SCOTT DANIELSON

PhD in Psychology, Lecturer at Lincoln University, Lincoln, New Zealand

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

University of Canterbury

PhD, Psychology, Concentration: Moral Judgement
Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Vonasch
June 2024

PhD Thesis

It takes a village: Three ways your community can influence your moral thinking

University of Chicago

Masters of Arts, Social Science (MAPSS), Concentration: Psychology
GPA: 3.9/4.0; June 2016

MA Thesis

Condemning and backing it up: The effect of evidence on judgements of moral violations by omission

Emory University

Bachelor of Science, Double major: Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology; Philosophy
June 2013

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2025—	Lincoln University	Lecturer [Psychology of Wellbeing & Social Psychology]
2023—2024	University of Canterbury	Lecturer (Teaching and Admin) [Social Psychology & Wisdom Psychology]
2020—2022	University of Canterbury	Teaching assistant; Teaching assistant coordinator [Social Psychology, Moral Psychology, Introductory Research Methods & Statistics, Intermediate Research Methods & Statistics]
2017—2019	University of Chicago	Research analyst at the Center for Practical Wisdom

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Social psychology, moral decision-making, wisdom, ecological psychology,

SKILLS

Academic	initiating, developing, & conducting research; supervision of postgraduate research; teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students; designing coursework
Programming	R, Python, Excel scripts and visual basic
Software	SPSS, JAMOVI, Qualtrics, Prolific, mTurk, Inquisit

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Publication Accelerator Grant—Institute of Humane Studies 2023 **$8,180 NZD**

The IHS is a US based organization that funds research for social change. They accept grant proposals which social, economic, and collective action problems in building a free society. This grant was given in the focus area of "Trust and polarization" for the project I led titled "Burning bridges to build bridges."

Georgina Carvell Memorial Prize 2023 **$5,000 NZD**

This award is given by the University of Canterbury each year to a single PhD student in psychology that demonstrates excellence in teaching, research, and character. I was the sole recipient in 2023.

SPSP Graduate Travel Award 2022 **$800 NZD**

The Society for Personality and Social Psychology is an annual international conference based in the US. They award small travel grants on a merit-based basis for overseas travelers. I was awarded this travel grant to resent my research.

Doctoral Scholarship—University of Canterbury 2019-2022 **Tuition plus $28,000 NZD per year**

AWARDS

2nd Place for best talk in the School of Psychology, Speech, and Hearing, University of Canterbury, Three Minute Thesis 2021—Video

Audience choice for best talk—KiwiCAM 2020

PUBLICATIONS

(Citations: 224, h-index: 3, i10-index: 2; Google Scholar)

Publications in social psychology

Danielson, S., Conway, P., & Vonasch, A. (*2024*). What I Don't Know Can Hurt You: Collateral Combat Damage Seems More Acceptable when Bystander Victims are Unidentified. *PLOS ONE*, *19*(10), e0298842. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0298842

Danielson, S. Stewart, E., & Vonasch, A. (2023). The Morality Map: Does Living in a Smaller Community Cause Greater Concern for Moral Reputation?. *Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology*, *4*, 100120. http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4191069

Danielson, S., Yogeeswaran, K., & Vonasch, A. (In preparation). Burning bridges to build bridges: Making yourself disliked by the outgroup can make you seem more trustworthy to the ingroup, and deepen group divides. Proposal: https://osf.io/qe542

Danielson, S., Bandopadhyaya, S., Ford, G., & Vonasch, A. (In preparation). The Language of Terror: Using LIWC linguistic analysis software to detect the moral profile of violent extremists. *In preparation.* Proposal: https://osf.io/3skpw

My earlier work in cell neuroscience

Gross, C., Yao, X., Engel, T., Tiwari, D., Xing, L., Rowley, S., **Danielson, S. W.,** ... & Pun, R. Y. (2016). MicroRNA-Mediated Downregulation of the Potassium Channel Kv4. 2 Contributes to Seizure Onset. *Cell reports*, *17*(1), 37-45.

