

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### SOHAD MURRAR

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Department of Psychology  
1202 W. Johnson St.  
Madison, Wisconsin 53706  
(708) 307-5328  
smurrar@wisc.edu  
www.sohadmurrar.com

## EDUCATION

### University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Ph.D. in Social Psychology May 2018 (Expected)  
Dissertation: *The impact of social norms on prejudice through entertainment television media*  
Advisors: Markus Brauer, Ph.D., Patricia Devine, Ph.D., Kristin Shutts, Ph.D.,  
Judith Harackiewicz, Ph.D., Marie-Louise Mares, Ph.D.

M.S. in Social Psychology May 2014  
Thesis: *Entertainment-Education and prejudice reduction*  
Advisors: Markus Brauer, Ph.D., Patricia Devine, Ph.D., Kristin Shutts, Ph.D.

### University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

M.A. in Social Sciences Aug 2011  
Specialization in Comparative Human Development and Psychology  
Thesis: *Exercising autonomy, recognizing moral pluralism and forging moral identity:  
Islamic schooling and American Muslims in a western liberal context*  
Advisors: Richard Shweder, Ph.D., Barnaby Riedel, Ph.D.

### Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

B.A. in Psychology, Minor in Asian and Middle East Studies Jun 2010

## GRANTS & AWARDS

Student Research Travel Grant – The Graduate School, University of Wisconsin, \$1200 Oct 2017  
Graduate Lecturer Award – Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin, \$1200 Aug 2017  
Hertz Travel Award – Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin, \$750 Jan 2017  
European Association of Social Psychology Seedcorn Research Grant, 2000€ Oct 2016  
Hertz Travel Award – Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin, \$750 Feb 2016  
Hertz Travel Award – Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin, \$750 Jul 2015  
Office of the Vice Provost & Chief Diversity Officer Grant – University of Wisconsin, \$5000 Jan 2015  
Hertz Travel Award – Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin, \$750 Dec 2014  
Diversity Fund Graduate Travel Award - Society for Personality & Social Psychology, \$500 Sep 2014  
Hertz Travel Award - Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, \$750 Oct 2013  
Kenneth and Mamie Clark Award for Graduate Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, \$2000 Sep 2012  
The Difficult Dialogues Undergraduate Research Grant - Ford Foundation, \$2000 Jun 2008

## FELLOWSHIPS

### University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Letters & Science Community of Graduate Research Scholars Fellowship Sep 2017- May 2018

## PUBLICATIONS

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (in preparation). Overcoming resistance to change: Using narratives to create more positive intergroup attitudes.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (in preparation). Shifting perceptions of social norms to improve intergroup relations and create inclusive climates.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (in press). Entertainment-Education effectively reduces prejudice. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (in press). Mixed-model analysis of variance. *In The SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. EDP.

Lai, C. K., Skinner, A. L., Cooley, E., Murrar, S., Brauer, M., ... Nosek, B. A. (2016). Reducing implicit racial preferences: II. Intervention effectiveness across time. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 145(8), 1001-1016.

Murrar, S. Gavac, S., & Brauer, M. Reducing prejudice. (2015). In R. Summers (Ed.), *Social psychology: How other people influence our thoughts and actions* (pp. 361-384). Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, Inc.

Gavac, S. Murrar, S., & Brauer, M. Group perception and social norms (2015). In R. Summers (Ed.), *Social psychology: How other people influence our thoughts and actions* (pp. 333-360). Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, Inc.

Padela, A., Murrar, S., Adviento, B., Liao, C., Hosseinian, Z., Peek, M., & Curlin, F. (2014). Associations between religion-related factors and breast cancer screening, *Journal of Immigrant & Minority Health*, 16, 1-10.

## PRESENTATIONS

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2017). Using entertainment media to reduce intergroup prejudice. Talk given at the 18<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the European Association of Social Psychology, Granada, Spain.

Brauer, M. & Murrar, S. (2017). Creating inclusive climates with descriptive norms messaging. Talk given at the 18<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the European Association of Social Psychology, Granada, Spain.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2017). Using descriptive norms to create inclusive climates. Poster presentation at the *Understanding Interventions Conference*, San Antonio, TX.

Murrar, S., Chu, C., & Pietri, E. (2017). Reducing prejudice with visual and written narratives. Poster presentation given at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*, San Antonio, TX.

