ego-involvement, increased self-control) by which mindfulness operates to reduce aggressive behavior.



GEORGIA KTISTAKI

EARLY RISK FACTORS TO AGGRESSION: CORTISOL AND FEARLESSNESS IN INFANTS

GEORGIA KTISTAKI

There are clear indications that stress plays an important role in explaining individual differences in antisocial behaviour. I presented data from an ongoing longitudinal study in which we measured SCL and cortisol in one- and two-year-olds to find out whether early individual differences in stress responding are related to later externalizing and aggressive behaviour. Results suggest that SCL and cortisol may be early indicators of externalizing and aggressive behaviour.



DOMINIC J.
PARROTT

DETERMINANTS OF VIOLENCE BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

This study examined whether sexual prejudice and masculine gender role stress mediated the relation between three norms of masculine ideology (status, toughness, antifemininity) and antigay aggression. Participants were 150 heterosexual undergraduate men who completed (1) questionnaires that assessed relevant attitudinal variables, and (2) the Taylor Aggression Paradigm (TAP) that measured physical aggression toward a fictitious male opponent who they believed to be gay or heterosexual. Results indicated that adherence to the antifemininity norm, but not the status and toughness norms, predicted antigay aggression and that this effect was mediated by sexual prejudice.



JAN PFETSCH

PREVENTION OF AGGRESSION IN SCHOOLS THROUGH TRAINING OF BYSTANDER'S INTERVENTION

JAN PFETSCH, GEORGES STEFFGEN &
MARIO GOLLWITZER

Although the majority of students disapprove aggressive behavior in school, only a part of them intervenes while witnessing such cases. Following the group-focus on bullying of the participant role approach (Salmivalli, Lagerspetz, Björkqvist, Österman & Kaukiainen, 1996), a bystander's intervention is shown by the defenders of the victim. This behavior may be seen as civil courage which is defined as a socially brave intervention of bystanders associated with potential risks in a situation where fundamental norms are being violated. Reinforcers, assistants of the bully, and outsiders may be targets of interventions to enhance civil courage among students.

A newly developed prevention program promotes civil courage among students and focuses on individual level (social competences, justice evaluations) and class level variables (group processes and participant roles). This project is implemented in different primary and secondary schools in Luxemburg through teacher trainings.

A nationwide evaluation study in Luxembourg (in progress, $N < 1000$) includes questionnaires for students and teachers, assessing the incidence of aggression, participant roles of prosocial behaviors and possible moderators (e.g. class climate, empathy, norm of social responsibility). Training and control groups are assessed at three time points (pre, post, 3 month follow up), but only two time points can be reported here. Preliminary findings will be presented and discussed.



MARIE-CLAUDE
SALVIAS

EVOLUTION OF PHYSICAL AGGRESSION FROM KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 1: THE ROLE OF FRIENDSHIP QUALITY

SALVIAS, M-C., VITARO, F.,
BRENDGEN, M., BOIVIN, M., &
TREMBLAY, R.E.

The purpose of this study was to examine the role of friendship quality in regard to the persistence of children's physical aggression from kindergarten to grade 1, as well as the contribution of friends' aggression. A representative sample of 968 children (516 girls) participated in the study. Results indicated that a high friendship quality is negatively related to physical aggression in both boys and girls. In addition, in line with the social bonding perspective, results showed a high friendship quality protects against the effect of friend's aggression on

children's own physical aggression. Thus, interventions that aim to improve friendship quality may help reduce children's physical aggression at school entry.



MAREN
STRENZIOK

PREFRONTAL CORTEX DEVELOPMENT MIRRORS AGE- DEPENDENT FUNCTIONAL CHANGES DURING IMAGINED AGGRESSION IN MALE ADOLESCENTS

In my neuroimaging study, I investigated the association between prefrontal cortex function, aggressive behavior, and normal brain development. My results showed that healthy 14 to 17 year old males display reduced activation in the most ventral part of the medial prefrontal cortex when they imagined that they fight with a peer in a realistic situation. We further demonstrated that the thickness of the frontopolar cortex, an evolutionary and ontogenetic young region in the most anterior part of the prefrontal cortex, correlated with activation changes in this region which in turn were associated with how good adolescents are able to anticipate harmful consequences of violent behavior. In summary, our findings support the idea that the ventromedial prefrontal cortex plays a key role in the modulation of aggressive behavior in adolescents and that changes in brain structure during this period are associated with aggressive behavior and judgment of the severity of aggressive acts.