Gross, C., Chang, C. W., Kelly, S. M., Bhattacharya, A., McBride, S. M., **Danielson, S. W.**, ... & Klann, E. (2015). Increased expression of the PI3K enhancer PIKE mediates deficits in synaptic plasticity and behavior in fragile X syndrome. *Cell reports*, *11*(5), 727-736.

COMMENTARIES

Danielson, SW, Vonasch, A (2020). "Selling just preservation," *Animal Sentience*, 4(27), 26.

DISSERTATION

Danielson, S. (2024). *It takes a village: Three ways your community can influence your moral thinking*. PhD thesis, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ. https://ir.canterbury.ac.nz/bitstreams/8789e080-bc7e-4a95-b776-e218f9133558/download. Video.

SUPERVISION

(2025—) M. Tabar. PhD Psychology. Why people reject help: Phantom costs in interactions with stranger. [Secondary supervisor].

(2023-2024) A. Kyle. *BA Hons Psychology*. The role of evidence in biasing moral violations by omission. [Primary supervisor].

TALKS

Danielson, S., Yogeeswaran, K., Vonasch, A (2024). "Burning bridges to build bridges: Making yourself disliked by the outgroup can make you seem more trustworthy to the ingroup*"* Society of Australian Social Psychologists (SASP), Canberra, Australia.

Danielson, S., Conway, P., & Vonasch, A. (2021). "What I Don't Know Can Hurt You: Collateral Combat Damage Seems More Acceptable when Bystander Victims are Unidentified" Society of Australian Social Psychologists (SASP), Adelaide, Australia.

Danielson SW, Zajchowsi E, Conway P, Vonasch A (2020) "What I don't know can hurt you: Anonymous victims make wartime violence seem more acceptable" Australasian Experimental Psychology Society, online.

Danielson SW, Zajchowsi E, Conway P, Vonasch A (2020) "What I don't know can hurt you: *Anonymous victims make wartime violence seem more acceptable" KiwiCAM, online.*

Danielson SW, Shaw A (2019) "Condemning and backing it up: The effect of evidence on judgments of moral violations" Experimental Philosophy Conference, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand.

Danielson S, Boulware J, Desiraju S, Henly A (2017) "Expert thinking: The effect of reflection on preferences", University of Chicago Wisdom Forum, Chicago, IL.

Gross G, Chang C-W, Kelly S, Raj N, Guo W-R, Whyte A, **Danielson S**, Jiang M, Chan C-B, Ye K, Gibson J, Moberg K, Gourley S, Huber K, Bassell G. (2014). *Multiple strategies for targeted reduction of PI3K signaling rescue molecular, cellular and cognitive phenotypes in animal models of Fragile X syndrome*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. Washington D.C.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Danielson SW, Conway P, Vonasch A (2022) *What I don't know can hurt you Collateral Combat Damage Seems More Acceptable when Bystander Victims are Unidentified*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Online.

Danielson SW, Zajchowsi E, Conway P, Vonasch A (2021) *What I don't know can hurt you: Anonymous victims make wartime violence seem more acceptable*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Online.

Danielson SW, Boulware J, Henly A (2019) *Expert thinking: The effect of reflection on preferences*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Portland, OR. Video.

Danielson SW, Gross C, Bassell GJ (2012) "Targeting excess PI3K signaling to rescue increased protein synthesis and audiogenic seizures in a FXS mouse model", Emory University SURE research symposium, Atlanta, GA.

Danielson SW, Gross C, Bassell GJ (2011) "Genetic reduction of excess PI3K signaling to rescue FXS associated phenotypes in Fmr1 KO mice", Emory University SURE research symposium, Atlanta, GA.

Inman C, Posse PR, Choi KS, Crowell A, **Danielson S**, Garlow S, Mayberg H, Hamann S. (2014, November). *Changes in autonomic arousal elicited by subcallosal cingulate DBS are associated with white matter connectivity to the mid-cingulate cortex*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. Washington D.C.

