

Julia Lesnick

1033 6th St. #308, Santa Monica CA 90403

(781) 974-3697

julialesnick@ucla.edu

EDUCATION

University of California- Los Angeles, CA

Combined MSW-PhD in Social Welfare (started September 2021)

- Advisor: Laura Abrams, PhD

Cornell University, College of Human Ecology, Ithaca NY

Bachelor of Science with High Distinction

May 2018

- GPA: 4.072
- Major: Human Development (with honors)
- Minor: Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- Honor's Thesis: Rejection Thoughts and Relationship Outcomes: Exploring Rejection Sensitivity in Girls' Relationships
- Advisor: Jane Mendle, PhD

HONORS & AWARDS

- May 2018* Outstanding Senior Award, Cornell Human Ecology Alumni Association
- May 2018* Keynote Speaker, Cornell Human Development Department Graduation
- May 2018* Florence Halpern Award for Leadership Excellence in Community Service
- May 2018* Cornell LGBT Studies Undergraduate Writing Award
- April 2017* Best Psychology Presentation, Cornell Undergraduate Research Board
- April 2016* Roberta M. Berns Scholarship for Translational Youth Development Research

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Critical Participatory Action Research Institute; Scholarship awarded to fund institute attendance for development of action research tools in juvenile detention settings (April, 2019). Public Science Project, City University of New York.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Summer Project Grant (May 2017- September 2018). Awarded to develop and facilitate trauma-informed care trainings for afterschool programs.

PRYDE (Program for Research on Youth Development and Engagement) fellowship for intensive training in applied youth development research (September 2017 – May 2018). Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Cornell University.

PUBLICATIONS (Peer Review)

1. **Lesnick, J.** & Mendle, J. (2021). Rejection sensitivity and negative urgency: A proposed framework of intersecting risk for peer stress. *Developmental Review*, 62, 100998. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dr.2021.100998>
2. McGuire-Jack, K., Steinman, K., **Lesnick, J.**, West, K., & Roush, K. (In preparation). Outcomes of a Triple P trial targeting families at risk for substance use.
3. Agans, J. P., Rosenthal, E., **Lesnick, J.**, Sloan, M., Connor, S., Majano, R., Chicas, V., Davis, T., Coyle, S., & Tifft, M. (2021). Research-practice partnerships as community-engaged learning: Lessons learned from a collaborative project with youth development programs. *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*, 13(2), Article 5.

INTERNAL PROGRAM REPORTS

1. **Lesnick, J.** (2020) *Continuous quality improvement at New York Foundling: A comprehensive overview and training manual for program supervisors*. New York Foundling Hospital.
2. **Lesnick, J.**, Ramirez, C., Lau, V., & Harris, T. (2019). *Centering youth voice in decision making: Directions for youth-adult partnership in DYFJ*. NYC Administration for Children's Services, Division of Youth and Family Justice (DYFJ).
3. **Lesnick, J.**, & Ramirez, C. (2018). *Youth-centered evaluation of strengths-based programming in DYFJ: Metrics and guidelines for implementation*. NYC Administration for Children's Services, Division of Youth and Family Justice (DYFJ).
4. **Lesnick, J.**, Mendle, J., Agans, J. & Meade, J. (2017). *Trauma informed care in afterschool programs: A comprehensive training curriculum for Broome County providers*. Cornell Cooperative Extension.

PRESENTATIONS

Lesnick, J., Mendle, J., & McKone, K. P. (2018, April) *The impact of pubertal timing on rejection thoughts and relationship outcomes*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Adolescence Biennial Conference, Minneapolis, MN.

Lesnick, J., Mendle, J., & McKone, K. P. (2017, April) *Rejection sensitivity mediates the association between negative urgency and peer relationships*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference, Austin, TX.

Agans, J., & **Lesnick, J.**, (2017, October). *Positive, innovative solutions to youth development: STEM, civic engagement, and healthy living*. Invited undergraduate presenter for University Spotlight on Human Ecology- Cornell Trustee Council Annual Meeting, Ithaca, NY.

Lesnick, J., Mendle, J., Agans, J. & Meade, J. (2017, September). *Trauma informed care for youth providers: A training workshop for the Expanded Learning Network of Broome County*. Poster presented at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Internship Symposium, Ithaca, NY.

Lesnick, J., Mendle, J. & McKone, K. P. (2017, August). *Rejection sensitivity mediates the association between negative urgency and peer relationships*. Invited poster presenter, Festival of Scholarship for the Inauguration of Cornell's 14th President, Ithaca, NY.

Lesnick, J., Mendle, J., McKone, K. P. (2017, April). *Mechanisms linking rejection sensitivity and negative urgency to peer conflict*. Poster presentation, awarded best psychology poster. Cornell Undergraduate Research Board Spring Forum, Ithaca, NY.