EVA
SYNGELAKI

THE RELATION BETWEEN FEAR
CONDITIONING AND OFFENDING
BEHAVIOUR IN ANTISOCIAL YOUTH

EVA SYNGELAKI

In my talk I highlighted how emotional processing impairments may play an etiological role in the development of aggressive and antisocial behaviour. Two studies were conducted on fear conditioning ability in antisocial teenagers; the first one was carried out in adolescents with early-onset and adolescent-onset Conduct Disorder (Fairchild, et al., 2008), and the second one in young offenders. Both groups were found to show poor fear conditioning, providing evidence that differently defined antisocial groups present with similar impairments linked to the amygdala.



ANDRA L.
TETEN

TOWARDS A DEVELOPMENTAL
MODEL OF IMPULSIVE AGGRESSION:
ALEXITHYMIA AS THE CONFLUENCE
OF NEUROBIOLOGICAL AND
PSYCHOLOGICAL DETERMINANTS

ANDRA L. TETEN & THOMAS A. KENT

My research involves examining psychological features of impulsive aggression. My hypothesis was that alexithymia increases the potential for impulsive aggression among trauma survivors. Results from a sample of combat veterans supported that the verbal characteristic of alexithymia--Difficulty Describing Emotions--was a feature of impulsive aggression in this sample. The effect of trauma on aggression had two functions: to increase veterans' propensity for impulsive aggression and to decrease their expression of premeditated aggression. Based on the model, prevention programs may consider addressing verbal or emotional awareness deficits as well as the trauma itself.



NIZETE-LY VALLES

THE ROLE OF DEFICIENT AND HARSH
PARENTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT
OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT
AGGRESSION IN PRESCHOOL AND
SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

NIZETE-LY VALLES AND JOHN F.
KNUTSON

We sought to replicate and extend research which has examined the predictors of both direct and indirect aggression using a multi-source multi-method design and structural

equation modeling. Results indicated that—after controlling for Time 1 (T1) maternal social status, care neglect, and poor monitoring—high levels of harsh/punitive discipline at T1 predicted high levels of Time 2 direct aggression. Both high social status and high levels of punitive discipline at T1 predicted higher levels of Time 2 indirect aggression. However, the relationship between punitive discipline and indirect aggression was mediated by the child's use of direct aggression, which supports previous findings of a group of children that display an increasing use of both forms of aggression (Cote et al., 2007).



AMANDA MURRAY

THE EFFECTS OF AGE AND EXTERNALIZING BEHAVIOUR ON CHILDREN'S REPORTS OF FRIENDSHIP QUALITY AND BEST FRIEND AGGRESSION

AMANDA MURRAY & JOHN F. KNUTSON

Developmental differences in the similarity between friends' aggressive behavior were examined using both self-report and observational data in a sample of children ages 4-11. Evidence was found to support the hypothesis that older children are more similar to their friends in terms of aggressive behavior than younger children.

Unexpectedly, for young children, a negative correlation was found between friends' aggressive behavior.



GEMMA WARREN

THE USE OF PSYCHOPATHIC TRAITS ON THE USE OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT FORMS OF AGGRESSION.

The presentation examined the influence of psychopathic personality traits on the use of indirect forms of aggression. Data was presented from a study using community adults indicating that, like direct aggression, indirect aggression use was predicted by the affective and impulsivity aspects of psychopathy. However, preliminary evidence was also presented indicating that there was a strong moderation effect of non-verbal social skills on this relationship.

