



April 13, 2020

Dear Grey House team and esteemed colleagues,

40 days into our shared ordeal of team-building. This is the typical biblical time for team-building ordeals, 40 days and 40 nights of rain for Noah, 40 days (or years?) wandering in the Sinai desert for Moses, and even Jesus was tempted by the devil for 40 days and nights in the Judean Desert. We've passed the "oh boy, working from home!" stage, and then next the "horrors of working from home" stage, and it seems to me we are now in the "stimulation-seeking through food" stage. (This stage also happened to Noah, Moses, and Jesus.) Thus, the end of this newsletter will celebrate team members' enthusiastic cooking and eating.

Meanwhile, I will share news now and then to keep us all on the same page, approximately weekly-ish. Here is the all the news I have that's fit to print since 6 April:

FIRST, THE HAPPY NEWS!

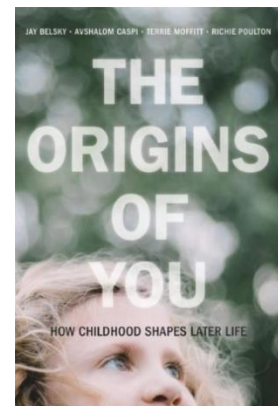
Max got spectacular reviews this week on his NIA application for a K99/K00 pre-doc/post-doc transition fellowship. Now he must write a response to the reviewers' queries. They said: *This is an outstanding candidate with a strong clinical psychology background, a stellar academic record and a track record in research, evidenced by several first author papers. The supporting letters describe the applicant as a rising star in the field. Ratings = 2, 1, 1.* Congratulations Max. Who knew the middle name was Lorenz?

Our forthcoming book lead by Jay Belsky is being translated to Russian (!), also translated to Maori (thanks to Richie for arranging this), and licensed as an audiobook (so you don't have to actually READ it). But printing is delayed till August. Shipping is commandeered for PPE, so publishers are holding back on books.

Temi spoke with reporters for the NC press about mental health in the time of COVID19: <https://today.duke.edu/2020/04/dealing-coronavirus-it%E2%80%99s-ok-be-anxious>

JCPP has posted a video abstract of Leah's new paper: <https://www.acamh.org/journal/jcpp/polygenic-score-predicts-disinhibition/>

There will also be a story in *The Bridge*, the newsletter of the Association of Child and Adolescent Mental Health.



KCL have agreed to pay open-access fees for Aaron's paper on methylation and for Avshalom's paper on 4 decades of mental health. Saving us nearly \$10k. We can now apply for this for other papers accepted. YAY!

Collecting data on COVID19 in E-Risk. Jo Freeman Henchy and Becky Gray began contacting E-Risk twins personally this week to push out our survey, which has questions about COVID19, as well as questions about other aspects of their lives. Data should be available in summer. Ideas for using them welcome. Jo reports: *I really enjoyed making the first bit of contact with the twins this week. It's nice to have something else to do and a change from cooking, cleaning and home schooling. Our home school has a heavy art bias at the moment, because I'm not so good at math! Rob is busy as he works for the NHS and has been securing PPE for all the GP's and HCA's in Peterborough, using our car to deliver it all so it was bursting with face masks last week!* BECKY adds: *I love the contact with twins, and the changing dynamics from our cheeky 25 year olds! Like the time I called the ones who were at the pub (pissed) and did all their best efforts to try to get me to go there to do the survey....and how they hung up on me when I told them they really wouldn't want me there, as I was one of the originals who saw them when they were 4 years old!!*

Aaron submitted a small grant application to the Lafitte Foundation, to use the E-Risk COVID19 data to look at neighborhood factors in relation geo-coded access to greenspace, and behavior/mental health.

The NZ Ministry of Health kindly agreed to give Leah and Barry direct access to the entire population's hospital records. The NZIDI is still shut down, but very soon Leah's stalled project can move again! Here's Barry and Smooch at home, note the kiwi bird in the background.



Dan Belsky's paper has been accepted for publication, HURRAH! HURRAH! Belsky, DW, A Caspi, L Arseneault, Baccarelli, A., D Corcoran, Gao, X, Hannon, HL Harrington, L J Rassmussen, R Houts, K Huffman, WE Kraus, Kwon, D, J Mill, C Pieper, J Prinz, R Poulton, Schwartz, J, K Sugden, Vokonas, P, B Williams, TE Moffitt (in press). Quantification of the pace of biological aging in humans through a blood test: The DunedinPoAm DNA methylation algorithm, [eLife](#)

NEXT, THE UNHAPPY NEWS:

E-risk team members in the UK are unwell with the virus. Andrea Danese and Helen Fisher are toughing it out at home with fevers and fatigue. Don't expect rapid replies to project e-mails for a while. Even Boris Johnson needs time to rest and recover!

