

# SHOKO WATANABE

Curriculum Vitae

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Department of Psychology  
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[Personal Website](#) | [ResearchGate](#)  
[Google Scholar](#) | [OSF](#) | [ORCID](#)

## EDUCATION

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- 2018-Present **Ph.D., Social Psychology**, Minor in Quantitative Psychology  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Dov Cohen (Dissertation Advisor), Sean Laurent (Advisor)
- 2021-2022 Attendee, Boston Colloquium on the Scientific Study of Religion  
Center for Mind and Culture, Boston University
- 2016-2018 **M.S., Psychology**  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Sean Laurent (Thesis Advisor/Chair), Dolores Albarracín (Thesis Co-Advisor)
- 2017 Attendee, International Summer School on Social Cognition & Neuroscience  
Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Germany
- 2012-2015 **M.S., Educational Psychology**  
Oklahoma State University
- 2004-2008 **B.A., Theological-Historical Studies** (Graduated Summa Cum Laude)  
Oral Roberts University

## CURRENT RESEARCH AND INTERESTS

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Moral Psychology	Theodicy	Worldview Threat	Group Trust
Forgiveness	Religious Doubts	Just-World Belief	Hypocrisy
Reconciliation	Deconversion	Schadenfreude	Culture

## PUBLICATIONS

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\* undergraduate student I mentored; † shared first-authorship

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Hoogeveen, S., Sarafoglou, A., ... **Watanabe, S.**, ... van Elk, M., & Wagenmakers, E.-J. (2022). A many-analysts approach to the relation between religiosity and well-being. *Religion, Brain, and Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2022.2070255>

**Watanabe, S.**, Weiner D. S., & Laurent, S. M. (2022). Schadenfreude for undeserved misfortunes: The unexpected consequences of endorsing a strong belief in a just world. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 101: Article 104336. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jesp.2022.104336>

Gupta, S.<sup>†</sup>, **Watanabe, S.**<sup>†</sup>, & Laurent, S. M. (2021). Psychological predictors of vaccination intentions among U.S. undergraduates and online panel workers during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic. *PLOS ONE*, *16*(11): e0260380. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0260380>

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (2021). Volition speaks louder than action: Offender atonement, forgivability, and victim valuation in the minds of perceivers. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, *47*(6): 1020-1036. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0146167220953996>

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (2021). Past its prime? A methodological overview and critique of religious priming research in social psychology. *Journal for the Cognitive Science of Religion*, *6*(1-2): 31-55. <https://doi.org/10.1558/jcsr.38411>

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (2021). Disgust toward interracial couples: Mixed feelings about Black-White race mixing. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, *12*(5): 769-779. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550620939411>

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (2020). Feeling bad and doing good: Forgivability through the lens of uninvolved third parties. *Social Psychology*, *51*(1): 35-49. <https://doi.org/10.1027/1864-9335/a000390>

### Chapter in Edited Volume

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (in press). Past its prime? A methodological overview and critique of religious priming research in social psychology. In A. W. Geertz, L. Ambasciano, E. Eidinow, L. H. Martin, K. L. Nielbo, N. P. Roubekas, V. van Mulukom, & D. Xygalatas (Eds.), *Studying the religious mind: Methodology in the cognitive science of religion* (pp. 137-161). Equinox Publishing. (Original work published 2021).

### Manuscripts in Preparation

**Watanabe, S.** & Cheng, J. T. (writing stage; 2 longitudinal surveys completed). Individuals in real-world social groups display a “cooperative phenotype”: Longitudinal evidence of the stability of trust in naturalistic work teams.

**Watanabe, S.**, & Todd, N. R. (writing stage; secondary data). Religious engagement, doubt, and disaffiliation: A latent class growth modeling approach.

**Watanabe, S.**, Han, D., & Laurent, S. M. (writing stage; 12 experiments completed). People believe that the advantaged think the world is fair but that the disadvantaged aren't so sure: Perceived associations between advantage and just-world beliefs.

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (in preparation; 8 experiments completed). How various degrees and types of costly atonement are associated with perceived victim valuation, forgivability, and offender reintegration.

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (in preparation; 3 experiments completed). Perceptions of atypical hypocrisy.

Laurent, S. M., & **Watanabe, S.** (writing stage; 18 experiments completed). Intention and desire for actions and outcomes.

