

## August 17, 2020 newsletter.

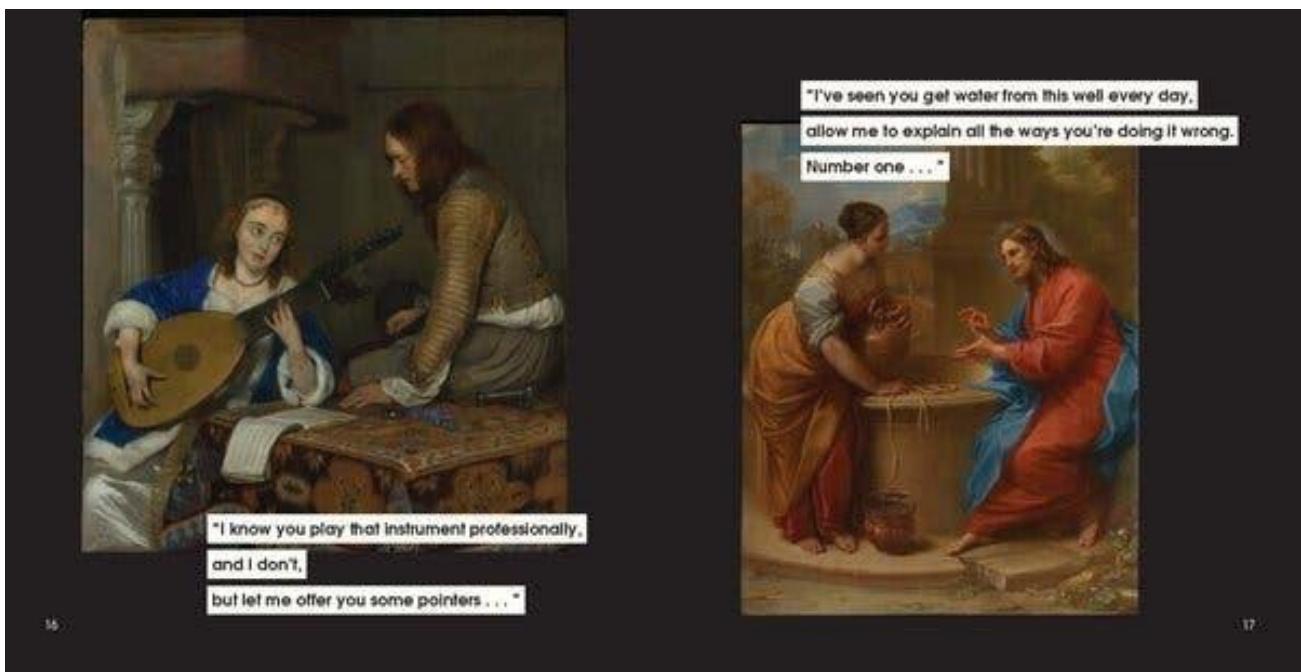
### Dear Grey House team and esteemed colleagues,

Hi lovely quaranteamates! (useful new word coined by NY Times this week). It's 167 days into our team-building adventure, 136 days left in this year, and things are feeling kinda samey. Maybe we need some more steamy **sex** content in this newsletter?

**Sex and Covid.** If you must have sex with someone you don't know all that well, wash your hands before and after, don't kiss, do wear a face covering and don't do it face to face. Does that still sound fun? Fun enough, apparently, for the UK's Terrence Higgins Trust to issue this advice to the determinedly sexually active, to help keep Covid infection rates down. The trust also notes that your safest partners during the pandemic are yourself or someone you live with. That would at least make life easier for track-and-trace operatives, who according to the media have failed spectacularly with the tools at their disposal (mainly telephones) and are now reassigned to the kind of shoe-leather tracing that Singapore has long since shown actually works. So...if you are keen to have sex with persons you don't know, luring a track-and-trace person to your home may become an interesting option.

Tortoise.

**War between the sexes?** A little over a year ago, the writer Nicole Tersigni began playfully pairing historical art on social media with captions that evoke the casual sexism many women face. The memes struck a chord — each chapter of her new coffee table book, “Men to Avoid in Art and Life,” uses that concept to illustrate the different “types” of men that Tersigni and many women encounter on a regular basis. She describes five of them here. Order the coffee-table book!



