

## Annual Report 2006

**Annual Report 2006** innehåller totalt **235** referenser sorterade efter försteförfattarens efternamn. Under året anställda forskare vid Psykologiska institutionen är markerade med blå färg.

### Lite statistik

- Av 235 bidrag är 66 "in press".
- 131 referenser avser artiklar i vetenskapliga tidskrifter (Journal). Av dessa var 50 st "in press".
- 40 referenser avser böcker eller bokkapitel (Book (chapter)). Av dessa var 13 "in press".
- 8 referenser avser rapporter (Report).
- 46 referenser avser konferensbidrag (Proceedings). Av dessa var tre "in press".
- 9 referenser avser doktorsavhandlingar (Dissertations) som lagts fram under året.
- 218 av alla bidrag är på engelska, 16 på svenska och ett på övriga språk (tyska).

**Referens:** [af Klinteberg, B.](#) (2006). Violent offending: Origins, development and consequences - some aspects. *The Stockholm Criminology Symposium*, Stockholm, June, 2006. (Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention and the International Society of Criminology (ISC) at Stockholm University).

**Abstract:** During the last decade there has been an increasing interest in the role of impulsivity and aggressiveness in psychosocial disturbances. Despite scientific efforts, several aspects of the relationships between these personality features and Personality Disorders and violence are still controversial. A relevant question concerns the reciprocal relationships between impulsivity and aggressiveness, and their interaction with other "action" personality traits or temperamental traits, e.g., sensation seeking. Another controversial topic is the identification of biological and neuropsychological markers of impulsivity and aggressiveness in order to get more objective measures of these personality traits than those produced by subjects' self-reports, and to obtain a deeper understanding of the phenotypic aspects underlying impulsive and aggressive behaviours as manifested in violence. Starting from these considerations, the present session aims at shedding some light on the implications and consequences of impulsivity for psychosocial disturbances, such as abuse and violence. The issue will be discussed in terms of development, possible underlying factors, attitudes and consequences, which can be particularly relevant from a clinical and forensic point of view.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings impulsivity, criminality, violence, risk factors, attitudes, injuries, victims

**Referens:** Airaksinen, E., [Wahlin, Å.](#), Forsell, Y., & [Larsson, M.](#) (in press). Low episodic memory as a premorbid marker of depression: Evidence from a three-year follow-up. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*.

**Abstract:** Objective: To examine low episodic memory scores as a potential risk factor for depression.

Method: A population-based sample of non-depressed individuals (20-64 years) were re-examined 3 years after an initial screening (n=708). At baseline, information on episodic memory scores, demographic and socioeconomic factors, alcohol use and anxiety diagnoses was collected. The data for depression diagnoses were collected both at baseline and follow-up.

Results: Logistic regressions, conducted on three separate study groups that were defined according to three assessments of episodic memory (i.e. free + cued recall, free recall, cued recall) among individuals who scored in the 25 lowest or highest percentiles in the memory tests, revealed that low episodic memory performance defined as the sum of free and cued recall of organizable words, constitute a risk for depression diagnosis three years later.

Conclusion: Low episodic memory performance predated depressive diagnosis and might be considered as a premorbid marker of depression.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal depression, cognition, memory

**Referens:** Airaksinen, E., [Wahlin, Å.](#), [Larsson, M.](#), & Forsell, Y. (2006). Cognitive and social functioning in recovery from depression: Results from a population-based three-year follow-up. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 96, 107-110.

**Abstract:** Background: This study prospectively examined cognitive and social functioning in recovery from depression using participants sampled from the general population.

Method: Seventy-six depressed persons fulfilling (n=41) and not fulfilling (n=35) the criteria for DSM-IV depression at a threeyear follow-up were compared with respect to episodic memory performance and social functioning at baseline (T1), at follow-up (T2) and change across time.

Results: The groups did not differ in episodic memory performance either at T1, T2 or in residual change. However, the groups differed in social functioning at T2 and in residual change indicating improved social

functioning in the recovered group.

Limitation: The absence of a healthy control group at follow-up.

Conclusion: Despite the symptomatic improvement and improved social functioning, cognitive functioning does not follow this general recovery trend, at least not in the three-year interval examined.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal depression, episodic memory, longitudinal

**Referens:** Allvin, M., Aronsson, G., Hagström, T., Johansson, G., & Lundberg, U. (2006). *Gränslöst arbete. Socialpsykologiska perspektiv på det nya arbetslivet*. [Work with no boundaries. Social psychological perspectives on the new working life.] Liber.

**Abstract:** Sedan 1970-talet har villkoren i arbetslivet förändrats till den grad att det finns fog för att tala om "en industriell revolution". Det svenska näringslivet har blivit alltmer internationaliserat och beroende av en global marknad. Som en följd av det har kraven på organisationer, fackföreningar, myndigheter och välfärdsstaten att anpassa sig ökat. Därmed förändras också förutsättningarna på arbetsmarknaden och i arbetslivet. Det nya arbetsliv som växer fram är betydligt mer oförutsägbart, skiftat och tävlingsinriktat än tidigare. Denna bok handlar om detta nya arbetsliv och de psykiska och sociala konsekvenserna det för med sig. Boken redogör för och diskuterar nya och flexibla organisationsformer och deras styrinstrument, de förändrade kraven på kunskaper och lärande i arbetslivet, den förändrade relationen mellan arbete och övrigt liv samt de nya förutsättningarna för stress och hälsa. Boken går inte bara igenom aktuella företeelser i samhället och arbetslivet, den redogör även för relevanta kunskaper, begrepp och teorier inom samhällsteori, organisation, socialisation, kognition och stress. Trots den breda utblicken ges en samlad bild av det nya arbetslivet som alltmer oreglerat, heterogent och individualiserat.

Författarna är alla forskare inom området och boken bygger delvis på erfarenheterna från ett omfattande forskningsprogram om nya arbetsvillkor. Gränslöst arbete är tänkt att användas som kurslitteratur på universitet och högskolor inom såväl psykologi, pedagogik och sociologi som företagsekonomi. Boken kan även läsas av alla som är intresserade, och kanske drabbade, av villkoren i det nya arbetslivet.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) arbetsorganisation, working life, lärande, change, hälsa, stress and health

**Referens:** Allwin, P. (2006). Safety management in Luftfartsinspektionen – Swedish Civil Aviation Safety Authority. In O. Svenson, I. Salo, P. Oedewald, T. Reiman, & A.B. Skjerve (Eds.), *Nordic perspectives on safety management in high reliability organizations: Theory and applications*, (pp. 45-66). Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology.

**Abstract:** In this chapter the system approach outlined in chapter 1 is applied to the analysis of safety management in the Swedish Civil Aviation Safety Authority-SCASA, the regulating authority of Swedish civil airline operations (Luftfartsinspektionen). The methods used were both document analysis and interviews with key persons within SCASA. The results generated an interesting narrative of safety management in the studied organization. Examples of safety management according to core concepts of the system theoretical framework were illustrated, among them safety management in relation to the system structure, identification of threats, and information feedback.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) air transportation, threats, feedback

**Referens:** Anderson-Stråberg, T., Sverke, M., & Näswall, K. (2006). The impact of pay-related justice perceptions on employee work attitudes, psychological well-being, and work-related behavior. Poster presented at the *7th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology*, Dublin, Ireland, November 8-10, 2006.

**Abstract:** The use of individualized pay has increased during the last decades. Employers expect individualized pay systems to bring about more efficient and motivated employees, who are willing to heighten their work efforts in order to achieve organizational goals. A certain amount of cooperation and communication between supervisor and employee throughout the different parts in the individualized pay-setting process is required. Although research on leadership and its impact on employees perceptions are extensive (Pfeffer, 1997), there is need to study whether interpersonal competency of leaders in the pay-setting process affects outcomes such as employee satisfaction, performance and well-being. It would be reasonable to assume that employees who have a positive view of the supervisor-employee relationship and regards the supervisor's conduct in the pay-setting process as fair, also would experience a greater satisfaction, commitment, and are less inclined to quit than individuals with more negative perceptions of the relationship with their supervisor and his/her conduct in the pay-setting process. Questionnaire data was collected among 721 health care workers. The response rate was 81 percent (N=582). The proportion of women was 88 percent, and the mean age 48 (SD=10) years. The results indicate that a clear communication concerning expectations and goals is probably the most important supervisor quality for all five outcomes, followed by supervisor legitimacy and competency, respectful treatment and gender equality.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings wages, leadership, fairness

**Referens:** Andersson, C., Lindau, M., Almkvist, O., Engfeldt, P., Johansson, S.E., & Eriksdotter Jönhagen, M. (2006). Identifying patients at high and low risk for cognitive decline using Rey Auditory Verbal Learning test among middle-aged memory clinic out-patients. *Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders*, 21, 251-259.

**Abstract:** Objectives: To investigate whether application of cutoff levels in an episodic memory test (Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test, RAVLT) is a useful method for identifying patients at high and low risk of cognitive decline and subsequent dementia.

Methods: 224 patients with memory complaints (mean age = 60.7 years, mean MMSE = 28.2) followed-up at a memory clinic over 3 years were assigned retrospectively to one of three memory groups from their baseline results in RAVLT [severe (SIM), moderate (MIM) or no impairment (NIM)]. These groups were investigated regarding cognitive decline.

Results: Patients assigned to SIM showed significant cognitive decline and progressed to dementia at a high

rate, while a normal performance in RAVLT at baseline (NIM) predicted normal cognition after 3 years. Patients with MIM constituted a heterogeneous group; some patients deteriorated cognitively, while the majority remained stable or improved.

Conclusions: The application of cutoff levels in RAVLT at baseline showed that patients with severely impaired RAVLT performance were at a high risk of cognitive decline and progression to dementia, while patients with normal RAVLT results did not show cognitive decline during 3 years. Furthermore, the initial degree of memory impairment was decisive in the cognitive prognosis 3 years later.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, cognitive decline, dementia, Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test, RAVLT

**Referens:** [Andersson-Stråberg, T. \(2006\).](#) Gender differences in perceptions of pay-related justice, equality, and satisfaction. Poster presenterad at *The Work, Stress, and Health Conference*, Miami, 3 – 6 March, 2006.

**Abstract:** The practice of individualized pay has brought with it a great many challenges for employers in regard to how the pay-setting process and the communications of criteria and pay-related notifications should be managed. For instance, earlier research has shown that it is foremost pay satisfaction, attitudes towards individualized pay, pay equity and gender equality that contribute to positive work-related attitudes. Given that there is evidence of discrimination – primarily of women – occurring in regard to their pay levels and pay negotiations, the aim of this study is to explore if and how perceptions of the pay setting procedure, pay related justice, gender equality and equal opportunity differ between men and women.

The empirical basis for this cross-sectional study is comprised of questionnaire data collected among 1316 Swedish government white-collar workers. The response rate was 68 percent (N=895) and the proportion of women was 35 percent. The results suggest that individualized pay as a system is something that both men and women desire and are happy with, although perceptions regarding how equal and fair the pay distribution is, who benefits and has an advantage in pay negotiations differed between men and women. Men perceived that men and women had equal opportunities and advantages in connection to individualized pay. Men were also more satisfied with their pay on the whole and felt that they were able to influence their pay level to a higher degree than women.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings gender, pay, equality

**Referens:** [Baraldi, S., Sverke, M., & Chaison, G. \(2006\).](#) *It's Been a Hard Day's Work: Exploring the Hardships of Union Mergers*. Reports from the Department of Psychology, Stockholm University, 2006, No. 867.

**Abstract:** A common approach for unions to face changes in the industrial environment is through merger. Although mergers can lead to economies of scales, broader membership representation, and greater bargaining power, studies of merger attempts show they are exceedingly difficult to implement, with a majority not completed. The merger literature presently fails to give a unified explanation to this phenomenon. With the aim of adding to the existing knowledge of the hardships of union mergers, this study investigates a failed merger attempt of four Swedish unions. The results show significant differences between, as well as within, the unions regarding members' merger attitudes and knowledge of the planned merger. The results suggest that the campaigning process is crucial and that union leaders planning mergers should aim at enhancing members' merger attitudes in order to minimize internal opposition.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report union mergers, barriers, information

**Referens:** [Baraldi, S., Sverke, M., & Chaison, G. \(2006\).](#) The Difficulty of Implementing Union Mergers: Investigating the Role of Members' Merger Orientation. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 27, 485-504.

**Abstract:** The difficulty of implementing union mergers is reflected in the large proportion of unsuccessful planned mergers. In many cases, this is due to members opposing the merger proposal. Despite this problem, few studies have investigated the significance of members' orientations in merger implementation. The ability to predict if members will support a merger proposition would be valuable to union leaders planning mergers. Using questionnaire data from members of four Swedish unions involved in an unsuccessful merger attempt, this study investigates predictors of members' merger orientation - the members' attitude towards union mergers in general, their expectations about specific merger outcomes, and their intention to vote in favour of a specific merger proposal. The analysis shows that union commitment, union tenure and being informed about a merger proposal significantly predicted merger orientation. Furthermore, the analysis revealed signs of officer opposition. This suggests that a committed and well-informed membership is a crucial precondition to successful merger implementation, and that a merger proposal stands little chance without the support of union leaders.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal commitment, information, merger

**Referens:** [Benzies, K.M., Wångby, M., & Bergman, L.R. \(in press\).](#) Stability and change in health-related behaviors of midlife Swedish women. *Health Care for Women International*.

**Abstract:** We investigated the dimensions and stability in health-related behaviors (HRBs) among midlife Swedish women, and the factors that predicted change in those behaviors. At age 43,569 women from a representative longitudinal sample completed questionnaires about lifestyle (diet, exercise, smoking, alcohol) and participated in medical screening. Four years later we mailed a follow-up questionnaire. HRBs clustered in two dimensions: healthy eating and addictions. There was a high degree of stability in HRBs; all women slightly increased their HRBs over time. After controlling for previous HRBs, education, marital status, and having children at home were significant predictors of HRBs 4 years later.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal women, health, longitudinal

**Referens:** [Bergdahl, M., Habib, R., Bergdahl, J., Nyberg, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. \(in press\).](#) Natural teeth and cognitive function in humans. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** A number of neurobiological, psychological and social factors may account for cognitive impairment. In animal

studies a relation between dental status and cognitive performance has been found. It is unclear whether such a relation exists for humans. In a first step we compared the performance of 1351 subjects (53% women, 47% men; age M=54.0) with natural teeth to 487 edentulous subjects (59% women, 41% men; age M=71.3) on twelve cognitive tests. The natural teeth group had a lower mean age, fewer women, more years of education, higher MMSE, and performed significantly higher on several cognitive tests. In a subsequent analysis, the cognitive performance of a subset of the participants (50-85 years) was examined. In this analysis, 211 had natural dentition and 188 were edentulous. The groups were matched for gender, age, social variables, diseases, stress and MMSE. The cognitive disadvantage of the edentulous group was still apparent. The results suggest that functional natural teeth relate to relatively preserved cognitive functioning in older age.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cognition, edentulous, humans, memory, natural teeth

**Referens:** [Berglund, B. \(2006\). From the WHO Guidelines for community noise to healthy soundscapes. \*Proceedings of the Institute of Acoustics\*, 2006, 28, Pt 7, pp. 1-9.](#)

**Abstract:** Community noise destroys environments which otherwise could have been quiet and restorative, such as court yards, gardens, parks and other green urban and suburban areas. Wide gaps exist between current sound levels and those adopted in the WHO guidelines for community noise. A wide gap also exists between current long-term goals and the goals that would constitute good sound environments. Thus far, community-noise pollution has in principle been viewed as a pure engineering problem, not a health problem. The objective of the WHO guidelines and the EC environmental noise directive, is to protect people from the harmful effects of noise. Both also recommend education and information as noise management measures, besides the legal and engineering measures. However, in practice there is an inbuilt conflict which abuses the health goals. WHO guideline values are based on different critical health effects which are linked to the "all-noise" immission in specific environments and sensitive time periods for sensitive groups during specific activities. In contrast, noise maps and remedial actions against noise are concerned with sound levels of a specific noise source. It is not enough to protect and prevent against the predominating noise. The way forward is to promote and support the development of healthy soundscapes. One goal of long-term city planning must be to provide soundscapes supportive to health.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings community noise

**Referens:** [Berglund, B. \(2006\). Towards supportive residential soundscapes, indoors and outdoors. In \*Abstract Guide of the 26th International Congress in Applied Psychology\*. Athens: International Association of Applied Psychology, 2006, Abstract S54.1.](#)

**Abstract:** Health-supportive soundscapes can best be accomplished if noise pollution is abated in harmony with creative city planning. In order to design better soundscapes in residential areas, outdoors and indoors, we have to know what sounds are discerned and what kinds of soundscapes are adverse (e.g., disturbance) or positive (e.g., tranquillity). Today regulation is limited to energetic time-averages for specific traffic (road, rail & air) and industrial noise. No information is conveyed on sound components, on structure of their composite, or the acoustic soundscape. Also the WHO health-based guideline values are grounded in longterm equivalent continuous sound levels. Such averages, based on the amount of traffic and short-term sound-levels, allow for worst-noise component approximations, but do not characterize the soundscape per se. Alternatively, a strategy is here proposed which aims at delivering prognostic design tools for perceived soundscapes. Recent research results will be presented from our residential soundscape database. It includes a dualistic soundscape similarity approach for differentiating various perceptual and acoustic qualitative aspects of soundscapes as well as a diagnostic system for soundscape certification, which builds on a neural network classifier. Both tools may be used in soundscape design and mitigation psychophysics.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings soundscape, neural network classifier

**Referens:** [Berglund, B., Axelsson, Ö., & Nilsson, M.E. \(2006\). A dualistic psychoacoustic research strategy for measuring soundscape quality. In C. Burroughs & G. Maling \(Eds.\), \*Inter-Noise 2006-Engineering a Quieter World\*. Washington, DC: The Institute of Noise Control Engineering of the USA, Inc., 2006, Paper 034.](#)

**Abstract:** In order to be able to design future soundscapes, tools are needed by which soundscape quality can be measured. For this purpose a "dualistic psychoacoustic research strategy" has been developed. The main goal of this strategy is to identify new ways to characterize soundscapes acoustically. The core question is how soundscapes should be measured on the one hand acoustically, on the other perceptually, such that the acoustic soundscapes that are similar (or dissimilar) would be identical to the perceived soundscapes that are similar (or dissimilar). A top down approach is favored in which tools for measuring perceived soundscape quality are first developed, and followed by developing models of measurement for acoustic soundscapes. Our multidimensional tool for measuring perceived soundscapes includes (perceived) similarity analysis for finding basic underlying dimensions and corresponding similarity analysis of acoustic (waterfall) soundscape quality. This means that this tool measures soundscape quality beyond loudness of unwanted sounds or mere sound level of predominant noise. Research on neural network models is in progress for finding appropriate acoustic measures of soundscapes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings soundscape, neural network, psychoacoustics

**Referens:** [Berglund, B., Axelsson, Ö., & Nilsson, M.E. \(2006\). Are similar acoustic soundscapes perceived as similar? In J. Hyuryinen & R. Pääkönen \(Eds.\), \*EuroNoise 2006: Advanced Solutions for Noise Control\*. Tampere, Finland: European Acoustics Association, Paper SS29-355. \[Available on CD\]](#)

**Abstract:** Health guidelines are concerned with soundscapes as coherent wholes (emissions from all sounds) and everyday life also takes place in soundscapes. Current noise control focuses on sound level change for singular sources, isolated from invariant background and other component sounds. By applying a dualistic similarity approach to data sets of perceptual soundscapes and acoustic soundscapes, it was possible to meaningfully differentiate properties of acoustic soundscapes of relevance for improving urban and suburban soundscapes. Apart from the mere presence of common sounds (e.g., birds, sounds of nature or technological sounds), meaningful differentiations of soundscapes include: (1) the relative proportion of direct and shielded sounds in background soundscapes, (2) the modification of loudness/softness and eventfulness/uneventfulness by acoustic quality, and (3) the "sound signatures" traceable to the relative foreground-background character of perceived soundscapes. Acoustically similar soundscapes (evolutionary spectra) were not always perceived

similar, because the reasons for the two types of similarities differ. This fact calls for new ways to assess the acoustic soundscapes such that adequate design tools for coherent soundscapes can be developed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings soundscape

**Referens:** Berglund, B., & Nilsson, M.E. (2006). On a tool for measuring soundscape quality in urban residential areas. *Acta Acustica united with Acustica*, 92, 938-944.

**Abstract:** On a tool for measuring soundscape quality in urban residential areas An attribute-profiling tool, customized for 106 residents' structured listening walks, was developed for measuring "soundscape quality" in 24 kinds of listening places representing four urban residential areas exposed to road-traffic noise. The tool's 12 attributes were matched to the soundscape on a scale from 0 to 100%. The attributes were: soothing, pleasant, light, dull, eventful, exciting, stressful, hard intrusive, annoying, noisy and loud. In total, the soundscape quality of 636 unique 30-s soundscapes was measured. For good soundscape quality (pleasant and soothing) to predominate outdoors, the overall sound level of soundscapes had to be below ca. 50 dB LAeq,30s. Indoor soundscapes (closed windows) at exposed sides of buildings were found to be of inferior quality compared to outdoor soundscapes at shielded sides. This was true although the former soundscapes were 14 dB LAeq,30s lower than the latter. A PCA analysis of the 12-attribute profiles of the 24 kinds of listening places showed that residents actually perceived "signature" of soundscape quality linked to the origin of the soundscapes, whether indoor or outdoors. All soundscapes at shielded sides indoors with closed windows clustered together with the indoor and outdoor soundscapes in the low road-traffic noise exposed residential area. Conversely, at buildings with high traffic-noise exposure, all soundscapes, outdoors or indoors with open window, clustered together with their outdoor soundscapes at the shielded sides. The new attribute-profiling tool is promising because it measures soundscape quality beyond unwanted sounds and mere sound level of predominant noise.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal soundscape

**Referens:** Berglund, B., Nilsson, M.E., & Axelson, Ö. (2006). Soundscape perception. In *Joint Baltic-Nordic Acoustics Meeting 2006*, 8-10 November 2006, Gothenburg, Sweden.

**Abstract:** Annoyance research typically focuses on single sources and on adverse effects of noise. In contrast, soundscape research focuses on the total sound environment, including all its positive and negative aspects. A major challenge in soundscape research is to develop methods for measuring the perceived soundscape. In the research program "Soundscape Support to Health", we have developed new methods for this purpose, including listening tests in the laboratory, listening walks in the field and questionnaire studies targeted on the soundscape. We have thus identified major perpetual dimensions of soundscapes (pleasantness and eventfulness), linked these features to important acoustical and informational properties of soundscapes (type of sources), and explored the effect of noise mitigation on soundscape perception. Our research show (a) that pleasantness of soundscapes is related to the presence of natural sounds, whereas eventfulness is related to the presence of sounds from humans, (b) that traffic noise should be reduced to below 50 dBA, in order to have a chance to create good outdoor soundscapes in urban residential and recreational areas, and (c) that mitigation efficiency in sound level of various barriers and facades may overestimate corresponding perceptual mitigation efficiency. Based on these findings, new tools for 'green labelling' of soundscapes are being developed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings soundscape, annoyance, pleasantness, eventfulness

**Referens:** Bergman, L.R., & Daukantaite, D. (2006). The importance of social circumstances for Swedish women's subjective wellbeing. *International Journal of Social Welfare*, 15, 27-36.

**Abstract:** The importance of social circumstances for middle-age women's general subjective wellbeing (SWB) was investigated in a representative sample of Swedish women, aged 43 (N=369). The results showed non-existent to moderate relationships between a number of social circumstances variables and general SWB. The strongest relationship was found between marital status and global life satisfaction. Being off work because of illness and household income were the strongest predictors of negative affect. A moderate relationship was found between a cumulated social disadvantage index and SWB, indicating that extreme differences in this index were related to fairly large differences in SWB. In person-oriented analyses, social circumstances were compared between women with a typical profile of generalised low SWB and women with a typical profile of generalised above-average SWB. The results indicated stronger relationships between SWB and the cumulative disadvantage index and unemployment than was the case in the variable-oriented analyses. When personality factors were controlled for, they eliminated nearly all relationships between the social circumstances variables and SWB, except for those between global life satisfaction and marital status or unemployment.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal subjective well-being, social circumstances, women

**Referens:** Bergman, L.R., & Lundberg, O. (Eds.). (2006). Perspectives on determinants of social welfare. Special Issue of *International Journal of Social Welfare*, 15, Suppl. 1, S1-S52.

**Abstract:** This special issue of *International Journal of Social Welfare* deals with sociological and psychological perspectives on determinants of social welfare to which invited leading researchers in psychology, sociology, social policy, and public health have contributed. In all articles the outcome variables are important factors related to social welfare and psychological or sociological factors are treated as explanatory variables. In the introduction, Lars Bergman and Olle Lundberg overview the issues and contents of the issue. The article by Johannes Siegrist deals with quality of work and health, partly from a sociological perspective. S.V. Subramanian and Ichiro Kawachi study the importance of income for health and they develop a typology of income-health relationships. Income is regarded at both the individual and community level and the importance of a multilevel framework is emphasized. The article by Daiva Daukantaite and Rita Zukauskiene deals with Swedish and Lithuanian women's subjective well-being and Alexander von Eye and Anne Bogat report on mental health in women experiencing intimate partner violence. Ulf Lundberg in his article describes the main physiological stress responses and analyze under which conditions these responses promote or damage health and he also discusses how objective and subjective health are related. Finally, Lars Bergman and Olle Lundberg provide a commentary on the issues raised by the articles.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal social, welfare, income

**Referens:** Bergman, L.R., & Trost, K. (2006). The person-oriented versus the variable-oriented approach: Are they complementary, opposites, or exploring different worlds? *Merrill Palmer Quarterly*, 52, 601-632.