Laurent, S. M. & **Watanabe, S.** (writing stage; 4 experiments completed). Consistency be damned! The roles of hypocrisy, partisan attitudes, and moral convictions in predicting political support.

Laurent, S. M. & **Watanabe, S.** (in preparation; 3 experiments completed). Anger and hypocrisy.

Seo, M., **Watanabe, S.**, Kim, Y-H., & Laurent, S. M. (in preparation; 6 experiments completed). Cultural differences in how people in Korea and U.S. attribute hypocrisy.

Todd, N. R., **Watanabe, S.**, & Blackburn, A. M. (writing stage; secondary data). Examining the religious residue hypothesis among sexual minorities.

## PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

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Theodicy	[2 studies completed]
Dual-Proscription Hypocrisy	[5 experiments completed]
Perceptions of Vaccine Hesitancy	[2 experiments completed]

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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\* undergraduate student I mentored

### Talks

Seo, M., **Watanabe, S.**, Kim, Y-H., & Laurent, S. M. (2021, February). *Hypocrisy is everywhere, for different reasons: When and why East Asian and Western cultures attribute hypocrisy*. Talk presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Pre-conference on Justice and Morality. Virtual Conference.

Weiner, D. S., **Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (2020, February). *Automatically activated perceived associations between advantage and just world beliefs*. Talk presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. New Orleans, LA.

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (2018, August). *Vengeance is God's, not mine: The effect of divine and secular retribution concepts on third-party punishment*. Talk presented at the biennial meeting of the International Association for the Cognitive Science of Religion. Boston, MA.

### Poster Presentations

**Watanabe, S.** & Todd, N. R. (2022, February). *Longitudinal patterns of religious doubt predict subsequent disaffiliation: A latent class growth modeling approach*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Pre-Conference on Existential Psychology. Virtual Conference. [PDF](#)

**Watanabe, S.**, Weiner, D. S., & Laurent, S. M. (2022, February). *Schadenfreude for undeserved misfortunes: The unexpected consequences of expressing a just-world belief*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. San Francisco, CA. [PDF](#)

Gupta, S.\*, **Watanabe, S.**, Laurent, S. M. (2021, February). *Predictors of COVID-19 vaccine intentions among U.S. undergraduates and non-student adults*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Virtual Conference. [PDF](#)

Seo, M. J., **Watanabe, S.**, Kim, Y. H., & Laurent, S. M. (2020, February). *Instrumental inconsistency: Reasons for hypocrisy affect its attributions across cultures*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. New Orleans, LA.

**Watanabe, S.** & Laurent, S. M. (2020, February). *Volition speaks louder than action: Offender atonement and victim valuation in the minds of perceivers*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. New Orleans, LA. [PDF](#)

**Watanabe, S.** & Cheng, J. T. (2019, May). *Individuals in real-world social groups display a 'cooperative phenotype': Longitudinal evidence of the stability of trust in naturalistic work teams*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society. Boston, MA. [PDF](#)

**Watanabe, S.** & Laurent, S. M. (2019, February). *Vengeance is God's, not mine: The effect of divine and secular retribution concepts on third-party punishment*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Portland, OR. [PDF](#)

## INVITED TALKS

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Social-Personality-Organizational Psychology Brownbag, University of Illinois

“Psychological predictors of COVID-19 vaccine intentions among U.S. undergraduates and non-student adults” | November, 2020

“Poetic (in)justice? When misfortunes befall just-world believers” | March, 2019

“Vengeance is God's, not mine: Priming divine retribution reduces third-party punishment” | April, 2018

“Pelagian controversy revisited: The roles of grace, repentance, and atonement in promoting forgiveness” | March, 2017

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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2022	Sarah C. Mangelsdorf Outstanding Female Graduate Student Award, University of Illinois (\$1,000)
2022	Diversity in Existential Psychology Student Registration Award, Cleveland State University (\$50)
2020	Conference Travel Award (top-ranked within program), University of Illinois (\$200)
2016-2021	Psychology Alumni Advisory Board Graduate Student Travel and Research Award, University of Illinois (\$1,900)
2019	Student Travel Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology (\$500)
2018	Student Travel Scholarship, Center for Mind and Culture (\$836)
2016-2018	List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent (top 10% campus-wide), University of Illinois
2015	Excellence in Teaching English Language Learners Award, Union Public School