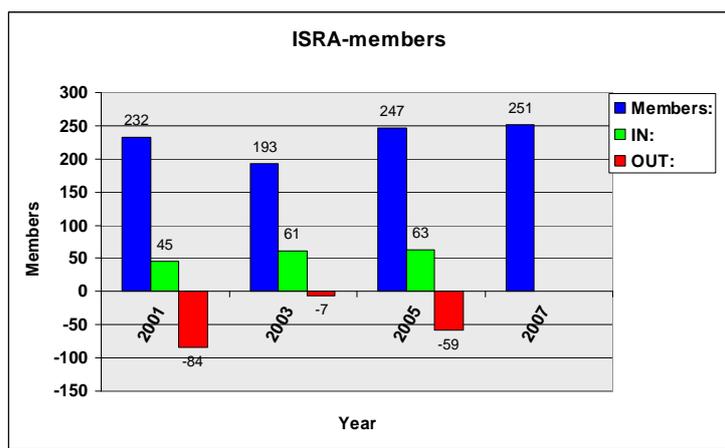
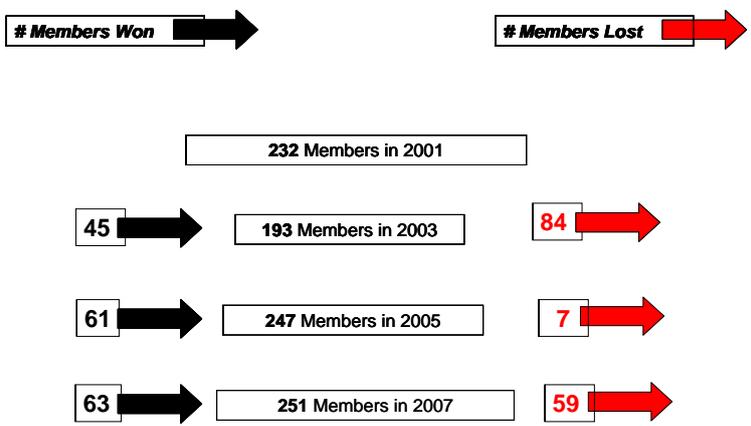
Brief marketing summary

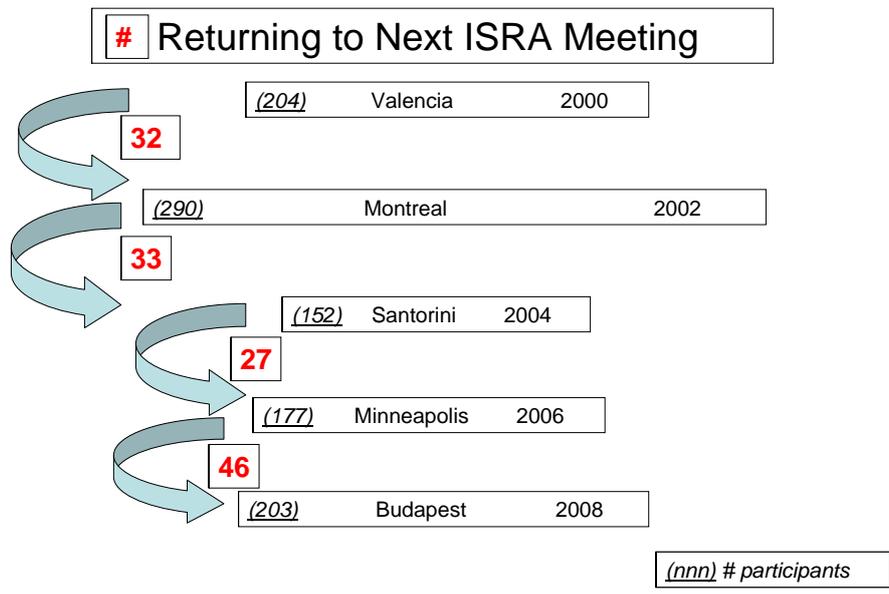
Presented on the ensuing pages is a brief marketing summary completed by our exiting president, Menno Kruk. This information, and the views contained within, are presented for information. Any views represented are those noted to the ISRA council by the exiting president. They represent useful food for thought, particularly for the current and future organizing and scientific committees, and the ISRA council.

