

## PSPR Special Issue Call for Proposals

### Personality and Social Psychology Review Invites Proposals for a Special Issue

**Topic:** Highlighting Personality and Social Psychological Theories from Majority World Contexts

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#### Background

Since the inception of scientific psychology in the 19th century, the power to theorize, conceptualize and name scientific phenomena has resided in Western contexts (United States, Canada, Western Europe, Australia and New Zealand). Despite these settings constituting roughly 11% of the world's population (Thalmayer et al., 2021), the science and practice of psychology continues to be dominated by and rooted in Euro-American and white-centric perspectives. *Personality and Social Psychology Review* is no exception. We believe that the foundational ontologies and epistemologies that shape psychological scholarship are inextricable from scholars' positionalities, including their nationality and country of work. At PSPR, we have taken initial steps towards broader global inclusion, such as constituting an Editorial Board with more than one-third of scholars working outside Western nations. Now, we want to go further, concretizing our values by amplifying scholarly perspectives of Majority World authors represented in the pages of PSPR.

#### Aim of the Special Issue

The aim of this special issue is to highlight social and personality psychological theory from Majority World contexts. In doing so, we seek to catalyze dialogue between Western and Majority World scholars in social and personality psychology. Majority World voices are mature and thriving in other outlets, but are often excluded from journals that dominate Western psychology. The term "majority world" helpfully reminds us that societies in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean are where most humans live (e.g., Kagitcibasi, 2002).

We intentionally leave the content areas open. We only expect all submissions to be grounded in social and personality psychology (as opposed to clinical, or other disciplines within psychology) and to engage with conceptual and theoretical perspectives that speak to the context-sensitive experiences of people outside Western contexts. African, Latin American, Middle Eastern, East and South Asian, and Indigenous scholars everywhere are encouraged to submit their work, though we will consider work from scholars working in any global contexts. Co-authorship teams are welcome.

We hope that contributions to this special issue will address two important questions: (1) What can dominant Western psychology learn from social and personality psychological concepts and theories rooted in and oriented around perspectives from Majority World contexts? and (2) How can social and personality psychological concepts and theories from Majority World contexts contribute to a truly global science of personality and social psychology by divesting the field of hegemonic epistemic structures and biases? While we expect all submissions to make a substantial advance in theory, special issue manuscripts may also provide a concise summary of current areas of scholarship (though they may not simply reproduce ideas that have already been published).

The manuscripts published in this special issue will be shorter than those typically published in PSPR in order to amplify as many voices as possible: 2500-5000 words (excluding abstract and references).

Given the aims of this special issue, we intend to intervene in dominant Western editorial processes, shifting from a primarily transactional approach to a more relational one (e.g., Adler & Singer, 2023).

### **Potential Topics**

We welcome a wide range of conceptual and theoretical papers that amplify social and personality psychological perspectives from the Majority World. Of interest are topics related to social psychological and personality concepts and theories including, but not limited to:

- Decolonizing knowledge and being
- Indigenous notions of personhood, identity and agency
- Epistemic agency, alienation and violence
- Morality, spirituality, religion and the good life
- Slavery, racism, colorism, colonization, and other forms of oppression
- All axes of prejudice and discrimination (sexism, homophobia, ableism, etc.)
- Prosocial behavior
- Political radicalization and polarization
- Intergroup processes
- Communal, ubuntu, or interdependence-focused orientations and cultural notions of human flourishing
- Other social/personality topics that are the focus of scholarship in your region

### **Proposal Requirements**

Proposals should be submitted at this link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1HlcOMjaPHF29VPCPOtxknMvLwhxoedeu8cINDdM82zA/viwwform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1HlcOMjaPHF29VPCPOtxknMvLwhxoedeu8cINDdM82zA/viwwform?edit_requested=true)

Proposals should include all of the following:

- A 300-400 word abstract describing the intended submission. Please include a reference list, which does not count in word limit. The abstract should explicitly describe the geographic lineage of the theoretical perspectives you propose to cover. Competitive submissions will elevate local/Indigenous theories and concepts. Given the brevity of the final submissions, meta-analyses and systematic reviews are not appropriate. If you wish, we are open to alternatives to the dominant form of Western journal articles, especially communication styles that align with the theory being presented (as one example, see: Gone, 2023).
- A list of all authors, including geographic information (see submission link)
- A description (maximum 100 words) of how the proposed work builds on the authors' prior work
- A description (maximum 100 words) of how publishing the proposed work in PSPR might benefit the future of global personality and social psychology
- A description (maximum 100 words) of how publishing the proposed work in PSPR might benefit the future of personality and social psychology in your local context

It is important to note that we will be reviewing proposals with the goal of selecting a curated set of manuscripts that work effectively as a group. That means that our selection criteria pertain not only to individual manuscripts, but the way a subset of proposals will cohere into an overall special issue.

### **Timeline**

February 15, 2024      Proposals Due  
March 15, 2024      Editors' Decisions on Proposals Announced  
July 15, 2024      Full Manuscripts Due

### References

- Adler, J. M., & Singer, J. A. (2023). Psychobiographies of social change agents: Introduction to the Special Issue. *Journal of Personality*, 91(1), 5-13.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jopy.12781>
- Gone, J. P. (2023). Origins of anti-mining resistance in the life of a grassroots American Indian leader: Prospects for Indigenizing psychobiography. *Journal of Personality*, 91(1), 68-84. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jopy.12718>
- Kagitcibasi, C. (2002). A model of family change in cultural context. *Online Readings in Psychology and Culture*, 6(3).<https://doi.org/10.9707/2307-0919.1059>
- Thalmayer, A. G., Toscanelli, C., & Arnett, J. J. (2021). The neglected 95% revisited: Is American psychology becoming less American? *American Psychologist*, 76(1), 116–129. <https://doi.org/10.1037/amp0000622>