Duke administration has announced there will be a hiring freeze. This is ominous, particularly for Kyle, who is about to enter the job market this fall. There will also be pay rises this year only for employees who earn under \$50k, and the administration are reviewing how much Duke can afford to match employees' monthly retirement savings. The endowment seems to have taken a hit. Will keep an eye on this.

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Emergency documentation: Honalee is the first to let me know she has finished preparing documents with information about her tasks, work projects, key files,

passwords, contact details for collaborators, and so forth, in the event someone has to take over for her as data manager. Back up your key files on the Z drive.

APRIL Birthdays	APRIL Birthdays
Kyle	24-Apr
Line	25-Apr
David	23-Apr
Ahmad	27-Apr

RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 6 APRIL:

Tim Matthews submitted a new concept paper on loneliness in E-Risk. Good idea Tim!

Leah Richmond-Rakerd's manuscript on self-control and preparation for aging has gone out for mock review till April 7.

Tracy Darbeloff's manuscript on fitness and brain structure has gone out for mock review till April 6.

Stephanie Lewis's manuscript is out for mock review: Unravelling the contribution of complex trauma to psychopathology and cognitive deficits: a cohort study.

Aaron and Max's paper is still out for mock review till April 17: Association of childhood lead exposure with structural brain integrity in midlife.

Kyle's paper, mock reviews completed THANKS EVERYBODY! Bourassa et al. Lower cardiovascular reactivity is associated with more childhood adversity and poorer health in midlife: Replicated findings from the Dunedin and MIDUS cohorts.

Kyle's new paper submitted: Bourassa, Financial Stressors During the Great Recession and Mortality.

Line's paper in review: Rasmussen, LJ, et al. (in review). Association between elevated suPAR, a new biomarker of chronic inflammation, and accelerated aging. *J Gerontology, Med Sci*

JC's paper in review: J.C. Barnes, et al. (in review). The development of perceptions of punishment risk from adolescence to middle adulthood. *Criminology*.

Jon Schaefer's paper in review: Schaefer, JD, et al. (in review). No evidence for genetic moderation of the effects of adolescent victimization exposure on general psychopathology in the Environmental Risk Longitudinal Twin Study. *J of Abnormal Psychology*

Temi's paper in review: Moffitt, TE. (still in review). Behavioral and social research to accelerate the geroscience agenda. *Aging Research Reviews*, R&R.

**Projects underway are making good progress toward mock review:
An amazing amount of progress was made this week on writing manuscripts.
Well done you!**

Leah Richmond-Rakerd, mental disorder predicts physical disease and mortality
Tracy Darbeloff, lit review on fitness and brain
Maria Gehred, ACEs and brain structure
Max Elliott & Avshalom Caspi, Phase 45 PoA
Jasmin Wertz, Little p and aging
Jasmin Wertz, vital personality and healthy aging
Jasmin Wertz, parenting genomics in multiple cohorts
Kyle Bourassa and Line Rasmussen, stressful life events and suPAR
Max Elliott & Line Rasmussen brain and suPAR
Karen Sugden, education and aging
Geli Ronald and Lizzie, Autism Q and p
Franky Happe and David, Autism Q and midlife health
Temi Moffitt, JAMA view point on behavioral research in geroscience
Wendy Slutske and Leah, longitudinal stability of problem gambling and non-problem gambling in Dunedin

We continue to thank Renate, Maria, and Annchen for their reproducibility stat checks on papers in mock review. They have checked some real doozies in recent weeks.

Annchen Knodt is analyzing the autism questionnaire and brain structure.

Annchen Knodt and Maria Sison are doing brilliant analyses of financial behaviour and brain and moving forward on new ways of analyzing functional connectivity.

Renate is building some amazing findings about intergenerational patterns of little p, using the Dunedin family history data for study members, parents, and grandparents.

Avshalom has a draft of his K07 in the can. Susan is doing up the budget.

AND NOW FOR THE FOOD!

Susan's Lemon Easter cake. And Annchen's Easter Coffee cake & bunny rolls.



Ahmad is eating Anna's amazing pies:



Aidan makes pizza, Erin makes cupcakes, and Erika makes charoset.



Jo Freeman Henchy's awesome margaritas (alcohol kills virus):



Ronen Reuben eats pasta, while mom Jessalee makes matza-ball soup:



Curt and Leah's comfort standby, diGiorno!



Honalee's first strawberry of the season, small but sweet.



Kyle and Ali's amazing burger (they baked the bun and grew the lettuce), plus bread and cheese making.



Oscar's afternoon snack al fresco.

As always, if anyone feels the tiniest bit unwell, please let me know. Have a good week everyone! Temi

