

BULLYING RESEARCH NETWORK
UNITING RESEARCHERS IN BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

The mission of the Bullying Research Network (BRNET) is to **connect** international and national researchers, **serve** as knowledge translators, and **share** evidence-based knowledge in bullying prevention and intervention.

NEW BRNET COORDINATOR



Melanie Willis, MA, PLMHP

The Bullying Research Network is pleased to introduce the new incoming coordinator, **Melanie Willis**! The current BRNET coordinator, Catie Carney, will be going on her APA Pre-Doctoral Internship at Morningstar Counseling and Consultation in Lincoln, Nebraska starting August 1st and although we will miss her, we are excited to have Melanie join the BRNET team.

Melanie is a fourth-year doctoral student in the School Psychology Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is a trained Target Bullying Intervention Program (T-BIP) Specialist. She serves as one of the directors for the T-BIP, where she helps school staff and families collaborate with interventionists to approach bullying behaviors with a problem-solving, assessment-driven approach. Her research interests include childhood bullying victimization as an adverse childhood experience, positive childhood experiences and other factors related to favorable outcomes following bullying involvement, as well as bullying and other stressful experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic and associated outcomes. When she isn't busy with classes, research, or clinical work, Melanie loves to try new restaurants, go on nature walks, listen to music, and spend time with family and friends.

JUNE / 2024

DEAR BRNET MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES:

Thank you for being a part of the Bullying Research Network! In our June newsletter, you will find updates from the network.

Be sure to check [our website](https://cehs.unl.edu/BRNET/) for additional resources and announcements.



INSIDE

RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT

MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES

AUTHOR EXCHANGE

ANNOUNCEMENTS



BRNET MEMBERS

BRNET has a current total of 283 members from 32 countries.

Welcome Dr. Košir!

Please send recommendations for potential BRNET members (i.e., faculty, researchers, and clinicians who are conducting research on bullying or related topics) to Drs. Wendy Craig, Susan Swearer, or to the BRNET Coordinator, at bullyresearchnet@gmail.com. Additionally, you may direct potential BRNET members toward [our website](#) for further information.

If you have recently joined BRNET and have not yet provided your information, please send the following to bullyresearchnet@gmail.com:

1. contact information that can be posted on the website;
2. a brief biography of you and your work that can be posted on the website;
3. a list of current/ongoing projects in this area;
4. an annotated bibliography of your work in this area (i.e., full reference plus a few sentences about the work) or curriculum vitae that can be posted on the website;
5. relevant web-based links you would like to share.

AFFILIATES OF BRNET

BRNET has a current total of 123 affiliates from 21 countries.

Welcome Anouck Lubon!

Affiliates of BRNET is a group of graduate students, administrators, parents, and individuals who are interested in learning more about the Bullying Research Network. Affiliates of BRNET receive our monthly e-newsletter. If you are interested in becoming an Affiliate of BRNET or want to refer someone to Affiliates of BRNET, please email Catie Carney, the BRNET Coordinator, at bullyresearchnet@gmail.com with the following information: name, title, address, and email address.



AUTHOR EXCHANGE

If you would like to share research articles or other publications to be highlighted in our monthly newsletters, please email Catie Carney at bullyresearchnet@gmail.com with the following information:

- Your article citation (with a link to the DOI, if possible)
- Your article abstract
- Your email (so individuals who receive our newsletter can request further information, if desired)

Lubon, A., Finet, C., Demol, K., van Gils, F. E., ten Bokkel, I. M., Verschueren, K., & Colpin, H. (2024). Do classroom relationships moderate the association between peer defending in school bullying and social-emotional adjustment? *Journal of School Psychology*, 105, 101315. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsp.2024.101315>

This three-wave longitudinal study examined the association between peer nominated defending behavior and later self-reported depressive symptoms and self-esteem. Peer nominated positive and negative teacher-student relationships (i.e., closeness and conflict) and peer relationships (i.e., acceptance and rejection) were included as moderators.

Rigby, K. (2022). The central role of desire in mediating bullying behavior in schools. *Archives of Psychiatry and Mental Health*, 6(1), 036-039. <http://dx.doi.org/10.29328/journal.apmh.1001042>

A view of bullying that gives centrality to the desire to bully others is outlined in this paper. The open access article is available via the doi link.

Rigby, K. (2023). *Interventions in cases of bullying in schools: A training manual for teachers and counselors*. Hawker Brownlow Education.

A new book by Dr. Ken Rigby, designed to train teachers and trainee teachers in addressing cases of bullying in schools. Please see the following link for more information: <https://ambapress.com.au/products/interventions-in-cases-of-bullying-in-schools>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REQUESTS

Request for Research on Reporting of Bullying

Dear BRNET members,

1

We have a request from Stuart Green who is the founder of the New Jersey Coalition for Bullying Awareness and Prevention. He's looking for research on the "issue of whether children who report having been bullied do so truthfully. I've done a literature review but haven't found much directly on point. It does seem clear that substantial percentages of children bullied do not report, and that the decision to report is critically influenced by context (school climate, e.g.), to whom they can



report and (for surveys, etc.) the type of questions asked. But the extent to which false reporting occurs, whether it does to any significant degree, seems relatively uncovered. My clinical experience and interactions with families and students suggest that false reporting is rare and that students who report bullying should be believed. But I’m interested in the evidence. Can you or BRNET colleagues help?”

If you have articles to share on this topic, please share with Stuart Green (Stuart.Green@atlantichealth.org). Thank you!

Best, Sue

PUBLICATIONS

Wiley Book Series – Book Proposals

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Please see the attached flyer for more information on the Wiley book series, ***Psycho-Criminology of Crime, Mental Health, and the Law***.

For those who are interested in submitting a book proposal or have initial thoughts on publishing a book, please feel free to get in touch with Dr. Oliver Chan (h.c.chan@bham.ac.uk).

Thank you for your involvement in the Bullying Research Network! If you have any news, information, research, suggestions for new members, or other materials that our members would find useful, please do not hesitate to email us at bullyresearchnet@gmail.com and we will include it in our newsletter and/or on our website.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Susan Swearer
University of Nebraska – Lincoln
BRNET Co-Director

Dr. Wendy Craig
Queen’s University
BRNET Co-Director