



TCU's EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Faculty Thoughts: Cathy Cox



I recently found out that my mom has never voted. According to some surveys, almost half of all United States citizens who are eligible to vote do not cast a ballot. The field of *electoral psychology* is interested in studying factors that influence people's choices and whether or not they vote. Voter apathy has been found to be associated with political disengagement, government mistrust, a diffusion of responsibility (i.e., the misperception that other people are more qualified), and evaluation apprehension (i.e., being judged negatively for one's actions). At the same time, however, individuals are more likely to vote if they feel social shame, altruistic, have community gratitude, or close social ties. This year, which also coincides with 100th anniversary of women's constitutional right to vote, my mom will be casting her ballot for the very first time.

Publications

Kersten, M., Swets, J.A., Cox, C.R., Kusumi, T., Nishihata, K., & Watanabe, T. (2020). Attenuating pain with the past: The relationship between nostalgia and physical pain. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *11*, 572881.

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.572881/full>

Leising, K., Jacqmain, J., Elliott, C., Wolf, J., Taylor, J., Cleland, L., & Wright, A.A. (2019). Sensory and working memory in a spatial change-detection task by pigeons and humans. *Behavioural Processes*, *169*, 103957.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0376635719300920>

Thompson, J.B., Daniel, A.M., Rushing, B.G., & Papini, M.R. (2021). Recovery profiles from reward downshift are correlated with operant licking maintained by alcohol, but not with genetic variation in the mu opioid receptor. *Physiology & Behavior*, *228*, 113192.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physbeh.2020.113192>

Conference

Ciesielski, C.L., Hausman, H.E., Hargis, M.B., & Rhodes, M.G. (2020). *Varied practice enhances vocabulary learning*. Data blitz talk by Ciesielski, Armadillo Conference. Virtual format.

Engelhart, A.S., Chenausky, K.V., McIlraith, A.L., Iuzzini-Seigel, J., Green, J.R., Hogan, T.P., & Centanni, T.M. (2020). *Increased beta desynchronization in Broca's area during nonword production in children with childhood apraxia of speech*. Society for the Neurobiology of Language. Virtual format.

Hill, S.E. (2020). *Mental Health and the Birth Control Pill*. Invited discussant at the Body Literacy Summit, via Zoom. Los Angeles, CA.

Grants

Knight, K. (2020). *Study of linkage to community-based opioid addiction and HIV prevention and treatment services for persons released from prison*. Multiple PI ACTION grant. National Institute of Health, 2020-2025. Amount: \$11.5M.

Graduate Student News

Cami Ciesielski has been awarded the J. Frank Yates Student Conference Award by the Psychonomic Society.

<https://www.psychonomic.org/general/custom.asp?page=yatestravelaward>

Reagan Cox has passed the BCBA examination to become a board-certified behavior analyst.

Julie Swets was interviewed for a podcast: Anderson, C., & Vani, A. (2020). Nostalgia in LDRs [Audio podcast]. *The LDR Podcast*.

<https://open.spotify.com/show/0xYq3zMjAlB69g3NW70jja>; <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-ldr-podcast/id1528302592>