**Abstract:** The present commentary gives a brief overview of the person-oriented and variable-oriented approaches, how they are commonly used in longitudinal research, and what one should take into consideration before using either approach. In addition to presenting an empirical example on girls' adjustment problems using both approaches, this commentary uses the contributions in the present issue of the Merrill Palmer Quarterly illustrate some of the main issues surrounding these two perspectives. Special attention is also given to the contrast between the person-oriented and variable oriented approaches in terms of aggregation and disaggregation, model appropriateness and usefulness, and prediction as a goal. Future directions with regard to implementing a person-oriented approach are discussed, including the importance of conceptual clarity, practical and theoretical training, and method development.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal person-oriented, longitudinal, research methodology

**Referens:** Bergman, L.R., von Eye, A., & Magnusson, D. (2006). Person-oriented research strategies in developmental psychopathology. In D. Cicchetti & D.J. Cohen (Eds.), *Developmental psychopathology. Vol. 1: Theory and method* (pp. 850-888). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

**Abstract:** In this chapter, person-oriented research strategies in developmental psychopathology are reviewed. By "person-oriented", we mean research strategies where the focus is on the individual and not on the variable. The information about each individual is regarded, as far as possible, as an indivisible unit, both conceptually and in the empirical analyses. It usually implies that individuals are studied on the basis of their pattern of information in relevant variables at the appropriate level. This approach is in contrast to the standard variable-oriented approach where the variable is the main conceptual and methodological unit. In the person-oriented approach, most commonly the variable alone has no importance. Only in combination with other variables in an information pattern does it achieve meaning. These fundamental conceptual and theoretical issues are discussed in the chapter. Common person-oriented research methods are presented and discussed in the context of studying individual development.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) person oriented, psychopathology, cluster analysis

**Referens:** Bernhard-Oettel, C., Bellaagh, K., & Isaksson, K. (2006). Experiences with temporary work: The relationship to patterns of motives and work involvement. Paper presented at *The 26th International Congress of Applied Psychology*, Athens, 16-21 July.

**Abstract:** The increasing use of temporary employment forms has stimulated research about their consequences in terms of well-being and attitudes, but results are rather contradictory. This paper aims at clarifying the role of employment contract (contract type, history, expected renewal of contract), and individual motives and choices in order to understand differences in self-reported work attitudes and individual well-being. Data for this study has been gathered during 2004 from temporary employees (N = 152) in three different employment sectors in Sweden. Information about the type of temporary contract, contract history, expectations of contract renewal and motives, choices of job and choices of contract have been used to predict indicators of attitudes and well-being whilst controlling for individual characteristics. Preliminary results show that expectations about renewed contracts rather than type of temporary contract or previous experience in temping play an important role to understand temporary workers' well-being and attitudes. Furthermore, the job of choice yet not contract of choice seems to be an important aspect to consider. Thus, the paper demonstrates that relevant knowledge about the association between temporary work, well being and work attitudes can be gained by investigating subjective choices and expectations of future employment prospects.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings temporary work, well-being, pattern approach

**Referens:** Bernhard-Oettel, C., Bellaagh, K., & Isaksson, K. (2006). The role of motives, volition and work involvement for well-being and work attitudes of temporary employees in Sweden: Results from a pattern-oriented study. Poster presented at *The 7th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology*, Dublin, 8-10 November.

**Abstract:** In recent years, the use of temporary employment has increased in most industrialised countries, which has stimulated research about their consequences for employees and organisations. Since temporary employment by nature is an insecure employment form it is often assumed to be associated with impaired well-being and less preferable work attitudes. However, findings of previous research have been inconclusive. Some studies report no clear differences to permanent employment; some find support for the assumed detrimental effects of temporary work, while yet other studies report positive effects on employee well-being, attitudes and behaviour. It has often been argued that the role of individual motives for working in a temporary assignment, the voluntary choice of the employment contract as well as the level of work involvement might be crucial in explaining these mixed results, but few empirical studies have so far been carried out to examine this hypothesis. In this paper, we therefore aimed to clarify how different patterns of motives, volition and work involvement among temporary employees are related to their self reported attitudes and individual well-being. The study uses questionnaire data gathered during 2004 from temporary employees (N = 183) in three different employment sectors (education, food industry and sale) in Sweden. Performing a cluster analysis, six distinct subgroups of temporary employees have been identified, each of them showing a unique pattern of motives, volition and work involvement. Current analyses of variance that are being carried out compare these subgroups in terms of their work attitudes and their self reported well-being as defined by a number of work-related indicators (e.g. work-home interference; job satisfaction), as well as some more general measures (e.g., general health, irritation). Thus, this study adds to the existing knowledge about the consequences of temporary employment in several ways. Whereas motives of temporary workers have been described earlier, there are only a few studies that have related them to outcomes in terms of attitudes and well-being. The role of work involvement of temporary workers has seldom been addressed and the effects of volition have so far only been studied in variable-oriented approaches. Choosing a pattern approach carries the advantage of a holistic perspective taking into account a pattern of variables as the main analytic unit. As a result, this paper will demonstrate what insights can be gained when patterns of temporary workers' motives, voluntary contract choices and work involvement are analysed in relation to well-being and work attitudes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings temporary work, motives and choices, well-being

**Referens:** Bernhard-Oettel, C., Sverke, M., & De Witte, H. (2006). Comparing three alternative types of

employment contract with permanent full-time work: How do employment status and perceived job conditions relate to individual well-being? Poster presented at *The South African Conference on Positive Psychology: Individual, Social and Work Wellness*, Potchefstroom, 3-7 April, 2006.

**Abstract:**

Background/aim: Previous research has found alternative employment arrangements to be associated with both impaired and improved well-being. Such inconsistencies are likely to derive from the type of employment contract as well as characteristics of the job. This paper compares permanent full time work to alternative employment forms (permanent part time, fixed-term and on-call work) in order to investigate how different employment contracts relate to individual well-being. Moreover, the effects of perceived job conditions and possible interactive effects with type of employment form are tested.

Methods: Questionnaire data from 954 Swedish healthcare workers was analysed and hierarchical regression analyses were used to investigate how much variance in health complaints and job induced tension can be explained by type of contract and perceived job conditions and the suggested interaction between type of contract and perceptions of job characteristics. Individual background characteristics that might be intertwined with the employment contract were controlled for.

Results and conclusions: The analyses show that perceptions of the job (job insecurity, job control and demands), but not the type of employment contract, predicted well-being. While this suggests that job characteristics rather than employment contracts tend to be of importance for employee well-being, the results also underscore the importance of distinguishing between different types of alternative employment contracts. Type of employment contract interacted with perceptions of job insecurity, in that insecurity was associated with impaired well-being among permanent full-time workers, while no relationship was found for on-call or core part-time employees. Despite the absence of interactions between employment contract and job demands or job control, it can be concluded that knowledge about the relationship between alternative employment arrangements and the well-being of workers can be enhanced when the combined effects of employment contract and job conditions are studied.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings alternative employment, job characteristics, well-being

**Referens:**

Berntson, E., & Marklund, S. (2006). The relationship between employability and subsequent health. Paper presented at *The Sixth Conference on Psychology and Health*, Kerkrade.

**Abstract:**

It has been implied that being employable is important for individuals on the labour market in order to feel secure. However, little research has been made considering if feelings of being employable is related to how individuals report their health status. In the present study the aim is to investigate if there exists a relationship between employability and subsequent health, when controlling for work environmental factors and previous health. A representative sample of individuals between 25 and 50 years of age living in Sweden was used where employability and health was measured at two time points, with a one-year interval. Work environment factors (ergonomical work environment exposures and psychosocial work environment exposures) were measured at time point one. Health was measured with five different indicators: global health, physical complaints, mental well-being, work ability and sickness absence. The results indicate that employability is related to all indicators except physical complaints. The strongest relationship is found between employability and mental well-being and between employability and global health.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings employability, health

**Referens:**

Berntson, E., Sverke, M., & Marklund, S. (2006). Predicting perceived employability: Human capital or labour market opportunities? *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 27, 223-244.

**Abstract:**

Employability is believed to be a crucial concept concerning employees' job security. This study investigates whether factors associated with human capital and the dual labour market predict perceived employability. Two national representative Swedish samples are used, representing economic recession (1993, N 1<sup>34</sup> 4952) and prosperity (1999, N 1<sup>34</sup> 6696). Employability was perceived as higher during prosperity, but human capital factors as well as dual labour market factors predicted perceived employability, irrespective of the time period. These findings indicate that the understanding of employability is enhanced by considering both structural and individual dimensions.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal employability, human capital, dual labour market

**Referens:**

Berntson, E., Sverke, M., Näswall, K., & Hellgren, J. (2006). The relationship between self-efficacy and employability. Poster presented at *The 7th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology*, Dublin, Ireland, November 8-10, 2006.

**Abstract:**

Several researchers have emphasized that the labour market is being restructured and characterized by more frequently occurring organizational changes. In this sense, it has also been maintained that employability is a gradually more important asset for individuals in contemporary working life. It has been argued that the modern way of job security should be seen in the light of employability, the so called employability security, where security comes from the feeling of being able to get a new job rather than from the feeling of maintaining the current employment position.

Employability is defined as an individual's perception of his or her possibilities of getting new employment. Feeling employable thus reflects the perception of having great possibilities to get a new job, if necessary. In earlier research employability has been described as a concept depending on individual assets as well as contextual prerequisites. For instance, Fugate, Kinicki and Ashforth (2004) argued that employability is comprised of three distinct dimensions, one motivational component, one component reflecting adaptability and a third component formed by the human and social capital. Berntson, Sverke and Marklund (in press), on the other hand, argued that employability also shall be seen in the light of the context of the individual. Thus, national economic situation as well as local labour markets are important predictors of an individual's employability.

Although the concept of employability has been argued to be dependent on individual assets, few or no studies have been made to investigate if employability is something else than a dispositional characteristic such as efficacy beliefs. It is important to know if employability shall be viewed as a dispositional factor or if it shall be seen as something apart from dispositional traits when it comes to reinforcing employability. The first aim of the present study is to investigate if employability is a concept distinct from self-efficacy. It is however also of importance to investigate if employability gives rise to efficacy beliefs or if it is feelings of efficacy that influence the levels of employability. A second aim, therefore, is to investigate if self-efficacy affects

employability or the other way around.

Questionnaire data is being used comprising white-collar workers in a Swedish organization. The results of the initial confirmatory factor analysis (on Wave 1 data) indicate that employability is distinct from self-efficacy. Longitudinal data are being collected with the specific aim of performing a cross-lagged analysis. However, the cross-sectional data imply that the two concepts are positively correlated, indicating that individuals experiencing high levels of self-efficacy also report higher levels of employability.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings employability, self-efficacy, cross-lagged analysis

**Referens:** Berntsson, L., Lundberg, U., & Krantz, G. (in press). Gender differences in work-home interplay and symptom perception among Swedish white collar employees. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*.

**Abstract:** Objective: To analyse gender differences in paid and unpaid workload and symptoms in matched groups of Swedish white-collar workers with children.

Design and setting: Paid and unpaid workload and perceived stress from paid work, conflict between demands and control over household work were measured by total workload questionnaire. A number of symptoms were rated with regard to frequency and severity as a measure of health. Cross-sectional analyses were performed.

Participants: Matched groups of male (n=440) and female (n=529) well-educated white-collar workers in full-time employment, aged 32 to 58 years and living with children in the home.

Main results: Women in higher positions in Sweden are healthier than the average population of women but report more symptoms than men in the same position as well as more stress from paid work, more conflict between demands and a greater total workload. However, women also reported more control over household duties and total workload was not associated with more symptoms. The men were mainly focused on their paid work role and perhaps even more so than men in the general population as they were fairly resistant to feelings of conflicting demands.

Conclusion: Even among matched groups of full-time employed, well-educated men and women, traditional gender differences in division of responsibilities and time allocation were found. Even though the women were healthy at this stage, they might risk future ill health, due to high workload, stress and feelings of conflicting demands.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal total workload, gender, stress

**Referens:** Blomqvist, M., Holmberg, K., Fernell, E., Ek, U., & Dahllof, G. (2006). Oral health, dental anxiety, and behavior management problems in children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. *European Journal of Oral Sciences*, 114(5), 385-90.

**Abstract:** Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a common developmental disorder. The aim of this study was to investigate whether children with ADHD have a higher caries prevalence, a higher degree of dental anxiety, or more dental behavior management problems (BMP) than children of a control group. Twenty-five children with ADHD and a control group of 58 children, all aged 11 yr, were included in the study. The children underwent a clinical dental examination, and bitewing radiographs were taken. The parents completed the Dental Subscale of Children's Fear Survey Schedule (CFSS-DS). Dental records from the subjects were obtained, and data regarding notes on behavior management problems (BMP) of the children when between 3 and 10 yr of age were compiled. Compared with controls, children with ADHD had significantly higher decayed, missing or filled surfaces (DMFS) (2.0 +/- 3.0 vs. 1.0 +/- 1.5) and significantly higher decayed surfaces (DS) (1.7 +/- 3.6 vs. 0.5 +/- 0.9). Differences between the groups regarding CFSS-DS scores were non-significant. In the ADHD group, the prevalence of BMP increased when the children were between 7 and 9 yr of age. In conclusion, children with ADHD exhibited a higher caries prevalence, did not exhibit a higher degree of dental anxiety, and had more BMP than children of a control group.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal oral health, ADHD, children

**Referens:** Blomqvist, M., Holmberg, K., Lindblad, F., Fernell, E., Ek, U., & Dahllöf, G. (in press). Salivary cortisol levels and dental anxiety in children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. *European Journal of Oral Sciences*.