Chu, C., Murrar, S. & Pietri, E. (2017). The effect of diversity intervention media format on attitudes toward minorities. Poster presentation given at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*, San Antonio, TX.

Murrar, S. (2016). A comparison of prejudice interventions. Poster presentation given at the *University of Exeter, European Association of Social Psychology Summer Institute*, Exeter, England.

Murrar, S. (2016). Improving intergroup relations with media narratives. Talk given at the *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Diversity Seminar*, Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2016). Reducing prejudice with entertainment media. Talk given at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*, San Diego, CA.

Murrar, S. (2015). Entertainment narratives and prejudice reduction. Talk given at the *University of Illinois at Chicago Bonam Lab Meeting*, Chicago, IL.

Murrar, S. (2015). Applying findings from social psychology: Engendering pro-social behaviors in the real world. Talk given at the *Do the Right Thing: How to Encourage Ethical Behavior & Practices Summit*, Madison, WI.

Vu, H., Radejko, T., Azmat, A., Murrar, S., Hosseinian, Z., Adviento, B., & Padela, A. (2015). Relationships between religiosity and delayed healthcare seeking among American Muslims. Poster presentation given at the *Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association*, Chicago, IL.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2015). Prejudice reduction: Comparing the effects of multiple methods. Poster presentation given at the *Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention*, New York, NY.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2015). A comparative study of prejudice interventions. Poster presentation given at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*, Long Beach, CA.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2014). Entertainment education and prejudice reduction. Poster presentation given at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*, Austin, TX.

Padela, A., Murrar, S., Adviento, B., Curlin, F., & Olufunmilayo, O. (2013). Associations between fatalistic beliefs, modesty concerns and breast cancer screening in the American Muslim community. Poster presentation given at the *Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research*, Washington, D.C.

## WORKSHOPS TAUGHT

Brauer, M. & Murrar, S. (2016). Reducing racism and prejudice: Effective methods for the workplace. Workshop taught at *Sustain Dane: Environmental Organizations Equity Groups Racial Prejudice Workshop*, Madison, WI.

Brauer, M. & Murrar, S. (2015). Reducing racism and prejudice: What works? Workshop taught at *YWCA Madison Racial Justice Summit*, Madison, WI.

Brauer, M. & Murrar, S. (2014). What is prejudice? And how do we reduce it? Workshop taught at *Crossing Pathways: A Community Approach to Dismantling Racism Summit*, Kenosha, WI.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI**

**Graduate Researcher, Department of Psychology** Aug 2012 – present  
Design, manage, and analyze research studies on social interventions used to reduce prejudice and create inclusive environments.

**University of Chicago, Chicago, IL**

**Project Coordinator, Department of Medicine** Dec 2011 – Nov 2012  
Designed and managed community-based participatory research projects for the Program on Medicine and Religion's *Initiative on Islam and Medicine*.

**Research Assistant, The Goldin-Meadow Laboratory** Oct 2010 – Nov 2011  
Carried out research on non-verbal communication, cognition, development, and moral reasoning.

**Research Assistant, Committee on Human Development** Jun 2005 – Sep 2006  
Interviewed participants for the Russell Sage Foundation's *Islamic Adaptations in the U.S.* project.

**Northwestern University, Evanston, IL**

**Research Assistant, The Durbin Lab** Mar 2009– Jun 2009 & Mar 2010 – Jun 2010  
Organized data collection for projects on infant cognition and the developmental of mood disorders.

**Research Assistant, Behavior & Cognition and Social Psychology Lab** Sep 2006 – Dec 2008  
Assisted in the development of research on cultural and biological predictors of emotion and social attitudes.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### **European Association of Social Psychology Summer Institute**

University of Exeter, Exeter, England.

Aug 2016

Accepted into and completed a two-week intensive seminar on researching prosocial and antisocial behavior in public spaces.

### **Psychological Experience Research Program**

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

May 2015 – August 2015

Completed a ten-week intensive seminar on mentoring and advised visiting student in the completion of a summer research project.

### **Summer Institute in Social & Personality Psychology**

Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts

Jul 2015

Accepted into and completed a two-week intensive seminar on intergroup relations and disparities.

### **Growth Curve Analysis of Longitudinal Data Workshop**

University of Wisconsin-Madison in Madison, Wisconsin

Jun 2014

Completed a two-day intensive seminar on growth curve analysis of longitudinal data.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Project Manager, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI**

Jan 2016 – May 2017

Collaborative research with Center for Women's Health, University of Wisconsin-Madison and Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Developed and carried out research on gender biases in medical science.