Inman C, Posse PR, Garlow S, Crowell A, **Danielson S**, Mayberg H, Hamann S (2014, April). *Subcallosal cingulate DBS produces current- and location-dependent changes in autonomic arousal*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society. Boston, MA.

Gross C, Yao X, Xing L, Thomas KT, **Danielson SW**, Bassell GJ. (2013, November). *The RNA induced silencing complex regulates expression of the potassium channel Kv4.2 during epileptic seizures*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. San Diego, CA.

TEACHING EVALUATIONS

Organization	4.5/5
Clear communication	4.47/5
Stimulated interest in the content	4.32/5
Good attitude towards students	4.46/5
Effective teacher	4.43/5

Student comments:

I've struggled in the past to maintain concentration during lectures, but I was consistently engaged during Scott's lectures and I found everything really interesting to learn about	Always answered any questions students had, and would do so in a really friendly and kind way	Really enjoyed his lectures, easy to follow and explains stuff really well!

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL — 2015-2016, 2017-2019

Field Researcher, Center for Decision Making Research, 2019

Worked with lab and research personnel to carry out field experiments in the greater Chicago area. Experiments involved passersby in Chicago parks and investigated the positive effects of conversing with strangers.

Research Analyst, Center for Practical Wisdom – Dr. Anne Henly, 2017-2019

Conducted and analyzed data for studies on the topic of self-reflection and wise decision making; Managed and mentored undergraduate students; led and managed lab-wide research programs; Collected data in behavioral and online studies using mTurk, Qualtrics and Inquisit; Analyzed data using SPSS, MatLab, and Excel; navigated IRB protocols, writing and submitting amendments; presented findings at the University of Chicago Wisdom Forum 2017, talk titled *Expert Thinking: The effect of reflection on preferences.*

Graduate Student Researcher, Shaw Lab – Dr. Alex Shaw, 2015-2016

Designed and ran studies for a master thesis on the psychology of moral judgement; thesis explored the role of evidence and intention in condemning moral violations by omission; designed surveys using Qualtrics and Amazon Mechanical Turk (mTurk); data analysis using SPSS software

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA — 2013-2014

Research Assistant, Dr. Neil Van Leeuwen

Consulted as an outside expert on psychology for a publication about the cognitive science of religious belief. My contribution helped in the publishing of an academic journal article and later a book on the subject.

Emory University, Atlanta, GA — 2011-2014

Research Assistant, Emory Infant and Child Lab – Dr. Philippe Rochat, 2013-2014

Designed and ran experimental procedures used in testing children in the United States, Samoa, and Vanuatu; directed and mentored undergraduate students on laboratory methods and research design; scheduled parents and worked directed with children ages 2-7; trained undergraduates in lab procedures; recorded, organized, and coded video from behavioral measures.

Research Assistant, Hamann Cognitive Neuroscience Lab – Dr. Stephen Hamann, 2013-2014

Analyzed measures such as heart-rate and skin conductance in deep-brain stimulation patients using Acqknowledge software; developed a procedure for eye-tracking analysis of emotionally evocative images.

Research Assistant, Bassell Molecular Neuroscience Lab – Dr. Gary Bassell, 2011-2012

Developed project on targeting PI3K signaling to rescue increased protein synthesis and audiogenic seizures in a fragile X syndrome mouse model; brain sectioning, immunohistochemistry, western blotting, PCR, mouse models.

INDUSTRY WORK EXPERIENCE

Chicago, IL — 2016

Freelance Contractor, SapientNitro

Developed and analyzed of quantitative consumer research studies; Utilized Python for research analytics, including decision trees and linear and logistic regression; Experience with managing large datasets

Freelance Research Analyst, Leo Burnett

Conducted market research for private companies; Used SAS programming to do analytics at SAS Level I Programming; Experience with on-line data analysis, survey research, and factor analysis