**Abstract:** Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a common developmental disorder. This study tested the hypotheses that children with ADHD, particularly those exhibiting severe hyperactivity and impulsivity, have a different stress reaction (measured by salivary cortisol) during a dental recall visit and are more dentally anxious than children in a control group. Eighteen children with ADHD and a control group of 71 children, all aged 13 yr, underwent a clinical dental examination and completed the Corah Dental Anxiety Scale (CDAS). Four saliva samples were gathered for analysis of cortisol: one prior to dental examination, one after, and two the following morning. The subgroup ADHD with hyperactivity/impulsivity had statistically significantly lower cortisol levels than controls 30 min after awakening. When cortisol values were plotted on a timeline, this subgroup always had lower cortisol concentrations than children in the control group. There was a significant correlation between CDAS scores and cortisol concentrations prior to the dental examination in both the ADHD and the control groups. Behavioral expressions of anxiety in children with ADHD may be different than in other children, not only due to the characteristics of their disorder, but also due to lower stress reactivity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal ADHD, cortisol, dental anxiety

**Referens:** Bluhm, G., Nilsson, M.E., & Rosenlund, M. (2006). Buller. [Noise.] In *Barns hälsa och miljö i Stockholms län 2006 [Childrens health and environment in Stockholm]* (pp. 113-126). Stockholm: Stockholms läns landsting, Regional Miljöhälsorapport, 2006. (ISBN: 91-631-9023-0).

**Abstract:** Noise is an environmental problem that affects children both at school and home. This chapter summarizes the results on noise disturbances from the "Children's environment and health survey" conducted in Stockholm County in year 2003. It was found that children were most disturbed by noise at school. Thirty per cent of all 8- and 12 year old children in Stockholm County were annoyed by noise at school, mainly noise from other children. Children in Stockholm County were exposed to more noise in their homes than children in other parts

of Sweden. Almost 50 % of children in inner city Stockholm and 20 % in the rest of the County were living in apartments with windows facing a major road, railway or industry. Eighteen per cent of all 8- and 12-year olds were disturbed by noise in their homes. Slightly less than 6 % reports that noise disturbed school homework or speech communication, whereas 4 % reported difficulties in falling asleep due to noise in the home. Approximately three per cent of parents to all 4-, 8- and 12-year old children reported that their children have reduced hearing, and three per cent of 8- and 12-year old children reported that they have tinnitus. It is concluded that noise in dwellings and schools should be reduced in order to provide good and healthy sound environments for children. Furthermore, the sound environment should be considered already at the planning stage, in order to minimize indoor and outdoor noise exposure in future dwellings and schools.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) noise, children

**Referens:** Boalt Boëthius, S., Sundin, E., & Ögren, M.-L. (2006). Group Supervision from a Small Group Perspective. *Nordic Psychology*, 58, 22-42.

**Abstract:** The main purpose of this study was to examine a set of independent group variables (group size, gender composition, and supervisory style) in group supervision, and their interrelation with supervisees' and supervisors' view on group interactions, group climate, and attained skill. The study also examined changes over time in supervisees' and supervisors' ratings. Results from hierarchical regression analysis indicate that the group variables measured in this study are interrelated to perceived psychotherapeutic knowledge and skills attainment, group interaction, and group climate. The participants experienced a positive change over time with regard to attainment of knowledge and skills, group interaction, and group climate. Supervisors were more likely to experience a positive change whereas supervisees, and especially supervisees on the basic level, tended to present more stable ratings over time. These data underline the utility and importance of studying group supervision in psychotherapy from a small group perspective.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal group size, gender composition, supervisory style

**Referens:** Borg, E., & Kaijser, L. (2006). A comparison between three rating scales for perceived exertion and two different work tests. *Scandinavian Journal of Medicine and Science in Sports*, 16, 57-69.

**Abstract:** In the present article, three scales developed by Borg are compared on bicycle ergometer work. In the first study, comparing the Borg Ratings of Perceived Exertion (RPE) and Category scale with Ratio properties (CR10) scales, 40 healthy subjects (12 men and 8 women with each scale) with a mean age of about 30 years (SD ? 6) participated. A work-test protocol with step-wise increase of work loads every minute was used (20 W increase for men and 15 W for women). Ratings and heart rates were recorded every minute and blood lactates every third minute. Data obtained with the RPE scale were described with linear regressions with individual correlations of about 0.98. Data obtained with the CR10 scale could also be described by linear regressions, but when described by power functions gave exponents of about 1.2 (sd ? 0.4) (with one additional constant included in the power function). This was significantly lower than the exponent of between 1.5 and 1.9 that has previously been observed. Mean individual correlations were 0.98. Blood lactate concentration grew with monotonously increasing functions that could be described by power functions with a mean exponent of about 2.6 (SD ? 0.6) (with two additional constants included in the power functions). In the second study, where also the more recently developed Borg CR100 scale (centiMax) was included, 24 healthy subjects (12 men and 12 women) with a mean age of about 29 years (SD ? 3) participated in a work test with a step-wise increase of work loads (25 W) every third minute. Ratings and HRs were recorded. RPE values were described by linear regressions with individual correlations of about 0.97. Data from the two CR scales were described by power functions with mean exponents of about 1.4 (sd ? 0.5) (with a-values in the power functions). Mean individual correlations were about 0.98. In both studies a tendency for a deviation from linearity between RPE values and HRs were observed. The obtained deviations from what has previously been obtained for work of longer durations (4-6 minutes) points to a need of standardization of work-test protocols and to the advantage of using CR-scales.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal scaling, perceived exertion, physiology

**Referens:** Borg, G. (2006). To honor Stevens and improve his scaling methods. In D.E. Kornbrot, R.M. Msetfi, & A.W. MacRae (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2006* (pp. 31-36). Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Meeting of the International Society for Psychophysics, St Albans, England. UK: The International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** This paper is devoted to honor Stevens for his great contributions for psychology. Studies are presented that I have performed over the past fifty years, starting with experiments, where I used Stevens scaling methods in some new fields. These studies would not have been possible without his new methods I will then present some criticism and the results of my work to achieve "level-anchored ratio scaling".

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) centiMax scale, perceptual magnitudes, psychophysical scaling, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Broberg, A., Granqvist, P., Ivarsson, T., & Risholm Mothander, P. (2006). *Anknytningsteori. Betydelsen av nära känslomässiga relationer*. Stockholm: Natur och Kultur.

**Abstract:** This book gives a broad picture of the development of the attachment theory and research related to attachment theory. It presents the links to evolutionary biology, ethology, systems theory as well as to psychoanalytic theory and cognitive psychology.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) attachment, omvårdnad, utveckling, ISBN: 91-27-10975-5

**Referens:** Busch, H., Montgomery, W., Melin, B., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Visuospatial and verbal memory in chronic pain patients: an explorative study. *Pain Practice*, 6(3), 179-185.

**Abstract:** Cognitive bias, such as selective memory for pain-related information, is frequently observed in chronic pain patients and is assessed mostly using verbal material. Beside word lists, the current study used photographs of people presenting pain behaviours to assess memory bias in chronic pain patients. Chronic pain patients were hypothesized to show better recall of pain-related words and pictures as compared to pain-free controls.

Twenty-eight female chronic neck patients and 28 pain-free female controls completed two computerized

pictorial memory games and two word recall tasks. Patients and controls performed equally well in the neutral memory game. In the pain-related game, patients performed significantly worse than did controls. No significant differences were found in the word recall task. The result is discussed in terms of cognitive avoidance.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal pain, memory, bias

**Referens:** [Christianson, S.Å.](#) (Ed.). (in press). *Offenders' memories of violent crimes*. Wiley & Sons.

**Abstract:** Claims of amnesia for violent and sexual crimes are extremely common as guilty suspects often allege memory loss to avoid punishment. The important issue in each case then becomes whether such memory loss is genuine or feigned. *Offenders' Memories of Violent Crimes* takes a different approach to the subject by focussing not on eyewitness or bystander testimonies, but on the testimonies of the offenders, or, more specifically, offenders' remembering and telling about their violent crimes. The book will explore offenders' memories with particular emphasis on theory and empirical research on such topics as memorial patterns in perpetrators, instrumental and reactive offenders, crime-related amnesia, crime-related brain activation, detecting lies and deceit and interviewing techniques. Organised into three parts: theoretical aspects of offenders' memories; evaluating offenders' memories and interviewing offenders, this timely volume will further the understanding of criminal behaviour. It will be essential reading for psychologists, psychiatrists, psychotherapists, social workers and all students and practitioners of clinical psychology, forensic psychology, and law enforcement.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) offenders, violent crimes, memory

**Referens:** [Christianson, S.Å.](#), & Engelberg, E. (2006). Remembering emotional events: The relevance of memory for associated emotions. In B Utli N. Ohta, & A.L Siegenthaler (Eds.), *Memory and Emotion: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (pp. 59-82). Singapore: Blackwell Publishing.

**Abstract:** The chapter presents a brief review of basic principles uncovered in studies of the relations between emotion and memory. Understanding these principles is crucial when eliciting and evaluating the recall of witnesses and victims and perpetrators of violent crime. Research shows that traumatic experiences tend to persist in memory, both with respect to the emotional event itself and with respect to the central, critical detail information of the emotion-eliciting event. Such consistent findings make it possible to capitalize on the interconnection that seems to exist between memory for the event as such and associated emotions. We discuss the issue of memory of associated emotions in order to highlight their potential as cues in retrieving information from episodic memory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) emotion, memory, crime

**Referens:** [Christianson, S.Å.](#), Engelberg, E., & Gustafson, Å. (in press). Recognition of previous eyewitness testimony from an altered interrogation protocol: Potential effects of distortions. *Psychology, Crime & Law*.

**Abstract:** The effect of protocol presentation on witnesses' tendency to point out errors in a transcribed version of their verbal testimony was examined in two experiments. In the first experiment, forty-five participants were shown a film depicting a robbery and were subsequently questioned. In the process of typing out the testimony, there were six distortions entered into the protocol. When participants were asked to check the content for approval, the protocol was presented to them in one of three ways. They either (1) listened to the experimenter reading it out aloud, (2) read it on their own, or (3) were instructed to attend to any errors before reading it on their own. The results showed that witnesses who had listened to the protocol being read to them pointed out significantly fewer errors, as compared to witnesses in the latter two groups. In the second experiment, this result was replicated, in addition to showing that the effect of protocol presentation was not due to a difference in the retention of the original memory for the crime event.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal witness testimony, interrogation, working memory

**Referens:** [Christianson, S.Å.](#), Freij, I., & Von Vogelsang. (in press). Searching for offenders' memories of violent crimes. In [Christianson, S.Å.](#) (Ed.). *Offenders' memories of violent crimes*. Wiley & Sons.

**Abstract:** In searching for offenders' memories, we need to understand the basic principles of the relationship between emotion and memory. We also need to know that emotions may vary both within and between offenders (e.g., from extreme pleasure to trauma), and that these emotions are closely related to the motivation for committing the crime (e.g., reactive versus instrumental). Violent crime suspects may deny crime or claim crime-related amnesia as a strategy to evade responsibility and to avoid psychological stress related both to the past and to the immediate present, for example, being a murder suspect. In analysing offenders' memories of homicidal violence, our data indicate that offenders have a strong motivation for feigning amnesia and that their claimed amnesia most often has symptoms of extreme specificity, indicating malingering. It should be noted that malingering per se may have memory-undermining effects. Among professionals working in criminal justice as well as mental health professionals, a majority believe that it is perfectly possible for an offender to develop complete amnesia for homicide, and that the memory loss may be an effect of strong emotions or excessive drug or alcohol use. In this chapter, we present arguments for why this approach is dubious and suggested that laypeople as well as professional groups, including judges and psychologists/psychiatrists, often do not possess relevant knowledge about offenders' paths to reactive or intended violence or about crime-related amnesia. A critical aspect in searching offenders' memories is the context in which an offender has to remember and tell about the crime. We argue that it is of immediate importance that the interviewer not only be skilful in investigative interviewing, but also well prepared to receive reports of gruesome details and aware of his/her own affective and protective responses.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) homicidal violence, offenders' memories, crime

**Referens:** [Christianson, S.Å.](#), Merckelbach, H., & Koppelman, M. (2006). Crime-related amnesia. In Heaton-Armstrong, A., Shephard, E., Gudjonson, G., & Wolchover, D. (Eds.). *Witness testimony: Psychological, investigative, and evidential perspectives*. Oxford University Press.