**Sexy country music star Dolly Parton has come out in support of Black Lives Matter**, in a rare comment on politics. She told Billboard Magazine this week: "Do we think our little white asses are the only ones that matter? No! As soon as you realize something is a problem, you should fix it. Don't be a dumbass. That's where my heart is. I would never dream of hurting anybody on purpose."



OK, enough sex already.

Meanwhile, here is the news I have that's fit to print since 10 August:

## NOW THE HAPPY NEWS!

**YAHOO!!! Aaron was awarded a grant for his proposal** “Evaluating childhood lead exposure implications for long-term telomere attrition”, from the...



Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah! Our team **had 3 papers** accepted for publication this week! Looks like the logjam at the journals may have broken. Details later in this newsletter.

Upcoming August birthdays, send greetings now! Annchen 14<sup>th</sup>, Max 21<sup>st</sup>, Tracy 26<sup>th</sup>. (If I don't have your birthday, send it to me!)

The E-Risk audiotapes arrived in London. Helen and Sophie will use them in a new project to study language development and accents in the class system.



SDGP Team members can go back in their offices this week! YAY!

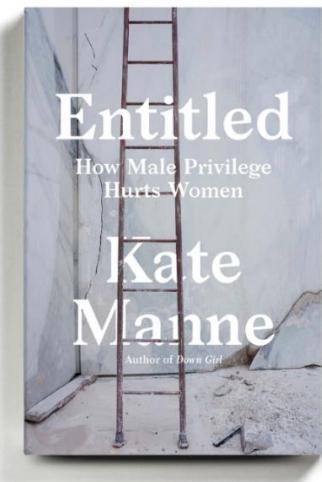


Especially YAY for Antony, who was locked down for 156 days in our teeny flat.

## NEXT, THE UNHAPPY NEWS:

**Temi's beloved Blackberry mobile phone died this week.** Then the next day her Thinkpad laptop died. Then next day she spilled a glass of water in her keyboard, which died. And today her mouse died, but that was fixable with new batteries. None of the dead devices tested positive for COVID. Imagine that.

**Now we know why Avshalom always asks you if he can be the first author:**



**Duke students violate the Duke compact on day 1, East Campus.** More than 3,500 students and staff tested last week, only 4 were positive. Let's see how long it lasts.



## More unhappy news....

**Our New Zealand team members are back on lockdown. Sorry, sorry, Sorry!**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-53796434>



## Science-visualizations:

From Russia, with love....



1.9K

364 comments · 1.1K shares

Russia has repeatedly saved the world with its vaccines - it was in Russia where vaccines against cholera, polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, measles and other dangerous diseases were invented.

### • MISLEADING

pharmaceutical companies called on Russia early. And here there is no medicine context, it seems that only business is important. Russia won the vaccine race and such a competitor in a profitable business is very uncomfortable. But when it comes to the health of millions of people, Russia has no intention of thinking about money. Vaccination for Russians will be free.

## RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 10 August:

Great news!

**Jamie Murphy's E-Risk paper, sponsored by Helen Fisher has been accepted by *Development and Psychopathology*!!!** "Externalising the threat from within: A new direction for researching associations between suicide and psychotic experiences"

**Jessie Baldwin and Andrea Danese's paper was accepted by *JAMA Pediatrics*!!!** Population versus individual prediction of poor health from Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) screening.

**Willy Pedersen, Tilman von Soest, and Temi's paper was accepted by *Developmental Psychology*!!!** Delinquency Abstainers in Adolescence and Educational and Labour Market Outcomes in Midlife: A Population-Based 25-year Longitudinal Study.

**Helen and Jo submitted a revision of their E-Risk paper to Psychological Medicine this week.** "Association between genetic and socioenvironmental risk for schizophrenia during upbringing in a UK longitudinal cohort" Absolutely massive thanks to Jo for a mammoth revision and to Ben et al for assistance with the additional polygenic scores. Fingers tightly crossed that the reviewers and Editor are so stunned by all the additional work that they accept it!