ISRA's Preliminary MARKET FILE
1184 Persons Associated with Aggression Research

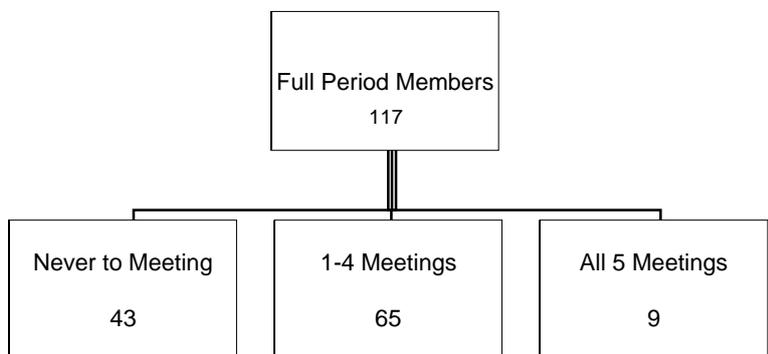
ALL PERSONS		
688	Attended one or more of the meetings	2000-2008
278	Never attended any ISRA meeting in	2000-2006
118	Non members and Students in Budapest	2008
MEMBERS		
117	Attended one or more ISRA Meetings	2000-2008
43	Never attended any ISRA Meeting	2000-2008
9	Attended all Meetings in the period	2000-2008

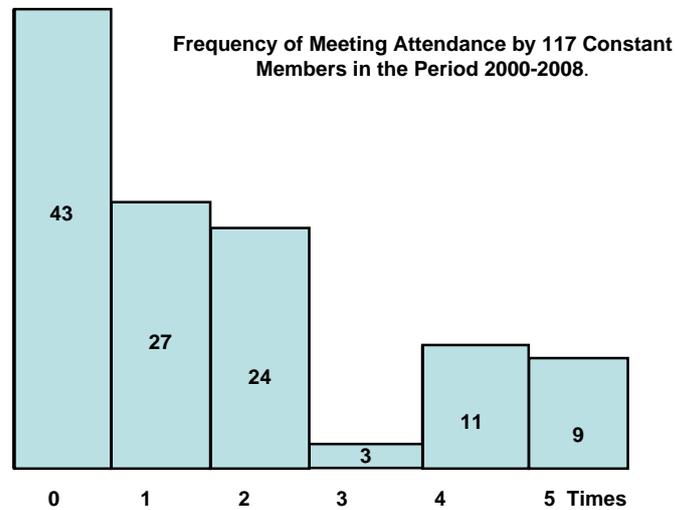
Membership Balance 2001 - 2007





ISRA Membership Meeting Attendance 2000-2008





**PARTICIPANTS XVIIIth World Meeting
Budapest (2008)**

REGISTERED AS

Members	74
Non-Members	53
Students	60

PREVIOUS ATTENDANCE in 2000-2006

One Time or More	81
None	121

**PARTICIPANTS XVIIIth World Meeting
Budapest (2008)**

Anglo-Saxon	Continental Europe	Other
USA 62	Spain 9	Japan 8
UK 26	Finland 8	Israel 3
Australia 13	Germany 8	Guatemala 1
Canada 10	Netherlands 8	Hong Kong 1
New Zealand 4	Hungary 7	Puerto Rico 1
	Poland 5	
	Russia 4	
	France 3	
	Luxemburg 3	
	Rumenia 2	
	Belarus 2	
	Italy 2	
	Czech 1	
	Ukraine 1	
	Slovakia 1	
	Sweden 1	

Summarizing

- Attendance ISRA Meetings largely depends on new participants
- Carry over of participants to the next meeting is relatively small
- Many regular members skip several meetings in a row
- ISRA is still an Anglo-Saxon and NW-Europe dominated Society