**Abstract:** It is not uncommon that defendants claim amnesia for the crime of which they are accused, particularly in

cases of homicide where 25–45% of offenders claim amnesia. This chapter presents arguments against and for the existence of such amnesias. Against the authenticity of amnesia, empirical data from interviews with homicide offenders indicate that they often have a strong motivation for feigning amnesia, and that their memory loss may possess typical features of malingered amnesia. Simulated or imagined amnesia may be at least as common as dissociative amnesia. However, unstructured clinical interviews are not a reliable way of differentiating between these types of amnesias. On the other hand, it can be pointed out that many offenders claiming amnesia report their own offence, or fail to take measures to avoid capture. There are consistencies across their reports which are striking, and their descriptions do indeed bear some resemblances to other patients' accounts of psychological forms of amnesia in clinical circumstances. Furthermore, victims sometimes report similar amnesias, and memory errors are common in eyewitnesses; nobody disputes the motives of these parties. Also, amnesia itself only rarely has legal implications, and may be damaging to the conduct of a person's defence; it will certainly be challenged vigorously by the prosecution. Another point is that alcoholic blackouts are common in heavy drinking populations, and there is a high rate of offending and violent crime in such groups; it is not surprising that some individuals who have consumed large quantities of alcohol report amnesia for their offence. Finally, even the sceptic will not usually query the presence of amnesia in certain neurological conditions, such as epilepsy, hypoglycaemia, and somnambulism, although these can be at least as difficult to assess as the psychological forms of memory loss.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) malingered amnesia, memory, offender

**Referens:** Claesson, I.M., Ytterberg, C., Johansson, S., [Almkvist, O.](#), & von Koch, L. (in press). Rapid cognitive screening in multiple sclerosis by the free recall and recognition test. *Multiple Sclerosis*.

**Abstract:** This study sought to investigate the feasibility of the Free Recall and Recognition Test (FRRT) as a practical screening tool for cognitive impairment in multiple sclerosis (MS). Persons with MS (n=227) were consecutively recruited and assessed via four cognitive tests; FRRT, Symbol Digit Modalities Test, Paced Auditory Serial Addition Test, and Mini-Mental State Examination. Disease severity was assessed by the Extended Disability Status Scale, the Multiple Sclerosis Functional Composite and the Short and Graphic Assessment Scale. The FRRT was repeated after 6 months. The FRRT was completed by 99 % of the cohort in approximately 5 minutes per assessment, and it correlated significantly with the other cognitive tests as well as with the disease severity ratings. Test/retest reliability of the FRRT was  $r=0.79$  for recall, and  $r=0.55$  for recognition. A cut-off of 4 for the FRRT free recall rendered 90% sensitivity and 25% specificity, and a cut-off of 4.2 for the FRRT recognition resulted in 70% sensitivity and 51 % specificity. We conclude that the FRRT proved to be feasible as a practical screening tool for cognitive impairment in MS in a clinical setting.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal assessment, cognition, multiple sclerosis, neuropsychological tests, validity

**Referens:** Clark, C., Stansfeld, S., [Berglund, B.](#), [Nilsson, M.E.](#), Gidlöf Gunnarsson, A., van Kamp, I., van Kempen, E., & Lopez Barrio, I. (2006). Psychological restoration, coping strategies and children's cognitive performance in the RANCH study. In C. Burroughs & G. Maling (Eds.), *Inter-Noise 2006–Engineering a Quieter World*. Washington, DC: The Institute of Noise Control Engineering of the USA, Inc., 2006, Paper 090.

**Abstract:** The RANCH study found a linear exposure effect association between chronic aircraft noise exposure at primary school and the impairment of children's reading comprehension, in the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom. This paper presents multilevel modelling analyses, exploring psychological mechanisms, which may moderate the effect of aircraft noise on children's cognition. Psychological restoration – the process whereby places which afford tranquillity and relaxation are utilized to reduce stress and promote well being – has been shown to reduce the adverse effect of noise on children's annoyance responses. This paper examines whether having places for psychological restoration at home, moderates the adverse effects of chronic aircraft noise exposure at school on children's cognition. In addition, the effectiveness of coping strategies in relation to noise exposure at school are examined – are specific coping strategies associated with less impairment of cognition?

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings air craft noise, psychological restoration, noise exposure

**Referens:** Dahlgren, A. (2006). *Work stress and overtime work - effects on cortisol, sleep, sleepiness and health*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** In Sweden the National Bureau of Statistics has reported an increase in stress-related disorders and sleep problems since the mid-1990's. They also report that the number of hours of overtime worked has increased. Previous research on work-related stress and overtime work has demonstrated associations with altered physiological arousal, increased risk for stress related diseases, shorter sleep, greater fatigue and impaired performance. However, there is a lack of knowledge on the effects within individuals. The general aim of the thesis was to investigate the effect of overtime work and increased work stress on sleep, the diurnal pattern of cortisol, sleepiness and subjective stress in a within-subject design. In addition, it examined individual differences in the diurnal cortisol response to stress.

We used a combination of methods – questionnaires, sleep and wake diaries, objective measures of sleep, stress hormones (salivary cortisol) and ambulatory measures of heart rate and blood pressure. Studies followed office workers during two different conditions of (I) high/low work stress and (II) overtime work respectively. The individual differences in the cortisol response to stress from study I prompted study III. In this study we examined two groups that showed different cortisol responses to stress.

In conclusion, the results (I) demonstrated that a week with higher workload and stress affects physiological stress markers such as cortisol, and is associated with increased sleepiness and problems of unwinding at bedtime, shorter sleep duration and longer work hours. Furthermore (II) overtime work, under conditions of relatively low workload, was shown to be associated with modest effects on physiological markers of arousal. More pronounced effects were found on sleep and fatigue, with greater problems during overtime work. Study III indicated that individual differences in cortisol response to stress maybe related to fatigue and exhaustion.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation work stress, overtime work, cortisol, sleep, sleepiness, fatigue, individual differences, within-subjects design, field study

**Referens:** [Dalkvist, J.](#), & [Westerlund, J.](#) (2006). A bias caused by inappropriate averaging in experiments with randomized stimuli. *Journal of Parapsychology*, 70(2), 233-254.

Using simulations, a bias caused by inappropriate averaging in experiments with randomized stimuli is

**Abstract:** described. As an illustrating example, experiments aimed at demonstrating "presentiment" by showing arousal to be higher prior to arousing stimuli than prior to calm stimuli are considered. It is shown that such results could be obtained if (a) the participant believes that the likelihood of an activating stimulus being presented on the next trial increases after a calm stimulus has been presented (the gambler's fallacy) and (b) overall arousal means are calculated across individual arousal means or for a pooled sample of all possible stimulus sequences. The effect becomes very small when participants are pooled before averaging, provided that the number of trials per participant and/or the number of participants is sufficiently large. The bias decreases as the length of the stimulus sequence increases, and becomes zero in an infinitely long sequence. Basically, the bias can be explained by the fact that the expected mean arousal level before calm stimuli increases as a function of sequence length. Various possible strategies for reducing or eliminating the bias are discussed, but none of them is judged to be fully satisfactory. A generalized version of the bias is outlined and discussed. It is argued that, in some form, the bias may occur in various types of experiments, both within and outside parapsychology. It is also argued that numerous previous experiments need to be checked for occurrence of the bias.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal prejudices, judgment sampling, social attitudes, gamblers, parapsychology, experiments

**Referens:** [Dalkvist, J., & Westerlund, J. \(2006\). A bias caused by inappropriate averaging in experiments with randomized stimuli. \*Journal of Parapsychology\*, 70\(2\), 233-254.](#)

**Abstract:** Using simulations, a bias caused by inappropriate averaging in experiments with randomized stimuli is described. As an illustrating example, experiments aimed at demonstrating "presentiment" by showing arousal to be higher prior to arousing stimuli than prior to calm stimuli are considered. It is shown that such results could be obtained if (a) the participant believes that the likelihood of an activating stimulus being presented on the next trial increases after a calm stimulus has been presented (the gambler's fallacy) and (b) overall arousal means are calculated across individual arousal means or for a pooled sample of all possible stimulus sequences. The effect becomes very small when participants are pooled before averaging, provided that the number of trials per participant and/or the number of participants is sufficiently large. The bias decreases as the length of the stimulus sequence increases, and becomes zero in an infinitely long sequence. Basically, the bias can be explained by the fact that the expected mean arousal level before calm stimuli increases as a function of sequence length. Various possible strategies for reducing or eliminating the bias are discussed, but none of them is judged to be fully satisfactory. A generalized version of the bias is outlined and discussed. It is argued that, in some form, the bias may occur in various types of experiments, both within and outside parapsychology. It is also argued that numerous previous experiments need to be checked for occurrence of the bias.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal parapsychology, gamblers' fallacy

**Referens:** Darreh-Shori, T., Brimijoin, S., Kadir, A., [Almkvist, O.](#), & Nordberg, A. (2006). Differential CSF butyrylcholinesterase levels in Alzheimer's disease patients with the ApoE ε4 allele in relation to cognitive function and cerebral glucose metabolism. *Neurobiology of Disease*, 24, 326-333.

**Abstract:** Butyrylcholinesterase (BuChE) is increased in the cerebral cortex of Alzheimer's disease (AD) patients, particularly those carrying ε4 allele of the apolipoprotein E gene (ApoE) and certain BuChE variants that predict increased AD risk and poor response to anticholinesterase therapy. We measured BuChE activity and protein level in CSF of eighty mild AD patients in relation to age, gender, ApoE ε4 genotype, cognition and cerebral glucose metabolism (CMRglc). BuChE activity was 23% higher in men than women ( $p < 0.03$ ) and 40-60% higher in ApoE ε4 negative patients than in those carrying one or two ε4 alleles ( $p < 0.0004$ ). CSF BuChE level correlated with cortical CMRglc. Patients with high to moderate CSF BuChE showed better cognitive function scores than others. We hypothesize that CSF BuChE varies inversely with BuChE in cortical amyloid plaques. Thus, low BuChE in a patient's CSF may predict extensive incorporation in neuritic plaques, increased neurotoxicity and greater central neurodegeneration.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's disease, butyrylcholinesterase, apolipoprotein E, ELISA, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), cholinesterase inhibitors

**Referens:** Darreh-Shori, T., Kadir, A., [Almkvist, O.](#), Grut, M., Wall, A., Blomquist, G., Eriksson, B., Långström, B., & Nordberg, A. (in press). Inhibition of acetylcholinesterase in CSF versus brain assessed by <sup>11</sup>C-PMP PET in AD patients treated with galantamine. *Neurobiology of Aging*.

**Abstract:** The relationship between acetylcholinesterase (AChE) activity in the CSF and brain of patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD) was investigated in 18 mild AD patients following galantamine treatment. The first 3 months of the study had a randomized double-blind placebocontrolled design, during which 12 patients received galantamine (16-24 mg/day) and six patients placebo. This was followed by 9 months galantamine treatment in all patients. Activities and protein levels of both the "read-through" AChE (AChE-R) and the synaptic (AChE-S) variants in CSF were assessed in parallel together with the regional brain AChE activity by <sup>11</sup>C-PMP and PET. The AChE-S inhibition was 30-36% in CSF, which correlated well with the *in vivo* AChE inhibition in the brain. No significant AChE inhibition was observed in the *placebo* group. The increased level of the AChE-R protein was 16% higher than that of AChE-S. Both the AChE inhibition and the increased level of AChE-R protein positively correlated with the patient's performance in cognitive tests associated with visuospatial ability and attention. In conclusion, AChE levels in CSF closely mirror *in vivo* brain AChE levels prior to and after treatment with the cholinesterase inhibitors. A positive cognitive response seems to dependent on the AChE inhibition level, which is balanced by an increased protein level of the AChE-R variant in the patients.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's disease, acetylcholinesterase, positron emission tomography (PET), cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), red blood cells (RBC), galantamine

**Referens:** [Daukantaite, D. \(2006\). \*Subjective Well-Being in Swedish Women\*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. \(Doctoral dissertation\).](#)

**Abstract:** The present thesis concerns middle-aged women's subjective well-being (SWB). The interest is focused on the importance of childhood factors, social circumstances, and personality for middle-aged women's general SWB. Data were taken from the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation (IDA, Magnusson & Bergman, 2000) and concerned a sample of about 300 women. The main analyses were made on data collected at age 43, but data collected at age 13 and age 49 were also used to elucidate the purposes of

this thesis.

The results can be summarized as follows: 1) In a Swedish sample of middle-aged women, social circumstances had only a moderate effect on general SWB variables. The strongest relationship was found between marital status and global life satisfaction. When personality factors were controlled for, they wiped out nearly all relationships between the social circumstances variables and SWB, except for those between global life satisfaction and marital status or unemployment; 2) The level of general SWB was found to be considerably higher for Swedish employed women as compared to their counterparts in Lithuania and different socio-demographic variables predicted SWB in those two countries. For the Swedish sample, family-oriented variables were the strongest predictors of SWB, while for the Lithuanian sample income and educational level were more important; 3) Results from applying longitudinal structural equation modeling suggested that optimism in adolescence influenced optimism in middle age, which in its turn had both a direct influence on global life satisfaction and an indirect influence via the negative affect dimension. In relation to a number of different adjustment factors measured in adolescence it was found that optimism was the only factor that was constantly related to SWB 30 years later; 4) Typical patterns of general SWB were identified. Cluster analyses at age 43 and age 49 separately resulted in similar well-functioning six cluster solutions at both ages, indicating structural stability across six years. In addition to the typical high/low/average SWB clusters that could be to some degree expected from variable-oriented results, a cluster with intense affect and one with very low GLS emerged. All clusters except the latter one showed individual stability across six years.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation women, subjective well-being, longitudinal, cluster analysis, social circumstances, personality

**Referens:** [Daukantaite, D.](#), & Zukauskienė, R. (2006). Swedish and Lithuanian employed women's subjective well-being. *International Journal of Social Welfare*, 15, S23-S30.