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Advanced coding data analytic and coding skills in STATA, SAS, R, MPlus, and SPSS.
- Process Mining Data Analyst Certification, Celonis (March 2020).
- Lean Six Sigma Quality Improvement Methodology- Green Belt Certification, Six Sigma Global Institute (February 2020).
- Fundraising & Grant Writing. AmeriCorps VISTA professional development courses (March 2019).
- Motivational Interviewing. NYC Administration for Children’s Services Workforce Institute (October 2018).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant

September 2021-PRESENT

Life Course Intervention Research Network- Youth Justice Node, UCLA Department of Pediatrics

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth Barnert, MD, MPH, Laura Abrams, MSW, PhD

- Conduct literature reviews on 21st century frameworks for responding to youth who come into contact with the law.
- Develop a conceptual model mapping relations between contemporary paradigms of juvenile justice, and identifying the perspectives and practices that bolster or undermine goals of youth thriving.
- Coordinate and manage node website, project logistics, and outreach to multi-disciplinary and community-based youth justice experts to collaborate in re-visioning policy and practice approaches.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

February 2015 – May 2018

Adolescent Transitions Lab, Cornell University Department of Human Development

Principal Investigator: Jane Mendle, PhD

- Developed and tested a theory of mechanisms linking rejection sensitivity, negative urgency, and girls’ interpersonal difficulties using longitudinal and structural equation models in MPlus.
- Implemented study protocols and collected primary data with youth participants enrolled in the “Expressive Writing” study.
- Conducted data entry, coding, and cleaning for qualitative journal entries, survey measures, and the Add Health (National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health) dataset using SAS.
- Conducted literature reviews on puberty and developmental psychopathology.
- Coordinated and managed recruitment, hiring, and SAS training for new research assistants.

Research Assistant

December 2013 – August 2016

Think:Kids, Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Psychiatry

Principal Investigator: Alisha Pollastri, PhD

- Collected and entered data on the effects of the Collaborative Problem-Solving (CPS) model on child behavioral health symptoms, and parent mindsets and skills.
- Conducted analyses on demographic differences in treatment efficacy using STATA.
- Developed a matrix of recommended measures for contracted providers to assess model impact.
- Prepared training resources and participant evaluations for Tier 1 CPS model trainings.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Program Quality Analyst, Evidence-Based Community Services August 2019– August 2021

The New York Foundling, New York, NY

- Facilitate data-driven service improvement planning with clinical staff in alternative to incarceration, child welfare prevention, and school and community mental health programs.
- Develop data entry systems and monitoring processes for adherent implementation of evidence-based therapy models.
- Produce qualitative and quantitative trend reports analyzing clinical and program outcomes.
- Facilitate planning and development of processes to increase client feedback and participation in agency leadership.
- Conduct internal data reviews preparing for stakeholder audits and Medicaid compliance.
- Test pilot initiatives in robotic process automation and natural language processing AI to reduce clinician documentation burden and strengthen qualitative data insights.

AmeriCorps VISTA- Division of Youth and Family Justice

July 2018 – July 2019

NYC Administration for Children's Services, New York, NY

- Developed an initiative to engage court-involved youth in participatory action research. Collaborated with youth and advocates to create action research tools and train agency leadership in effective youth-adult partnership.
- Designed and implemented evaluations of youth experience in juvenile programming. Formed recommendations for improving youth-centered practice in high and low security facilities.
- Managed data collection and evaluation for projects including trafficking and violence prevention, vocational training, and reducing use of restraints.
- Evaluated proposals for citywide alternative to incarceration program contracts.
- Project manager of an initiative to build infrastructure for volunteering in juvenile facilities.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

January 2018– May 2018

Cornell Prison Education Program, Cayuga Correctional Facility

- Co-taught a science fiction literature course for students earning degrees while incarcerated.
- Planned lessons, facilitated reading discussions, and provided writing assignment support.

Trauma Informed Care Curriculum Developer and Facilitator May 2017– September 2017

Cornell Cooperative Extension, Binghamton NY

- Collaborated with 4-H partners to conduct a community needs assessment.
- Developed original training curriculum in trauma informed care for local afterschool programs.
- Facilitated 3 workshops to train over 150 program staff in trauma-informed approaches.
- Created feedback evaluations guiding the revision of subsequent trainings.

Teaching Assistant

August 2016– December 2016

Department of Human Development, Cornell University

- Undergraduate teaching assistant for an introductory research methods course.
- Created learning resources, provided SPSS coding support, assisted with grading.

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- Graduate level human development quantitative methods I and II courses, with R training.
- Longitudinal Modeling using MPlus (Data Analysis Training Institute of Connecticut).
- Four-semester advanced seminar and practicum in translational youth development research.
- Specialized courses in child and adolescent development including self-regulation, attachment, positive psychology, psychopathology, play, racial and ethnic identity development, neuroscience, and development of gender and sexuality.

ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (October 2019-Present)
- Society for Research in Adolescence (April 2018- Present)
- Psi Chi Psychology Honors Society (September 2017- Present)
- Society for Research in Child Development (April 2017-Present)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Riker's Debate Project, Volunteer teacher (February 2020)
- Sanctuary for Families, Child care volunteer (January 2019- May 2019)
- Cornell Information and Visitor Relations, Student manager and tour guide (February 2016- August 2018)
- Cornell Club Field Hockey (August 2014-2016)