Conclusion & Suggestions

- ISRA needs to work on its visibility in the “aggression market”
- An effort to bind new participants to ISRA is essential
- ISRA needs an active membership policy
- Wild swings in scientific emphasis between meetings should be avoided
- A geographic expansion beyond Anglo-Saxon and NW Europe is required
- Reserving or Raising Funds for Hardship Cases should support this point

Data compiled from membership lists and meeting participation lists since 2000

Menno R. Kruk (PhD)
Compiled at 1 July 2008

Forthcoming conferences and society announcements

The following section presents information on two forthcoming conferences. These are presented for advertisement only and their inclusion does not indicate formal ISRA endorsement. They are included simply as the themes may be of interest to ISRA membership.

Understanding Violence Recent advances in biology, sociology, and modeling

**EPFL-LATSIS Symposium 2009
11-13th February 2009, Lausanne Switzerland**

Violence is one of the most important social and public health problems worldwide. Despite great interest in understanding the major causes of violence and in developing effective prevention and intervention programs, knowledge generated by experts on different fields is nowadays fragmented and generally circumscribed to the circles where it is generated. Violent behavior is related to complex environmental and social circumstances, but heritable and other biological factors are also implicated. An integrated view of the causes of violence should take into account sociological and psychological aspects, together with biological, evolutionary and modeling approaches.

This EPFL-Latsis Symposium will bring together world leaders from each of these fields to discuss major recent advances in biological (genetic risk factors; stress; hormonal alterations; neuroimaging data on brain function alterations), psycho-sociological (hierarchical relationships and population health; elements of the micro-context; developmental trajectories) and modeling approaches (virtual reality and emotions; computational models on the development of hierarchical societies) to foster actual interactions between these fields.

There will be 6 sessions organized around key questions related to “Understanding Violence”, in which presentations by invited speakers will be followed by a large discussion animated by a leading expert. There will be poster sessions and a round table that will include representatives from major international organizations with programs on violence and representatives from institutions that directly deal with violent individuals or with their victims. The language and level in speakers’ presentations will be accessible to non-experts, as part of the common goal and effort for establishing a true communication among the different backgrounds and approaches.

We would like to welcome you at the Conference. Registration and for more information visit:
<http://latsis2009.epfl.ch>

The Scientific Committee:

Organizer: Carmen Sandi (Brain Mind Institute, EPFL, Switzerland)

Co-organizers: Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg (Central Inst of Mental Health, Germany); Mel Slater (ICREA, ES; UCL UK); Pierre Magistretti (Brain Mind Institute, EPFL, Switzerland)

Speakers include:

John Archer	Richard Wilkinson
Klaus-Peter Lesch	Richard E Tremblay
Richard J Ebstein	Caroline Blanchard
Stephen J. Suomi	Francois Ansermet
Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg	Pierre Magistretti
Sheilagh Hodgins	Inga D. Neumann
Jaap M. Koolhaas	Mark Broom
József Haller	Lee Alan Dugatkin
Mel Slater	Kent Kiehl
Mark Levine	Albert Rizzo
Joshua W. Buckholtz	Stefan Klusemann
Carmen Sandi	

Discussants:

Didier Trono	Ronal de Kloet
Alexander Butchart	Daniel Schechter
Philippe Cotter	Olaf Blanke

Programme:**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 2009**

- 8:45-9:00 Opening Remarks
 Prof Dusan Sidjanski (Latsis Foundation)
 Prof Giorgio Margaritondo (Vice-president EPFL)
- Session 1 Are individuals born violent? Can we talk of 'genetic' determinism?
- Chair Carmen Sandi
- 9:00-9:45 Richard E Tremblay
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- 10:20-10:50 Coffee break
- 10:50-11:25 Stephen J. Suomi
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- 11:25-12:00 Caroline Blanchard
 The evolution and adaptive functions of anger, aggression and violence
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 Neurogenetic and neurohormonal mechanisms of prosocial and aggressive
 behavior
- 15:20-15:55 Jozsef Haller
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 glucocorticoids
- 15:55-16:25 Coffee break

16:25-17:00 Discussion - Ron de Kloet

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 2009

Session 3 What are the social, contextual and evolutionary causes of violence?