**Abstract:** National differences in subjective well-being (SWB) and relationships between SWB and socio-demographic factors were investigated in samples of middle-aged employed Swedish (N=316) and Lithuanian (N=308) women. The results showed that the Swedish women scored significantly higher on each SWB component than their counterparts in Lithuania, except in extrinsic job satisfaction. For the Swedish sample, the largest mean differences between different socio-demographic groups were found for global life satisfaction between married/co-habiting and single women and between women who had at least one child and those without children. For the Lithuanian sample, the largest differences in all SWB components were found between women characterised by high or low education/income.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal subjective well-being, socio-demographic factors, employed women

**Referens:** De Cuyper, N., [Bernhard-Oettel, C.](#), [Berntson, E.](#), & De Witte, H. (2006). Employability among insecure/temporary workers. Paper presented at *The 7th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology*, Dublin, 8-10 November.

**Abstract:** This study investigates the role of job insecurity and employability in employees' job satisfaction and organizational commitment. More specifically, we investigate possible differential effects of job insecurity and employability of fixed-term workers as compared to permanent workers. Job insecurity in this context refers to perceptions about the continuity of the current job in the future, while employability concerns perceptions about available alternatives on the external labour market. Recent research consistently shows that job insecurity yields unfavourable attitudes among permanent workers, while it is not predictive for the attitudes of temporary workers. Various authors have suggested that employability may explain these puzzling findings. First, it has been speculated that temporaries increasingly rely on employability rather than job security to safeguard their position on the labour market. Accordingly, employability may represent an alternative form of security, which is highly predictive for temporaries' attitudes. On the other hand, it may be that job insecurity yields negative effects only for temporary employees who feel they may not be able to find alternative employment (interactive effect). Simple slope regression analyses on a sample of 539 Belgian employees supported earlier findings on the role of job insecurity: job insecurity was associated with lower levels of job satisfaction and organizational commitment among permanent, but not temporary workers. However, results did not support explanations in terms of employability: neither employability nor the interaction of it with job insecurity was predictive for temporaries' attitudes, while they were for permanent workers: employability buffered negative effects of job insecurity in the permanent sample. Implications for future research are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings employment status, job insecurity, employability

**Referens:** de Frias, C.M., Bunce, D., [Wahlin, Å.](#), [Adolfsson, R.](#), [Slegers, K.](#), [Cruts, M.](#), [Van Broeckhoven, C.](#), & [Nilsson, L.-G.](#) (in press). Cholesterol and triglycerides moderate the effect of APOE on memory functioning in older adults. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*.

**Abstract:** We used data from the Betula Study to examine associations between total cholesterol, triglycerides, and APOE on 10-year changes in cognitive performance. Tests assessing episodic memory (recall and recognition), semantic memory (knowledge and fluency), and visuospatial ability (block design) were administered to 524 non-demented adults (initially 55-80 years). Multi-level modeling was applied to the data. Higher triglyceride levels were associated with decline in verbal knowledge. Lipid levels moderated the influence of APOE on episodic memory, such that among  $\epsilon 4$  allele carriers, decline in recognition was noted for individuals with higher cholesterol levels. Cholesterol and triglyceride levels are pharmacologically modifiable risk factors that account for variation in normal cognitive aging.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal APOE, lipids, cognition

**Referens:** de Frias, C.M., Bunce, D., [Wahlin, Å.](#), [Adolfsson, R.](#), [Slegers, K.](#), [Cruts, M.](#), [Van Broeckhoven, C.](#), & [Nilsson, L.-G.](#) (in press). Cholesterol and Triglycerides Moderate the Effect of Apolipoprotein E on Memory Functioning in Older Adults. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*.

**Abstract:** We used data from the Betula Study to examine associations between total cholesterol, triglycerides, and apolipoprotein E on 10-year changes in cognitive performance. Tests assessing episodic memory (recall and recognition), semantic memory (knowledge and fluency), and visuospatial ability (block design) were administered to 524 nondemented adults (initial age of 55-80 years); multilevel modeling was applied to the data. Higher triglyceride levels were associated with a decline in verbal knowledge. Lipid levels moderated the influence of apolipoprotein E on episodic memory, such that among  $\epsilon 4$  allele carriers, decline in recognition was noted for individuals with higher cholesterol levels. Cholesterol and triglyceride levels are pharmacologically

modifiable risk factors that account for variation in normal cognitive aging.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal genetics, memory, spatial ability

**Referens:** de Frias, C.M., Lövdén, M., Lindenberger, U., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Revisiting the dedifferentiation hypothesis with longitudinal multi-cohort data. *Intelligence*.

**Abstract:** We used data from the Betula Study to examine associations between total cholesterol, triglycerides, and APOE on 10-year changes in cognitive performance. Tests assessing episodic memory (recall and recognition), semantic memory (knowledge and fluency), and visuospatial ability (block design) were administered to 524 non-demented adults (initially 55-80 years). Multi-level modeling was applied to the data. Higher triglyceride levels were associated with decline in verbal knowledge. Lipid levels moderated the influence of APOE on episodic memory, such that among  $\epsilon 4$  allele carriers, decline in recognition was noted for individuals with higher cholesterol levels. Cholesterol and triglyceride levels are pharmacologically modifiable risk factors that account for variation in normal cognitive aging.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal genetics, memory, visuospatial ability

**Referens:** de Frias, C.M., Nilsson, L.-G., & Herlitz, A. (2006). Sex differences in cognition are stable over a 10-year period in adulthood and old age. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*, 13, 574-587.

**Abstract:** Sex differences in declarative memory and visuospatial ability are robust in cross-sectional studies. The present longitudinal study examined whether sex differences in cognition were present over a 10-year period, and whether age modified the magnitude of sex differences. Tests assessing episodic and semantic memory, and visuospatial ability were administered to 625 nondemented adults (initially aged 35-80 years), participating in the population based Betula study at two follow-up occasions. There was stability of sex differences across five age groups and over a 10-year period. Women performed at a higher level than men on episodic recall, face and verbal recognition, and semantic fluency, whereas men performed better than women on a task assessing visuospatial ability. Sex differences in cognitive functions are stable over a 10-year period and from 35 to 90 years of age. Decreasing levels of estrogen in women and sex differences in age-related cortical atrophy do not seem to influence cognitive sex differences.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal sex differences, memory, aging

**Referens:** De Witte, H., Sverke, M., Van Ruysseveldt, J., Goslinga, S., Chirumbolo, A., Hellgren, J., & Näswall, K. (in press). Job insecurity, union support and the intention to resign membership: A psychological contract perspective tested among union members in four European countries. *European Journal of Industrial Relations*.

**Abstract:** This paper explores the consequences of job insecurity among union members. Starting from the dominance of the instrumental motive for union membership, and using psychological contract theory, we hypothesize that the perception of job insecurity will correlate with a lower level of perceived union support and a higher intention to resign union membership. We also test whether the relationship between job insecurity and membership turnover is mediated by (a lack of) perceived union support. The hypotheses are tested in four European countries: Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden. In three countries, an association is found between job insecurity and a reduction in perceived union support, and between job insecurity and the intention to resign membership. The association between job insecurity and membership turnover intentions is also fully mediated by (a lack of) perceived union support in these three countries. None of the hypotheses are corroborated in Sweden. The results of this study suggest that union members in all countries involved but Sweden experience job insecurity as a violation of the psychological contract with their union. Consequences of these findings for future research and for unions in Europe are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal job insecurity, labor union, work attitudes

**Referens:** Dimdins, G., & Montgomery, H. (2006). Effects of framing on perceptions of economic freedom, economic equality, and social justice. In F. Tersman (Ed.), *Viability and Desirability of Global Democracy*. Stockholm University: Stockholm Studies in Democratic Theory 3.

**Abstract:** The aim of the study was to examine peoples' perceptions of the economic dimension of the dilemma between individual freedom and collective equality in society. Our previous research in the frameworks of the project had suggested that the economic aspect—rather than political freedom and equality—elicit the strongest differences in people's opinions. A tax reform proposed by a number of conservative parties in Sweden served as a background of the study. The proposed reform was aimed at improving the state budget by increasing the incentives for working and decreasing the incentives of receiving social benefits from the state. Seventy-two Stockholm University undergraduates participated in the study. Each participant read descriptions of several possible tax plans in an imaginary society. When presenting the plans, we manipulated several factors. First, the plans were formulated in a way that the tax reform would lead either to increase of income for working people (reward), or a decrease of income for those receiving benefits for the state (penalty). Second, the plans would either affect everyone (meritocratic), or would be aimed at benefiting the low-income groups in society (egalitarian). In addition, the plans were presented either as a change to an existing tax system, or as a new tax system to be introduced. The difference in tax size between workers and social benefit receivers was constant (in favor of workers) in all formulations. The participants evaluated the tax plans according to three criteria—how much each plan would contribute to social justice, to economic freedom, and to economic equality in the society.

The wording of the tax plans mattered most for evaluations of equality; these evaluations also elicited strongest differences between liberal and conservative respondents. The wording mattered least for evaluations of social justice, and had moderate effects on evaluations of freedom. The results showed that different factors influenced judgments of economic freedom and equality. For example, whether plans were worded as reward or penalty had a stronger influence on evaluations of freedom than on evaluations of equality. On the other hand, meritocratic vs. egalitarian formulation had a much stronger effect on evaluations of equality than on evaluations of freedom. The results show that, although freedom and equality are often depicted as opposing ends of the same continuum, people think about different things when evaluating—at least in economic terms—these two concepts. This, in turn, suggests that by careful framing of social issues it may be possible to avoid juxtaposition of values of freedom and democracy, and to reduce controversy in society

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings framing, freedom, equality

- Referens:** [Eisler, A.D., & Eisler, H. \(in press\). Physical time and the human sense of time: Empirical studies. \*The 4th International Conference on Cybernetics and International Technologies, Systems and Applications: CITSA 2007\*. July 12-15, 2007. Orlando, Florida, USA.](#)
- Abstract:** It is suggested that our general temporal perspective and the intervals that serve us our units of time are derived from the kind of culture in which we live. Subjective (psychological) time estimation is the human ingenious ability to estimate objective (physical) time without cues from external clocks. Humans in all cultures exhibit the ability of time estimation; it seems to be universal. Subjective time is how time is felt, how much time seems to have gone by. It involves our feelings about past, present, and future, and what they mean. Time is the conscious experiential product of processes that allow the human organism to adaptively orient and organize itself in line with the sequential relations in a particular environment. Disruption of psychological time is often found with many kinds of psychopathology and brain damage. Some results from our empirical research are presented and interpreted in terms of biological, cognitive, developmental, neuropsychological and cultural factors. Evolutionary aspects are taken up in several contexts.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings brain, biological clock, psychopathology
- Referens:** [Eisler, A.D., Eisler, H., & Arvidsson, M. \(in press\). Perception of suicide and risk factors associated with suicidal behavior: Comparisons of Canadian and Swedish students. \*The XXIV IASP World Congress, "Preventing Suicide across the Life Span: Dreams and Realities"\*, August 28 - September 1, 2007, Killarney, Ireland.](#)
- Abstract:** Reviewing the risk factors associated with suicide raises the problem that much of the research literature on suicidal behavior is conducted with suicide attempters, for the simple reason that suicide completers are unavailable for interviews. Risk factors for attempted and completed suicide may differ. Suicide and attempted suicide are the deepest expression of human suffering. Extensive knowledge about suicide is therefore needed and should include studies of perception and risk factors associated with suicide in a cross-cultural perspective, and with subjects not involved in any suicide attempts. Thus, knowledge of perception of suicide and of risk factors associated with suicidal behavior can provide an empirical context and valuable predictions of vulnerability useful in prevention programs. The present study examined perception of suicide and risk factors associated with suicide and suicidal behavior comparing Canadian and Swedish students. The Canadian participants were more inclined to attribute suicide to societal causes and the Swedish participants were most negative toward suicide in terms of their personal attitudes. The results indicate that there are more similarities than differences between the Canadian and Swedish students in the perception of suicide. In contrast to the present study, Eisler and Sorjonen (1999), reported great cultural differences in perception of suicide between Finnish and Swedish participants.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings culture, prevention, vulnerability
- Referens:** [Eisler, A.D., Eisler, H., & Yoshida, M. \(2006\). The cognitive representation of global risks: Empirical studies. In W.J. Ammann, S. Dannenmann, & L. Vulliet \(Eds.\), \*RISK21 - Coping with Risks due to Natural Hazards in the 21st Century\* \(pp. 109-116\). London: Taylor & Francis Group.](#)
- Abstract:** The present study, which is part of a comprehensive project, examines both cultural diversity and cultural similarity of perceived global risks between German, Japanese, Swedish and American subjects (n = 1,317), with the focus on human ecology. Similarities as well as differences between the four cultures were found. Unexpectedly, the German and Swedish subjects were most concerned about hunger and poverty. Another notable similarity is that overpopulation was viewed as a high-risk by both the Swedish and the American groups. Gender differences were also obtained. The findings contribute to our understanding of how people in different cultures and of different gender presently perceive global risks. The current research provides substantial evidence that perception of risks represents a cultural value, belief, ecological worldview and a level of knowledge that may have developed over long periods of the particular cultural group's experience of both the physical and the social environment. However, over the course of human history the dangers faced have changed in many respects.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) human ecology, perception, risks
- Referens:** [Eisler, H., & Eisler, A.D. \(in press\). Scalar Timing \(Expectancy\) Theory: A comparison between prospective and retrospective duration. \*Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology\*.](#)
- Abstract:** One hundred and twenty human observers participated in both a prospective and a retrospective duration reproduction experiment. The data were treated according to the requirements of Scalar Timing (Expectancy) Theory (SET). The distribution of the ratio (reproduction/standard durations) proved skewed to the right, and the coefficient of variation decreased with the durations rather than being constant. Both findings are at variance with SET, which assumes the validity of Weber's law and agreement between subjective and chronometric time. However, the outcome could be predicted from the generalized Weber law and a non-veridical psychophysical function for duration. Except for greater scatter, the retrospective data did not differ from the prospective in any essential way.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal internal clock, memory, perception
- Referens:** [Ek, U., Fernell, E., Westerlund, J., Holmberg, K., Olsson, P.-O., & Gillberg, C. \(in press\). Cognitive strengths and deficits in school children with ADHD. \*Acta Paediatrica\*.](#)
- Abstract:** Background: Few studies provide detailed analyses of the various aspects of the entire cognitive profile of children with ADHD.
- Material and methods: Cognitive test data were analysed for 10-11-year-old children with (1) ADHD, (2) subthreshold ADHD, and (3) milder attention and/or learning problems, and compared with normative data.
- Results: Thirty two had ADHD and 10 met the criteria for subthreshold ADHD, prevalence rates of 5.4% and 1.6%, respectively. On a group level, children with ADHD/subthreshold ADHD, and those with milder attention and/or learning problems had almost identical cognitive profiles for the 13 subtests comprising the WISC III,

