

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### SOHAD MURRAR

Governors State University  
Division of Psychology & Counseling  
1 University Parkway  
University Park, IL 60484  
Office: G383  
(708) 534 - 4364  
smurrar@govst.edu  
www.sohadmurrar.com

### POSITION

**Governors State University**, University Park, IL

Assistant Professor of Psychology

Aug 2018 – present

### EDUCATION

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

Ph.D. in Social Psychology

Aug 2018

Dissertation: *Can social norms communicated through entertainment television media reduce prejudice?*

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 press). Overcoming resistance to change: Using narratives to create more positive intergroup attitudes. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*.

Murrar, S., Campbell, M., & Brauer, M. (under review). Creating an inclusive climate with information about peer pro-diversity attitudes and behaviors. *Nature Human Behaviour*.

Pietri, E., Chu, C., Murrar, S., & Rosen, R. (under review). Viewing one's way to connection: The effect of media format and transportability on bias reduction. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*.

Murrar, S., Johnson, P., Kaatz, A., & Carnes, M. (in preparation). Gender bias in medical research publication.

Murrar, S., Niedenthal, P., & Brauer, M. (in preparation). Shame and guilt in the sin bin: Child and adolescent emotional experiences in the hockey penalty box.

Yantis, C. & Murrar, S. (in preparation). How racial inequity frames shape White students' diversity participation on campus.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2018). Mixed-model analysis of variance. In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. EDP.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2017). Entertainment-Education effectively reduces prejudice. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*.

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. (2019). Using pro-diversity entertainment media to change intergroup attitudes and behaviors. Poster to be presented at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*, Portland, OR.

Murrar, S. & Brauer, M. (2018). Using descriptive norms messaging to create inclusive climates. Talk given at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*, Atlanta, GA.

Murrar, S. (2017). Bringing science to life: Prejudice interventions for the real world. Colloquium talk given at *Marquette University for the Department of Psychology*, Milwaukee, WI.

- 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.

## 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

- Blogger & Research Consultant, The Norman Lear Center, Beverly Hills, CA** Apr 2018 – present  
 The Norman Lear Center Blog & Hollywood Health & Society  
 Write about Muslim representation in entertainment media for The Norman Lear Center Blog and contribute research and methodology ideas for ongoing and upcoming projects that focus on Muslim and minority media representation for Hollywood Health & Society.
- 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.

## 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.

## **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.

## **SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE**

Forward – “Roseanne Meets Muslims Neighbors with Islamophobia – Until This Happens” May 7, 2018

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 from diverse social backgrounds on the successful pursuit of a post-secondary education, the development and completion of research, and career building.