2008	Outstanding Senior Paper Award, Oral Roberts University
2004-2008	McKinley Foundation Scholarship, Oral Roberts University (\$24,000)
2004-2007	Honors Program Scholarship, Oral Roberts University (\$18,000)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2018	Instructor   University of Illinois, Champaign, IL Introductory Psychology   Teaching Effectiveness: 4.4/5.0
2016-2018	Instructional Teaching Assistant   University of Illinois, Champaign, IL Social Methods Lab   Teaching Effectiveness: 4.7/5.0, 4.8/5.0 Social Psychology in Society Lab   Teaching Effectiveness: 4.9/5.0
2016	Instructor   Tulsa Community College, Tulsa, OK Developmental Psychology   Teaching Effectiveness: 3.7/4.0
2013-2015	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Teacher   Union Public School, Tulsa, OK
2013	K-12 Mathematics and Reading Instructor   Kumon of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK

## MENTORING EXPERIENCE

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2020-2021	SPSP Peer Advising Program, Society for Personality and Social Psychology
2018-2021	Undergraduate Theses Advising, University of Illinois Yujia Bai (2020-21)   Suryaa Gupta (2019-21)   Pranav Pamidighantam (2018-19)
2016-2021	Undergraduate Research Assistants Supervised, University of Illinois Duoduo Qi (2019-21)   Jiyoo Song (2019-20)   Nici Despinich (2020)   Julian Acabal (2020)   Austin Eichhorn (2019-20)   Giovana Mete (2019-20)   Ariana Daneshbodi (2019-20)   Koh Kobayashi (2018-20)   Emma Schwartz (2019)   Hailey Gaba (2018-19)   Kiley Breen (2017-19)   Aboorva Sivasankaran (2017-19)   Saheli Sheth (2017-19)   Leslie Pardo (2018)   Alyssa Castronovo (2017-18)   Jose Gonzalez Abreu (2016-18)   Priyanka Patel (2016-18)   Jessica Vega (2016-18)   Jessica Resnick (2017)   Lucy Park (2016-17)   Carol Zhou (2016-17)

## SKILLS

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### Quantitative Training

ANOVA/Regression  
Categorical Data Analysis  
Multivariate Statistics  
Longitudinal Data Analysis

Hierarchical Linear Modeling  
Advanced Structural Equation Modeling  
Missing and Messy Data in SEM  
Quasi-Experimental Design & Analysis

**Statistical Tools:** R | Mplus | SPSS | SAS

**Survey Tools:** Qualtrics | MediaLab | DirectRT | MTurk | Cloud Research | Prolific | SONA

**Language:** English (fluent) | Japanese (native) | Spanish (conversational)

## MEDIA MENTIONS

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[PsyPost](#): Study suggests the link between disgust and interracial romance is not strong or widespread.

## DEPARTMENT/CAMPUS SERVICES & ASSISTANTSHIPS

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2022            Diversity Advocate Assistant | Office for Access and Equity, University of Illinois  
2019-2022    Subject Pool Coordinator | Department of Psychology, University of Illinois  
2019-2022    Human Subjects Committee Member | Department of Psychology, University of Illinois

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES & AFFILIATIONS

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### Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer

Developmental Psychology  
Journal of Experimental Psychology: General  
Journal for the Cognitive Science of Religion  
Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin  
Psychological Bulletin  
Psychological Science

### Professional Organization Member

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)  
International Society for the Science of Existential Psychology (ISSEP)  
International Association for the Cognitive and Evolutionary Sciences of Religion (IACESR)  
International Society for Self and Identity (ISSI)

## REFERENCES

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**Sean M. Laurent**, Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology | Pennsylvania State University | [slaurent@psu.edu](mailto:slaurent@psu.edu)

**Nathan R. Todd**, Associate Professor  
Department of Psychology | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | [ntodd2@illinois.edu](mailto:ntodd2@illinois.edu)

**Dov Cohen**, Professor  
Department of Psychology | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | [dovcohen@illinois.edu](mailto:dovcohen@illinois.edu)

**Joey T. Cheng**, Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology | York University | [chengjt@yorku.ca](mailto:chengjt@yorku.ca)