**Jasmin's new paper will be submitted this week.** THANKS TO ALL WHO DID MOCKS. History of psychiatric illness as a risk factor for accelerated aging: Evidence from a population-representative longitudinal cohort study.

**Christina Carlisi and Essi Viding's paper was submitted this week, and....the** 'receipt of new manuscript email' from JAMA-Psychiatry came through at 1am, then the rejection email came through at 2am - I wonder whether any screening algorithms were involved? "Associations between life-course-persistent antisocial behavior and subcortical brain volume in a population-representative longitudinal birth cohort." Resubmitted to Molecular Psychiatry.

**Projects underway and making good progress on the march toward mock review:**

Barry's paper on loneliness

Aaron Reuben and Helen Fisher, air pollution and mental health (E-Risk).

Leah and Signe Andersen, education disrupts the intergenerational transmission of disadvantage (Danish registers)

Jasmin Wertz, parenting genomics in multiple cohorts (many cohorts)

Kyle Bourassa and Line Rasmussen, stressful life events and suPAR (Dunedin)

Max Elliott & Line Rasmussen, brain and suPAR (Dunedin)

Karen Sugden, education and the methylation pace of aging (many cohorts)

Geli Ronald and Lizzie, Autism Q and p (Dunedin)  
Franky Happe and David, Autism Q and midlife health (Dunedin)

**Leah and Jasmin have been invited to initiate projects in the Early Growth and Development Study**, launched by David Reiss, an adoption study that has assessments of biological parents as well as adoptees and adoptive parents.

**SSGAC (the social science genetics consortium) has provided Dunedin and E-Risk with about 40 new polygenic scores**, from enormous GWAS incorporating UKBiobank and 23andMe. **Honalee** has been hard at work managing this new influx of valuable data. **Daniel Belsky** has been running analyses to validate the polygenic scores against key phenotypes. The new scores will feature in a paper to be submitted by SSGAC this month, and then shortly after will be available to our team for analyses.

**Sean Hogan in Dunedin delivered two new admin data sets to Honalee last week:** Accident Compensation Corporation and Ministry of Social Development. Ministry of Health to come.

**Kyle is drafting a grant application** to the American Heart Association, who are postponing their usual application deadlines.

**Honalee prepared a mega-dataset for Madeline Meier**. It's so wonderful that Madeline has tenure and can now collaborate again! Welcome back Madeline!

**Barry and Stephanie in Auckland** are doing analyses in the NZIDI for the new paper with Leah on deaths of despair.

**Ben finished analyzing polygenic scores for Jorim Tielbeek's antisocial meta-GWAS in E-risk and Dunedin**. Delivered amazing findings to Jorim and JC Barnes last week in a zoom meeting.

**Ben is also deriving the education3 polygenic score in the ALSPAC** data that Jasmin has obtained, as soon as ALPAC Deliver their data Thanks Ben!

**Ben is further investigating** brain biomarker plasma assays, investigating UK data sets that have methylation data for validating the DunedinPoAm, and reviewing methodology for Dunedin and E-Risk telomere work.

**Jon and Eilis are analyzing DunedinPoAm derived from postmortem brain tissue.**

**Susan** is doing a budget for a new application to NIA, chasing up **Max's** fellowship, developing different budget scenarios to handle any potential cuts to the cannabis grant, working on **Stephanie's visa**, and maintaining our website. [www.moffittcaspi.com](http://www.moffittcaspi.com)

**Honalee's creating a spreadsheet table of reasons for missing data at Phase 45 in Dunedin**. 94% of Study members took part at 45. However, variable by variable, there are a few data missing for many different reasons. Before phase 52, we want to inform PI's about opportunities to improve their data-collection and avoid missing data.

**Antony Ambler in London is doing the reproducibility stat check** for Stephanie's Lewis's paper on trauma.

**Annchen, Maria, Max** are working on characterizing gradients of brain organization.

**Jasmin's working with Sara Jaffee** on an application to study the Next Gen sample of Study member's children in Dunedin.

**Aaron and Max are writing applications for clinical hospital internships** while also starting new clinical rotations. **We wish you stamina, guys!**

**Jo Newbury is updating some of the neighbourhood data on E-Risk twins,** because now she can reduce missing data.

If you are working on something you want others to know about, please let me know.



