



408 Social Science Lab

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Our Research Updates

A big congratulations to our graduate students, **Cassidy** and **Jacky**, who have finished collecting data for their research projects investigating how children think about social groups, and concepts like social mobility, wealth bias, and morality!

Big Dreams & Build-a-Biped studies (Cassidy):

- These studies are interested in how kids think about social groups.
- Investigating how children utilize social group markers (i.e. gender, religion) will help us understand how children make decisions and evaluations.
- We anticipate that the role of social group markers will vary for children. These studies are exploratory and additional research will be done to better understand how children utilize social groups.

A Brief Introduction

The Development of Social Cognition Lab at UC-Irvine investigates how children learn to think and reason about their social world and the cognitive capabilities underlying these skills.

We look at how children learn about fairness and equality, choice, thinking about the future, and prosocial behaviors such as sharing and helping.

What do we do?

Our studies take the form of short games: puzzle games, number games, interactive computer games, storytelling games, etc. We look at children's responses on these games to study how they think and behave at different stages of their lives.

Lab Updates: What we've been up to!

Welcome to everyone that is getting our newsletter for the first time! We are very excited to inform that we have been noticing new parents interested in our research! We offer online and in-person studies at our laboratory at UC-Irvine. We also go to [Pretend City](#) every Wednesday morning and Friday afternoon! (Check out the next page for more information).

We are happy to announce that we have **finished collecting data for a total of 4 studies online!** We are very grateful for all the families supporting our research, we couldn't have done this without you all!

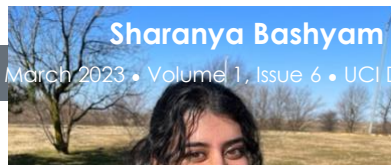
Important announcements:

-We have two new members at our lab: **Isabel Herrera** (Lab Manager) and **Sharanya Bashyam** (Graduate Student). You can learn more about them in our website!
-**Cassidy Wolfe** will be presenting a poster and a talk at SRCD in Utah about her studies! (Check out the blue column on the right).
-Congratulations to research assistant **Vivian Nguyen** for her acceptance into UC Riverside's School Psychology PhD Program!
- Congratulations to research assistant **Lizbeth Romero** on her acceptance to the Cal State Long Beach's Human Factors MA program!

Social Mobility study (Jacky):

- This study explores children's social mobility beliefs, specifically whether children think people can change their social groups and classes.
- Investigating children's conception of social status would help us understand how their beliefs influence their decision making, such as when planning career goals.
- We anticipate that providing different examples of success could change how they think

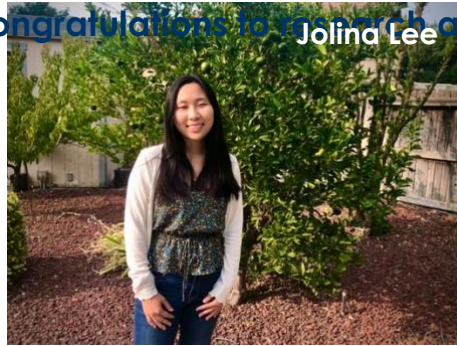
Sharanya Bashyam



Isabel Herrera



Congratulations to research assistant



Jolina became a research assistant in our lab from 2021-2022. Jolina worked in various projects; however, her honor thesis work was on our project called Math and Reading Competition. Jolina was also SURP recipient, meaning that she was awarded and worked with us during the summer for advancement in her project! We wish Jolina the best in any future endeavors!

Follow us on our social medias to stay in touch!

Twitter:
@DoSC_Lab

Instagram:
@dosc_lab

Facebook:

"Development of Social Cognition Lab at UC Irvine"

Reading with Kids (4 – 5 years old): Children's understanding of fractions and their moral reasoning.

Reasoning about Disadvantages (5 – 7 years old): Children's understanding of fractions and their moral reasoning.

Socioeconomic Disadvantages (5 – 8 years old): Children's exposure to socioeconomic status and ability to recognize inequalities.

Learning about Proportions (4 – 6 years old): Does social preference enhance children's attention to proportional information?

Casual Reasons for Inequality (4 – 8 years old): How children reason about fairness in inequalities.

Big Dreams (6 – 8 years old): How do children think about wealth?

Social Mobility (5 – 10 years old): What do children think about social status?

Our current lab's in-person games:

Exposure to Disadvantage (5 – 8 years old): How does exposure to disadvantage affects cognitive control?

Fairness and Number Approximation (2.5 – 5 years old): Children's understanding of zero and their representations of fairness.

Interested in participating?

We currently run online and in-person studies!

Pretend City: Wednesdays 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Fridays 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM