

# SHOKO WATANABE

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
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## EDUCATION

- 2018–Present      Ph.D., Social Psychology, Minor in Quantitative Psychology  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*
- 2016–2018        M.S., Psychology  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*
- 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

Moral Psychology | Religious Doubts | Deconversion | Theodicy | Just-World Belief | Forgiveness | Reconciliation | Hypocrisy | Punishment | Schadenfreude | In-Group Trust

## PUBLICATIONS

- 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.** (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.** (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>

## SELECTED MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW OR IN PREPARATION

\* Equal contribution. Underlining denotes undergraduate student I mentored at the time of research.

**Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (in prep). The effect of divine and secular retribution concepts on punitive intentions.

**Watanabe, S.**, & Todd, N. R. (in prep). Religious engagement, doubt, and disaffiliation: A group-based trajectory modeling analysis.

**Watanabe, S.**, Weiner D. S., & Laurent, S. M. (in prep). Schadenfreude for undeserved misfortunes: The unexpected consequences of just-world belief expression.

Gupta\*, **S.**, **Watanabe\***, **S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (under review). Psychological predictors of vaccination intentions among U.S. undergraduates and online panel workers during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic.

Laurent, S. M. & **Watanabe, S.** (in prep). Consistency be damned! The roles of hypocrisy, partisan attitudes, and moral convictions in predicting political support.

Laurent, S. M., & **Watanabe, S.** (in prep). Intention and desire for actions and outcomes.

Seo, M., **Watanabe, S.**, Kim, Y-H., & Laurent, S. M. (in prep). Interdependent versus independent inconsistency: Cultural differences in how East Asian and Western people attribute hypocrisy.

Weiner, D. S., **Watanabe, S.**, & Laurent, S. M. (in prep). 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.

## PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- Theodicy [2 studies ongoing]
- Costliness of Atonement [4 studies completed; several ongoing]
- Dual-Proscription Hypocrisy [5 studies completed]
- Perceptions of Vaccine Hesitancy [2 studies completed]
- Atypical Hypocrisy [3 studies completed]
- In-Group Trust [2 studies completed]

## MEDIA MENTIONS

[PsyPost](#): Study suggests the link between disgust and interracial romance is not strong or widespread.  
[Social Psychology Explained](#): Some people find mixed-race couples disgusting!

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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### *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 Justice and Morality Preconference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. 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*

Underlining denotes undergraduate student I mentored at the time of research.

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.

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.

**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.

**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.

## INVITED TALKS

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*Boston Colloquium on the Scientific Study of Religion*. (2021, September-December). Center for Mind and Culture & Boston University.

*Psychological predictors of COVID-19 vaccine intentions among U.S. undergraduates and non-student adults.* (2020, November). Social-Personality-Organizational Psychology Brownbag, University of Illinois.

*Poetic (in)justice? When misfortunes befall just-world believers.* (2019, March). Social-Personality-Organizational Psychology Brownbag, University of Illinois.

*Vengeance is God's, not mine: Priming divine retribution reduces third-party punishment.* (2018, April). Social-Personality-Organizational Psychology Brownbag, University of Illinois.

*Pelagian controversy revisited: The roles of grace, repentance, and atonement in promoting forgiveness.* (2017, March). Social-Personality-Organizational Psychology Brownbag, University of Illinois.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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| 2020      | Conference Travel Award (top-ranked within program), <i>University of Illinois</i> (\$200)                           |
| 2019      | Student Travel Award, <i>Society for Personality and Social Psychology</i> (\$500)                                   |
| 2018      | Student Travel Scholarship, <i>Center for Mind and Culture</i> (\$836)   |
| 2016–2019 | Psychology Alumni Advisory Board Graduate Student Travel and Research Award, <i>University of Illinois</i> (\$1,900) |
| 2016–2018 | List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent (top 10% rating), <i>University of Illinois</i>                                 |
| 2015      | Excellence in Teaching ELL Department Award, <i>Union Public School</i>  |
| 2008      | Outstanding Senior Paper Award, <i>Oral Roberts University</i>   |
| 2004–2008 | McKinley Foundation Scholarship, <i>Oral Roberts University</i> (\$24,000)   |
| 2004–2007 | Honors Program Scholarship, <i>Oral Roberts University</i> (\$18,000)  |