with particularly low results on the Arithmetic, Coding, Information and Digit span subtests (ACID profile). When analyzed individually, a complete or incomplete ACID profile (3 of 4 subtests) was equally common in children with ADHD/subthreshold ADHD and in children with milder problems, found in about 1/5. The relative strengths of both groups were in areas demanding logical thinking, reasoning and common sense.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal ADHD, WISC, ACID profile

**Referens:** Ek, U., Linder, S., & Wetter, I. (in press). *Rätt & Vett. Om juridik och etik i psykologiskt arbete*. [Law and Ethics in psychology.] Studentlitteratur. ISBN 978-91-44-03573-4.

**Abstract:** Boken ger en samlad bild av området juridik och etik i psykologiskt arbete och förmedlar baskunskaper i ämnet. Boken vänder sig till psykologer och psykoterapeuter under utbildning.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) etik, juridik

**Referens:** Eklund, J.M. (2005). *Adolescents at risk of persistent antisocial behaviour and alcohol problems: The role of behaviour, personality and biological factors*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** Antisocial behaviour and alcohol problems are areas of great concern to society, not only associated with personal and emotional costs for the affected individuals and their victims, but also with major societal financial costs. What makes some individuals more likely than others to develop these kinds of problems? The general aim of this thesis was to explore the role of individual characteristics in the development of antisocial behaviour and alcohol problems. More specifically, the research focused on aspects of hyperactive behaviour, personality traits and biological vulnerability indicators in relation to self-reported norm breaking and violent behaviour, registered general criminality and violent offending in particular, and further, on risky alcohol use and drinking offences. The studies were based on both a prospective longitudinal project in which a group of adolescent male lawbreakers and controls were followed from the 1960s into the 1990s, and on more recently collected data on a representative group of Swedish male and female adolescents.

The results of the thesis supported that neuropsychological deficits, manifested in attention difficulties, and personality traits reflecting disinhibition and negative emotionality, influence the development of antisocial behaviour and risky alcohol use, which in turn increases the risk of subsequent alcohol problems. The findings indicated, furthermore, that these neuropsychological deficits may be associated with an underlying biological vulnerability to various forms of disinhibitory psychopathology. Although the thesis focuses on individual characteristics, the results also support the view that environmental risk factors such as the influence of family and peers and possible stress experiences, play an important role. It was emphasized that individual characteristics continuously interact with environmental conditions in shaping each individual's developmental course. Results also revealed that adolescent females displaying violent behaviour and engaging in potentially harmful use of alcohol deviated more in personality traits than did the corresponding group of males. Further knowledge of the development of these problems in females is crucial, since most theories in this area have been developed primarily on male samples.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation adolescence, gender, hyperactive behaviour, biological vulnerability, personality, norm breaking behaviour, criminality, violence, alcohol problems

**Referens:** Eklund, J.M., & af Klinteberg, B. (2006). Stability of and change in criminal behavior: A prospective study of young male lawbreakers and controls. *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health*, 5(1), 83-95.

**Abstract:** With Moffitt's developmental typology of antisocial behavior as a starting point, the general aim of the study was to investigate the stability of and change in criminal behavior from early adolescence to early adult age. The purpose was also to explore the role of individual, family, peer and school related risk factors in the development of criminal behavior. The study was based on data from the prospective longitudinal research project 'Young Lawbreakers as Adults', in which a group of adolescent male lawbreakers and controls were followed from the 1960s into the 1990s. The results were in favor of a distinction between adolescence-limited and persistent criminality, and supported the suggestion of a common set of risk factors dimensionally related to offending, rather than trajectory-specific risk factors. The findings indicated that, in addition to these common risk factors, early attention deficits and manifestations of aggression might be of specific importance to persistent criminality.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal criminal development, risk factors, longitudinal study

**Referens:** Engler, H., Forsberg, A., Almkvist, O., Blomquist, G., Larsson, E., Savitcheva, I., Wall, A., Ringheim, A., Långström, B., & Nordberg, A. (2006). Two-year follow-up of amyloid deposition in patients with Alzheimer's disease. *Brain*, 129, 2856-2866.

**Abstract:** Beta amyloid is one of the major histopathological hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease. We recently reported *in vivo* imaging of amyloid in 16 Alzheimer patients, using the PET ligand *N*-methyl[<sup>11</sup>C]2-(4'-methylaminophenyl)-6-hydroxy-benzothiazole (PIB). In the present study we rescanned these 16 Alzheimer patients after 2.0 ± 0.5 years and have described the interval change in amyloid deposition and regional cerebral metabolic rate for glucose (rCMRGlc) at follow-up. Sixteen patients with Alzheimer's disease were re-examined by means of PET, using PIB and 2-[<sup>18</sup>F]fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose (FDG) after 2.0 ± 0.5 years. The patients were all on cholinesterase inhibitor treatment and five also on treatment with the *N*-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) antagonist memantine. In order to estimate the accuracy of the PET PIB measurements, four additional Alzheimer patients underwent repeated examinations with PIB within 20 days (test-retest). Relative PIB retention in cortical regions differed by 3-7% in the test-retest study. No significant difference in PIB retention was observed between baseline and follow-up while a significant ( $P < 0.01$ ) 20% decrease in rCMRGlc was observed in cortical brain regions. A significant negative correlation between rCMRGlc and PIB retention was observed in the parietal cortex in the Alzheimer patients at follow-up ( $r = 0.67$ ,  $P = 0.009$ ). A non-significant decline in Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) score from 24.3 ± 3.7 (mean ± standard deviation) to 22.7 ± 6.1 was measured at follow-up. Five of the Alzheimer patients showed a significant decline in MMSE score of >3 (21.4 ± 3.5 to 15.6 ± 3.9,  $P < 0.01$ ) (AD-progressive) while the rest of the patients were cognitively more stable (MMSE score = 25.6 ± 3.1 to 25.9 ± 3.7) (AD-stable) compared with baseline. A positive correlation ( $P = 0.001$ ) was observed in the parietal cortex between Rey Auditory Verbal Learning (RAVL) test score and rCMRGlc at follow-up while a negative correlation ( $P = 0.018$ ) was observed between

RAVL test and PIB retention in the parietal at follow-up. Relatively stable PIB retention after 2 years of follow-up in patients with mild Alzheimer's disease suggests that amyloid deposition in the brain reaches a plateau by the early clinical stages of Alzheimer's disease and therefore may precede a decline in rCMRGlC and cognition. It appears that anti-amyloid therapies will need to induce a significant decrease in amyloid load in order for PIB PET images to detect a drug effect in Alzheimer patients. FDG imaging may be able to detect a stabilization of cerebral metabolism caused by therapy administered to patients with a clinical diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's, amyloid deposition, two-year follow-up

**Referens:** Eriksson, K., & Lindholm, T. (in press). Making gender matter: The role of gender-based expectancies and gender identification on women's and men's math performance in Sweden. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** It is well established that an emphasis on gender differences may have negative effect on women's math performance in USA, Germany and the Netherlands. It has further been found that an individual's identification with the stereotyped group may moderate effects of negative stereotypes. The present study investigated how gender-based expectancies affected the math performance of women and men in Sweden, a nation with a smaller gender gap than in other countries, and a strong cultural emphasis on gender equality. Participants, 112 female and 74 male undergraduate math students from Swedish universities, completed a difficult math test in which their gender was either linked to their test performance or not. Men performed better than women when gender was made relevant among participants who did not see their gender as an important aspect of their identity, while participants high in gender identification were unaffected by gender identity relevance. Moreover, the gender relevance manipulation affected men's performance more than women's. The results deviate from findings on US samples, indicating that the role of group identification as a moderator of stereotype-based expectancy effects is complex, and that factors in the cultural context may interact with individual differences in identification to determine the impact of negative stereotypes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal gender, stereotype threat, group identification

**Referens:** Falkenberg, H., & Näswall, K. (2006). Problem- and emotion-focused coping in a demanding working life. Poster presented at *The VIth International Conference on Occupational Stress and Health*, Miami, 2-4 March 2006.

**Abstract:** In the constant strive for competitiveness, organizations try to deliver their products and services at a faster pace and with higher quality, resulting in increased demands for employee effectiveness and competence. High demands are known to be a risk factor for stress. Employees who perceive their work situation as stressful are likely to experience negative consequences, such as negative work-related attitudes and deteriorated health. The extent of the negative consequences of a stressful work situation most likely depends on the strategies employees use to cope with the situation. Some studies indicate that problem-focused strategies may be the most effective to cope with stressful situations, while other studies have shown emotion-focused strategies to be more effective. The aim of this study is to further investigate the role of problem-focused and emotion-focused coping strategies in reducing negative consequences of the work stressors quantitative and qualitative workload for work-related attitudes and health. The study also investigates potential synergy effects of a combination of the two coping strategies.

Data was collected by questionnaires in March 2005. The sample consists of 252 salaried employees (response rate 86 %) who work in a Swedish firm of accountants. Moderated multiple regression analyses were conducted for each outcome (job satisfaction, organizational commitment, well-being and physical health). Age and gender were used as control variables.

The results showed that both problem- and emotion-focused coping strategies could reduce the negative effects of high workload. Two-way interactions indicated that more problem-focused coping moderated the relation between workload and well-being, while emotion-focused coping moderated the relation between workload and physical health. Three-way interactions indicated that problem-focused and emotion-focused coping strategies in combination seemed to have the potential to alleviate the negative effects of high workload for organizational commitment and well-being. These results indicate that in order to cope with high workload, both problem-focused and emotion-focused strategies are useful, either separate or in combination.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings coping strategies, workload, strain

**Referens:** Fallby, J., Hassmén, P., Kenttä, G., & Durand-Bush, N. (2006). Relationship between locus of control, sense of coherence and mental skills in Swedish elite athletes. *International Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*, 4, 111-120.

**Abstract:** Differences in competitive performance at the elite level are often attributed more to mental factors than merely inequalities in physical or technical prowess. Many elite athletes consequently engage in regular mental skills training, but some reach a higher standard than others. One suggestion is that trait characteristics may to some extent influence both the acquisition and use of mental skills. Our purpose was therefore to investigate whether or not a relationship could be detected between trait measures related to personal control and mental skills. A total of 198 individual elite athletes completed inventories measuring locus of control, sense of coherence, and mental skills. Results revealed that individuals with an internal locus of control and a high sense of coherence consistently displayed significantly higher scores on 9 out of the 12 mental skills measured by the Ottawa Mental Skills Assessment Tool-3 than did athletes scoring lower on the two trait inventories. Findings suggest that individuals who perceive their world to be controllable, manageable, and meaningful have more developed mental skills. The cross-sectional design does, however, preclude causal inferences, but sport psychology consultants and coaches may still want to consider these findings when tailoring mental skills training programs for individual athletes desiring to achieve performance excellence in elite sports.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal sports, locus of control, competitive performance

**Referens:** Fernell, E., & Ek, U. (in press). The importance of considering children's- and adults'-cognitive functions when discussing living conditions and psychosomatic complaints. *Acta Paediatrica*.