Chair Pierre Magistretti

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The violence of inequality

9:45-10:20 Stefan Klusemann
Micro-situational antecedents of violent atrocity

10:20-10:55 Mark Broom
Balancing risks and rewards: the logic of violence

10:55-11:25 Coffee break

11:25-12:10 John Archer
Sexual selection as an explanation of human sex differences in aggression

12:10-12:45 Discussion - Alexander Butchart

Session 4 What works differently in the brain of violent individuals? What makes psychopaths different? Can we reverse, treat aggression?

Chair Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg

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Psychopathy, violence and brain

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Multimodal characterization of genetic risk mechanisms for impulsive aggression

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19:00 Banquet – Departure Bus

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th, 2009

Session 5 Are individuals ‘made’ violent? Does stress shape individual’s aggression?

Chair Stephen J. Suomi

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Drive, violence and homeostasis

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From aggression to violence in rats and mice: role of individual behavioral and neurobiological characteristics

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Stress as a generator of social imbalance

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16:15-17:00 Albert Rizzo
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17:00-17:35 Discussion - Philippe Cotter

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17:45 Farewell Drink



Violence in Public Places and Institutions

June 25th - 27th 2009, Preston

Conference Announcement and Call for Papers





Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

Violence in Public Places and Institutions

June 25th - 27th 2009

Venue: University of Central Lancashire, Preston, UK, PR1 2HE



Conference Aims

The University of Central Lancashire is pleased to announce a conference on violence in public places and institutions. The aim of the conference is to bring together academics and practitioners concerned with violence in public places and institutions, to present up-to-date information on theory, practice and intervention. The focus of the conference is therefore broad and includes violence in prisons and schools, the history of violent crime, terrorism, violence in the night-time economy, assessment of violence-prevention programmes, gang-related violence, rape and the violence-prone individual. A key rationale is to enable delegates from diverse research and practitioner backgrounds to exchange views and information about up-to-date information and issues.



Preliminary Conference Information

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Manuel Eisner, Reader in Criminology, University of Cambridge
"Effective violence prevention: What can we learn from the Victorian success story?"

Professor Anthony Pellegrini, University of Minnesota
"The impact of the school context on aggression and violence in schools"

Professor John Archer, University of Central Lancashire
"An evolutionary perspective on human violence in public places and institutions"

Professor Andrew Silke, University of East London
"Terrorism"



Invited Symposia

Violence between prisoners; Violence and the night-time economy; Evolutionary approaches to violence; Gang-related violence; Assessing violence-prevention programmes; The violence-prone individual; Male rape in public places; Methods for studying violence; school bullying.

Call for Symposia, Papers and Posters

We are looking for oral and poster presentations on any aspect of violence in public places and institutions, from an academic, or practitioner perspective, and are particularly interested in contributions that link the two. Please submit your abstract using the abstract submission form which can be obtained from the address below. The closing date for abstracts is (provisionally) 6th March, 2009. Please note that presenters need to register for the conference and pay the registration fee (there are a limited number of British Psychological Society DFP sponsored places and also a limited number of places at a reduced rate for charity/voluntary service providers). The conference language is English.



Please address all abstracts and enquiries to: -

Emma Kelly

Conference Officer
Conference and Events Management Office
University of Central Lancashire
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Preston PR1 2HE, UK

Tel: +44 (0) 1772 892654

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The Journal of Aggression, Conflict and Peace Research (JACP) will publish a broad range of empirical studies, theoretical and review papers on all aspects of aggression, conflict and peace. It will produce high quality publications that attend both to academic and practice development issues to assist with the translation from academic workings into practice.