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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|-----------|--|
| 2016–2018 | Instructional Teaching Assistant, <i>University of Illinois</i> , Champaign, IL<br><b>Introductory Psychology</b> (Fall 2018)   Teaching Effectiveness: 4.4/5.0<br><b>Social Methods Lab</b> (Spring 2017, 2018)   Teaching Effectiveness: 4.7/5.0, 4.8/5.0<br><b>Social Psychology in Society Lab</b> (Fall 2016)   Teaching Effectiveness: 4.9/5.0 |
| 2016      | Adjunct Instructor, <i>Tulsa Community College</i> , Tulsa, OK<br><b>Developmental Psychology</b> (Spring 2016)   Teaching Effectiveness: 3.7/4.0  |
| 2013–2015 | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Teacher, <i>Union Public School</i> , Tulsa, OK  |

- 2013 K-12 Mathematics and Reading Instructor, *Kumon of Tulsa*, Tulsa, OK
- 2006–2007 Biblical Greek Honor’s Assistant, *Oral Roberts University*, Tulsa, OK

## MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- 2020–2021 SPSP Peer Advising Program, *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*
- 2018–2021 Undergraduate Research Projects Advising, *University of Illinois*

**Yujia (Grace) Bai** (Spring 2020–Spring 2021)

Senior Thesis: Do moral violations increase perceived hypocrisy? Investigating hypocrisy for dual-proscription violations.

**Suryaa Gupta** (Summer 2019–Spring 2021)

Senior Thesis: Predictors of COVID-19 vaccine intention among U.S. undergraduates and non-student adults.

Research Support Grant, Office of Undergraduate Research (\$1,901)

**Pranav Pamidighantam** (Fall 2018–Fall 2019)

Senior Thesis: Perceived controllability, desire to harm, and classification of unintended harmful acts

- 2016–2021 Undergraduate Research Assistants Supervised, *University of Illinois*

Duoduo Qi (2019–2021) | Jiyou Song (2019–2020) | Nici Despinich (2020) | Julian Acabal (2020) | Austin Eichhorn (2019–2020) | Giovana Mete (2019–2020) | Ariana Daneshbodi (2019–2020) | Koh Kobayashi (2018–2020) | Emma Schwartz (2019) | Hailey Gaba (2018–2019) | Kiley Breen (2017–2019) | Aboorva Sivasankaran (2017–2019) | Saheli Sheth (2017–2019) | Leslie Pardo (2018) | Alyssa Castronovo (2017–2018) | Jose Gonzalez Abreu (2016–2018) | Priyanka Patel (2016–2018) | Jessica Vega (2016–2018) | Jessica Resnick (2017) | Lucy Park (2016–2017) | Carol (Yi) Zhou (2016–2017)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICES

### Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer

Developmental Psychology | Journal of Experimental Psychology: General | Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin | Psychological Bulletin

### Professional Organization Member

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)  
International Association for the Cognitive and Evolutionary Sciences of Religion (IACESR)  
Institute for the Bio-Cultural Study of Religion (IBCSR)  
Human Behavior and Evolution Society (HBES)

**Department Human Subjects Committee Member**

*University of Illinois* (Spring 2019–Present)

**Department Subject Pool Coordinator**

*University of Illinois* (Spring 2019–Present)

**CERTIFICATION**

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**Oklahoma Standard Teaching Certification**

Advanced & Intermediate Mathematics (6–12) | Mid-Level Math for High School Credit (5–8)

**SKILLS**

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

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

**SELECTED COURSEWORK**

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Covariance Structure & Factor Models | Multivariate Statistics | Categorical Data Analysis | Structural Equation Modeling | Hierarchical Linear Modeling | Longitudinal Data Analysis | Analysis of Messy Data in Structural Equation Modeling | Quasi-Experimental Design & Analysis | Theories in Social Psychology | Social Psychology Methods | Social Neuroscience

**REFERENCES**

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**Sean M. Laurent**, Assistant Professor

Department of Psychology, *Pennsylvania State University*, slaurent@psu.edu

**Dov Cohen**, Professor

Department of Psychology, *University of Illinois*, dovcohen@illinois.edu

**Nathan R. Todd**, Associate Professor

Department of Psychology, *University of Illinois*, ntodd2@illinois.edu

**Joey T. Cheng**, Assistant Professor

Department of Psychology, *York University*, chengjt@yorku.ca