Jasmin is working on this!

Resources:

Sick of dissertation working at home? Registered **Duke PhD students** can get a space on campus for one year in Perkins Library:

<https://library.duke.edu/using/policies/graduate-research-commons>

## **Don't Forget to check the American presidential race poll being updated daily by the Economist.**

<https://projects.economist.com/us-2020-forecast/president>

### **FYI - VOTING INFO**

North Carolina Residents.

You can check your NC voter registration status here:

<https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/>

Register online if you have an NC license or DMV-issued ID here:

<https://www.ncsbe.gov/Voters/Registering-to-Vote>

Info on NC absentee voting, here:

<https://www.ncsbe.gov/Voting-Options/Absentee-Voting>

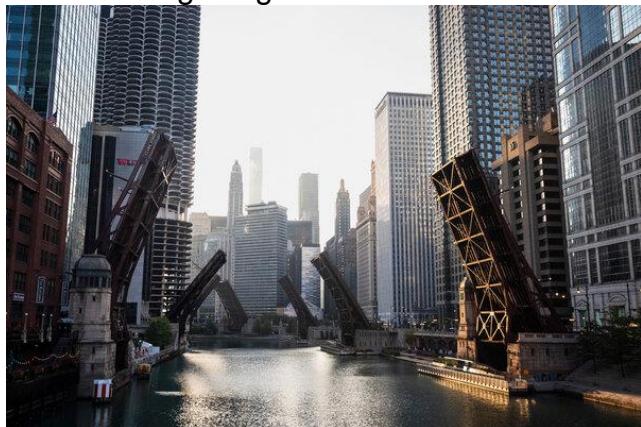
One stop website for residents of other states:

Register - <https://www.usa.gov/register-to-vote>

Early voting/absentee voting: <https://www.usa.gov/how-to-vote>

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I just think this is an amazing photo. In Chicago, they raised the bridges to prevent rioters from getting downtown to the Miracle Mile.



## This week's newsletter theme: Collaborator appreciation!

**Collaborator Avi Reichenberg, out on the court this week at Mt. Sinai in NY city.**



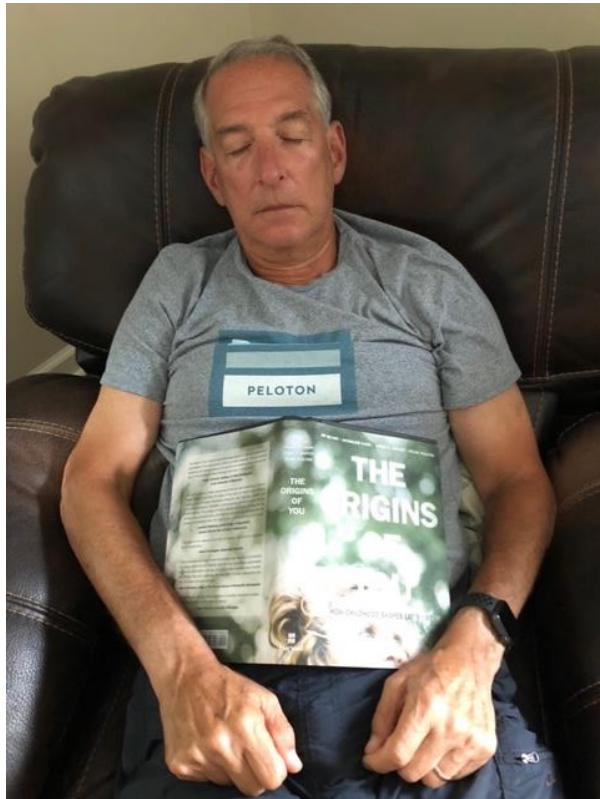
**Collaborator Michel Boivin had a close encounter with a beluga whale this week.**



In the sweetest way, colleagues from all over are starting to send pics of themselves with our new book. This is David Sherman, in Santa Barbara.



And Jay's twin brother, Ira, gives his honest review of the book:



**Leah is no longer a postdoc. She is now a collaborator. But you never escape.**



Our Lady of the Zoom. Photo by Stephanie D'Souza.