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- *Conflict* is defined as potentially arising in any situation where the interests’ of one individual or group of individuals is in competition with another individual or group;
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Format and style

All submitted articles should include:

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- Between four and five key words;
- A list of implications for practice (a bulleted list of between four to five key points);
- Contact details for the corresponding author (including email address);
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Please use recent references where possible and limit the total number of references.

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New and forthcoming books of potential interest

Violent and Sexual Offenders: Assessment, Treatment and Management Willan Publishing.

Edited by Jane L. Ireland, Carol A. Ireland and Philip Birch

With a foreword by Professor David P. Farrington

www.willanpublishing.co.uk

ISBN paperback 978-1-84392-382-4; Hardback 978-1-84392-383-1

‘should be essential reading for scholars, practitioners and policy-makers who are concerned with violent and sexual offenders. And it should help to reduce the prevalence and incidence of these troubling social problems.’ – David P. Farrington

This book provides an authoritative overview and analysis of issues of assessment, treatment and management of violent and sexual offenders. It includes chapters by authoritative authors in the field of treatment, management and assessment, with a focus both on raising academic knowledge and also on giving practical guidelines for the treatment and management of such offenders. The full range of risk assessment approaches are covered (i.e. clinical, actuarial and structured clinical), with detailed theory on aggression from a range of perspectives. Also included are details of specific methods of assessment and their application (including the use of life maps; choice chains; functional assessment; and situational assessment), and long term therapy and management approaches.

The book takes a multi-disciplinary approach to the assessment, treatment and management of violent and sexual offenders, and extends its coverage to include the issue of stalking and domestic violence. Contributors to the book bring to bear a wide range of expertise from both academic and practitioner contexts, and are drawn from the UK, Canada, New Zealand and Switzerland.

The editors

Jane L. Ireland is Professor of Forensic Psychology at the University of Central Lancashire; Carol A. Ireland is a Chartered Forensic Psychologist and currently works for Mersey Care NHS Trust and the University of Central Lancashire; Philip Birch is Senior Lecturer in the Division of Criminal and Community Justice at the University of Huddersfield.

The contributors

Stefanie Ashton Wigman, Anthony R. Beech, Philip Birch, Douglas P. Boer, Thomas Considine, Kevin S. Douglas, Nicola Graham-Kevan, Laura S. Guy, Leigh Harkins, Stephen D. Hart, Bill Heberton, Carol A. Ireland, Jane L. Ireland, Tim Jones, Randall P. Kropp, Jennifer A. Lavoie, Werner Tschan, David Wilson, Rachel Worthington

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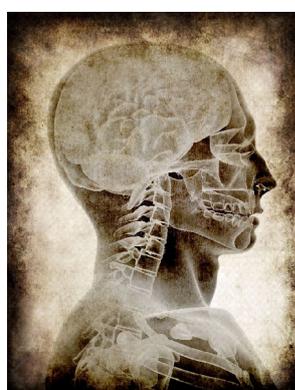
Thomas Considine and Philip Birch

The neurobiology of violence: implications for prevention and treatment

Organised and edited by Sheilagh Hodgins, Essi Viding and Anna Plodowski

Published August 2008

Special offer price: £47.50 (usual price: £59.50)



This special issue of *Philosophical Transactions B* showcases the scientific knowledge of the processes that lead to persistent violent offending and those that maintain the behaviour through adulthood.

The initial papers describe the development of persistently violent offenders, and the subsequent papers present integrative reviews of studies that aim to further understanding of the brain processes that maintain violence. The necessity of identifying sub-types of violent offenders in order to further understanding of the causal mechanisms is addressed.

The papers in the latter part of the special issue review treatment for adult violent offenders. While there is evidence for success, many barriers to effective rehabilitation remain. Consequently, two papers emphasize the importance of developing effective interventions for children with conduct problems and for mothers who are at risk of having children with conduct problems. Both highlight the need to consider both biological and non-biological factors as promoters of violence.

Subscribers to *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* can access the full content online at: publishing.royalsociety.org/neurobiology-violence

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James N. Butcher, Grant Dahlstrom, John R. Graham and Auke Tellegen, 2001

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