### **Course Instructor, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI**

May 2017 – Aug 2017

Psychological Effects of the Internet

Developed and prepared pedagogic material for online interface such as lectures, websites, and synchronous and asynchronous assignments; managed and graded daily discussion posts and assignments; supervised teaching assistant; managed virtual interactions with and between students; and overlooked the entire production and execution of the of the online course.

### **Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI**

Sep 2012 – Dec 2015

Psychological Effects of the Internet

Psychology of Human Emotions (two times)

Psychology of Perception

Introduction to Cultural Psychology

Introduction to Psychology (three times)

Assisted professors in class-management; designed syllabi, exams, projects, and assignments; taught discussion sections; gave lectures; managed online and in-class material and grading; and met with and mentored students on issues related to coursework and college experience.

### **Laboratory Manager, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI**

Sep 2012 – Aug 2014

The Brauer Group Lab

Established system for all lab logistics; recruited, trained, and managed research assistants; overlooked research projects and lab logistics; and designed and managed lab website.

### **Pharmacy Technician, Osco Drug Pharmacy, Oak Lawn, IL**

Oct 2005 – Jul 2012

Advised patients about prescription and third-party issues; carried out pharmacy logistics; and worked with doctor and other healthcare professionals to manage pharmacy functions.

### **Behavior Analyst, The Family Institute, Evanston, IL**

Jan 2009– Jun 2009

Coded couples' behaviors in filmed therapy sessions based on the Structural Analysis of Social Behavior model and analyzed data collected by multiple coders.

## SERVICE

- Executive Board Member, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI** Sep 2014 – Oct 2017  
Department of Psychology Diversity & Climate Committee  
Worked with faculty, staff, and students to raise awareness about diversity-related problems; developed, administered, and analyzed climate surveys; organized talks and town hall meetings to address diversity-related issues; and served as an advocate for graduate student concerns.
- Academic Partner, Department of Health Services, Kenosha, WI** Jun 2013 – Aug 2014  
Dismantling Racism Project  
Served on a committee of health care and legal professionals, educators, and community members to solve prejudice-related issues faced by underserved populations in Kenosha County such as reducing the Black infant mortality rate and increasing access to healthcare and public transportation.

## SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

- Pacific Standard – “How Hollywood can help reduce prejudice” Jan 9, 2017  
Huffington Post – “Sitcoms do matter” Feb 10, 2016  
Le Journal de Montréal – “Une télévision diversifiée contribue à combattre le rasicme” Feb 9, 2016  
Miami Herald – “Leonard Pitts Jr.: Movies, TV shows neutralize bigotry” Feb 6, 2016  
Badger Herald – “UW research says... entertainment media can reduce prejudices” Feb 3, 2016  
CNN – “Want to end prejudice? Watch a sitcom” Feb 2, 2016  
World Story – “Can TV sitcoms reduce prejudice against Muslims?” Jan 31, 2016  
Christian Science Monitor – “Can a TV sitcom reduce anti-Muslim bigotry?” Jan 30, 2016  
Science Daily – “Media narratives counter prejudice attitudes” Jan 30, 2016

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Association for Psychological Science Mar 2015 – Present  
American Psychological Association Dec 2014 – Present  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Mar 2014 – Present  
Midwestern Psychological Association Jan 2014 – Present  
Society for Personality and Social Psychology Mar 2013 – Present

## CERTIFICATIONS

- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Certification  
Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program) Certification  
Illinois Pharmacy Technician Licensure

## SKILLS

- Languages:* Proficient in Arabic.
- Software Knowledge:* R, SPSS, Qualtrics, REDCap, MTurk, Sonar, Predictive Analytics, HTML.
- Data Analytics:* Proficient in content analysis and quantitative methods such as ANOVA, multiple regression, hierarchical linear modeling, generalized linear models, and contrast analysis.
- Online Teaching:* Experience developing and preparing pedagogic material for online courses, and instructing an online course.
- Teaching Underserved Populations:* Experience instructing and developing pedagogic material for courses tailored to underrepresented minorities and first-generation college students.
- Academic Mentoring:* Experience advising high school and college students on the successful pursuit of a post-secondary education, the development and completion of research, and career building.