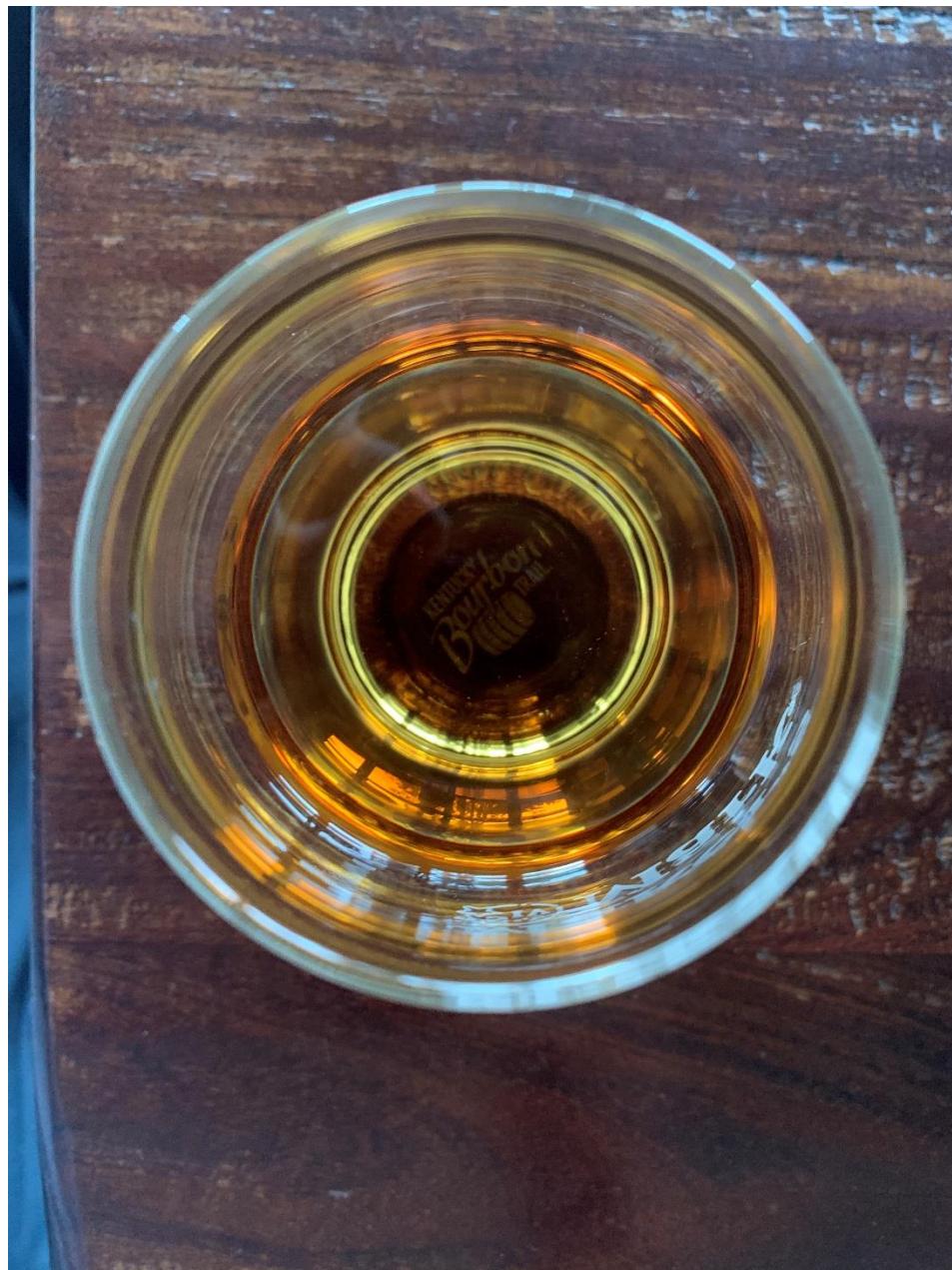
Leah and Curt are in their new home, with the blue NC pots we all gave them.



**One more collaboration photo: Kyle & Alli had cocktails with chickens last Friday.**



Have a serene week everyone, wherever you are! Temi



Serene Kentucky bourbon whiskey glass, photo by JC Barnes