**Abstract:** A broad knowledge of both the overt manifestations - such as economic problems in adults and psychosomatic complaints in children - and the possibility of underlying cognitive vulnerability has to be taken into account

when discussing living conditions and psychosomatic complaints in children and adults. This is decisive when it comes to intervention and support.

If the influence of cognitive dysfunctions, on psychiatric ill-health is overlooked, appropriate intervention will fail and measures and resources may be directed exclusively to the overt expressions instead of highlighting the main issue.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cognitive, children

**Referens:** Freidenfelt, J., & af Klinteberg, B. (in press). Exploring adult personality and psychopathy tendencies in former childhood hyperactive delinquent males. *Journal of Individual Differences*.

**Abstract:** The focus is on (1) the possible influence of childhood hyperactive behavior and adult psychopathy; ; and (2) how adult clinically rated psychopathy tendencies are related to self-reported personality. The sample comprised 152 male Ss, including young lawbreakers (n=98) and controls (n=54), prospectively studied over life time. Ratings of behavior were obtained from a psychiatrist in childhood and data on personality (KSP and EPQ-I) and psychopathy using Psychopathy Check List (PCL) were obtained in adulthood. Ss with high PCL as adults (n= 36) scored higher than low PCL Ss (n= 116) on the majority of the personality dimensions studied, also when controlling for criminality. Former childhood hyperactive Ss (n= 26) displayed higher impulsivity and hostility than non-hyperactive Ss (n= 126) when criminality was controlled. Among the high PCL group Ss there was an overrepresentation of childhood hyperactive males. They displayed significantly higher impulsivity and verbal aggression than their respective non-hyperactive counterparts and were characterized by extreme scores on several psychopathy-related personality scales. Further, there was a significant interaction effect between hyperactivity and PCL on the narrow/non-inclusive form of impulsivity. The findings of the present personality-based approach were in favour of childhood hyperactivity being crucial as risk indicator in the development of psychopathy tendencies.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal personality dimensions, hyperactive behavior, psychopathy, longitudinal study

**Referens:** Granath, J., Ingvarsson, S., von Thiele, U., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Stress Management: A Randomized Study of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and Yoga. *Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Vol 35, No 1*, pp. 3-10.

**Abstract:** In this study, a stress management program based on cognitive behavioural therapy principles was compared with a Kundaliniyoga program. A study sample of 26 women and 7 men from a large Swedish company were divided randomly into 2 groups for each of the different forms of intervention; a total of 4 groups. The groups were instructed by trained group leaders and 10 sessions were held with each of groups, over a period of 4 months. Psychological (self-rated stress and stress behaviour, anger, exhaustion, quality of life) and physiological (blood pressure, heart rate, urinary catecholamines, salivary cortisol) measurements obtained before and after treatment showed significant improvements on most of the variables in both groups as well as medium-to-high effect sizes. However, no significant difference was found between the 2 programs. The results indicate that both cognitive behaviour therapy and yoga are promising stress management techniques.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal stress management, yoga, cognitive behavioural therapy

**Referens:** Granath, J., Ingvarsson, S., von Thiele, U., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Stress management: A randomized study of cognitive behavioural therapy and yoga. *Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, 35*, 3-10.

**Abstract:** Several studies have shown positive results for group treatments of a wide range of physical and psychological diseases. In a randomised study the effect of two stress management methods were evaluated. A treatment with cognitive behavioural approach called Strategic Resource use (SRA) was compared with Kundalini yoga. 33 subjects from a large Swedish company were divided into four groups. One all female and one mixed group were introduced to each method. After the treatment, the subjects of both methods had improved their values on both subjectively rated and physiologically measured variables significantly, e.g. perceived stress, stress behaviour, anger, exhaustion, quality of life, blood pressure and pulse. The yoga group had significantly decreased norepinephrine values. The SRA group's decrease on epinephrine was approaching significance. No significant difference was found between the two methods. The conclusion is that both methods have an effect on physiological as well as psychological aspects of stress.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal treatment, stress responses

**Referens:** Gustafsson, H., Kenttä, G., Hassmén, P., & Lundqvist, C. (in press). Prevalence of burnout in competitive adolescent athletes. *The Sport Psychologist*.

**Abstract:** This study examined the factorial validity of the Eades Burnout Inventory (EABI) and the prevalence of burnout in adolescent elite athletes and whether burnout is more common in individual sports than in team sports. The EABI was distributed to 980 athletes (402 females and 578 males) in 29 different sports. Confirmatory-factor analyses revealed an acceptable factorial validity for a theoretically supported four-factor model of the EABI. Between 1% and 9% of the athletes displayed elevated burnout scores on these four subscales. The hypothesis of higher prevalence of burnout in individual sports was, however, not supported. Furthermore, no correlation between training load and burnout scores was found. These findings suggest that factors other than training load must be considered when athletes at risk for burnout are investigated.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal burnout, training, stress

**Referens:** Gustafsson, H., Kenttä, G., Hassmén, P., Lundqvist, C., & Durand-Bush, N. (in press). The process of burnout: A multiple case study of three elite endurance athletes. *International Journal of Sport Psychology*.

**Abstract:** The study presented here investigated the process of burnout. The experience of three elite endurance athletes who left sports due to burnout was explored. Semi-structured interviews were conducted and inductively analyzed. Furthermore, the Athlete Burnout Questionnaire was used to quantify the athletes' level of burnout and to validate the interviews together with training logs. Links between the overtraining syndrome and burnout were found. A change from high initial motivation to a lack of motivation was a common experience that also signified and distinguished burnout from overtraining syndrome. Strong athletic identity and

achievement strivings to validate self-worth were found to be explanatory factors in the burnout process. Chronic lack of mental and physical recovery as well as early success in the athletes' chosen sports leading to high expectations comprised a common theme in all cases. We suggest that young successful athletes need close supervision and support in order to lessen the risk for developing burnout.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal burnout, overtraining, motivation

**Referens:** Gustafsson, K., Lindfors, P., Aronsson, G., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Validering av frågor avseende nedvarvning och återhämtning: Samband mellan salivkortisol och subjektiva skattningar. [Validation of unwinding and recuperation questions: Correlations between salivary cortisol and subjective ratings.] *Arbete & Hälsa*, 7.

**Abstract:** The aim of this study was to validate subjective ratings of questions on unwinding and recuperation and to investigate the relationships with cortisol output. Participants were 25 white-collar workers employed at a Swedish government authority. Linear regressions and repeated measures of ANOVA were used to calculate mean levels of salivary cortisol as related to recovery/recuperation. The results show significant main effects of cortisol as related to subjective ratings ( $p < 0.01$ ) and a significant interaction effect ( $p < 0.05$ ) between cortisol and sex. The study indicates that high levels of morning cortisol are significantly related to failure to recuperate. Results are discussed in terms of validity, prediction, sex differences, selection and generalization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal unwinding, recuperation, salivary cortisol

**Referens:** Gärling, T., Backenroth-Ohsako, G., & Ekehammar, B. (Eds.) (2006). *Diplomacy and psychology. Prevention of armed conflicts after the cold war*. Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Academic.

**Abstract:** Diplomacy plays an important role in world politics and international relations. Broadly speaking, diplomacy is defined as the use of peaceful means to prevent, settle, or resolve armed conflicts. After the Cold War, changes in the international scene call for a different practice of diplomacy than before. Issues are raised of how psychology may contribute to achieve a more efficient diplomacy. Psychological knowledge has become increasingly important for the successful practice of various categories of diplomacy; i.e. peacetime diplomacy, crisis diplomacy and preventive diplomacy. Various challenges to diplomacy is discussed. Diplomacy is a means used by government to communicate. The function and possible improvement of this communication is discussed. Furthermore the prevalence of different cognitive and motivational biases in political judgements, the use of theory in political judgements, the relationship between justice and conflict and its implications for preventive diplomacy, the role political leaders play in escalation of social conflict, effective negotiation and mediation, social psychological principles of reconciliation.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) diplomacy, communication, leadership

**Referens:** Habib, R., Nyberg, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Cognitive and non-cognitive factors contributing to the longitudinal identification of successful older adults in the Betula study. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*.

**Abstract:** Studies of successful aging have typically defined elderly who fall in the upper end of a distribution of test scores as successful. A different definition of successful aging requires that older adults fall at or above the mean level of younger adults and maintain this level over time. Here we examined this definition of successful aging in a sample of 1463 individuals between 50 to 85 years of age. Based on principal coordinate analysis of cognitive and non-cognitive variables, we identified a group of 55 (8.3%) 70-85 years olds that were high functioning. This group of elderly showed elevated performance on a range of cognitive tasks. Non-cognitive factors that characterized this group included education and subjective health. The participants were re-tested 5 years later and the same type of analysis was repeated. Of the remaining individuals who initially were classified as high functioning, 18 (35%) remained high functioning and thus met the definition for successful aging. Years of education was a significant predictor of who remained successful over time.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, successful aging

**Referens:** Hallberg, U.E., Johansson, G., & Schaufeli, W.B. (in press). Type A behavior and work situation: Associations with burnout and work engagement. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** The aim of the present study was to investigate Type A behaviours as well as perceived work situation, and associations with burnout and work engagement. The associations in focus were investigated through hierarchical regressions in a sample ( $N=329$ ) of Swedish information and communications technology consultants. The findings indicated that both work situation and Type A behavior was correlated with work engagement and burnout, however no interactions between Type A behavior and work situation were elicited. The main conclusion was that the achievement striving aspect of Type A behavior appears 'non-toxic' and is related only to work engagement. However, the irritability/impatience aspect appears to be responsible for burnout complaints among Type A individuals, possibly through negative effects of the mood itself than through perceived stress at work.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal work engagement, burnout, Type A behavior

**Referens:** Hartig, T., Kylin, C., & Johansson, G. (in press). The telework tradeoff: Stress mitigation vs. constrained restoration. *Applied Psychology*.

**Abstract:** The home occupies a crucial position in daily activity cycles that distribute stressful demands and opportunities for restoration across settings and time. By teleworking from home, people change the distribution of demands and opportunities for restoration. In doing so they may reduce stress from some sources, yet they may also undermine restorative functions of the home. Investigating these possibilities, we analyzed self-report data from 107 workers in a relocated Swedish governmental institution that made flexible work arrangements with long-term employees. As part of their changed working arrangements, many of these employees regularly carried out some paid work at home. Avoiding a long commute and meeting parental responsibilities frequently figured among stress-mitigating reasons they gave for teleworking. However, they reported considerable temporal and mental overlap of work and non-work life, and spatial overlap to a lesser degree, in relation to household density and spatial arrangements for working at home. With increase in perceived overlap, evaluation of the overlap shifted from positive to negative. Perceived overlap correlated inversely with effective

restoration. Teleworkers as a group reported less effective restoration than non-teleworkers. We close by discussing implications for housing provisions and work organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal telework, stress, restoration

**Referens:** [Hellgren, J., Baraldi, S., Falkenberg, H., & Sverke, M. \(2006\). Bäst arbetsklimat på sjukhus som bolagiserats eller privatiserats \[Bether work climate in privatized hospitals\]. \*Läkartidningen\*, 103 \(26-27\), 2040-2044.](#)

**Abstract:** In an attempt to make hospitals more cost effective and improving the quality of medical care, privatization of Swedish hospitals have become more frequent during the past decade. There is a need for knowledge about psychological effects of privatization on health care personnel. We investigated physicians' perception of their work environment in three hospitals with different forms of ownership — from traditional public administration to for-profit private stock company. The results point towards certain advantages of privatized hospitals. Physicians at the privatized hospital included in the study perceived their work environment in some respects as more positive than did the physicians at the non-privatized hospitals.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal privatization, work climate, hospitals

**Referens:** [Hellgren, J., Sverke, M., & Näswall, K. \(in press\). Changing work roles: New demands and challenges. In K. Näswall, J. Hellgren, & M. Sverke \(Eds.\), \*The individual in the changing working life\*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.](#)

**Abstract:** Working life has been subject to many changes over the last decades. One of these changes that has had a great impact on the contemporary working life is the gradual shift from production to services. Following this, mental rather than physical work activities are emphasized. This puts an increased demand on the employees to be goal-oriented and self-directed and implies a shift from a traditional, more objective regulation of work, to a more subjective one. Work is thus less objectively defined and structured. Along with this contemporary working life is often also characterized by increased autonomy and decision latitude. Traditionally these aspects of work are regarded as positive and desirable. However, if the demands are blurred and vaguely defined, in combination with tight time schedules and unclear work goals, the autonomy and self-directed aspects of the job may be stressful instead of challenging.

This study investigates the importance of these new potential stressors above and beyond more traditional role characteristics, for employee well-being and motivation. More specifically, the purpose of this study is to investigate the relative importance of demographics, role characteristics, and work stressors related to the new working life for salaried employees' experiences of health and motivation.

The empirical data for this study was collected by means of a questionnaire administered salaried employees working in administrative and teaching jobs in the service-sector in Sweden. Out of a total of 1178 questionnaires 836 were returned to the research team (71%). The respondents' mean age was 50 years (SD = 10) with an average tenure of 17 years (SD = 13), and 74 percent of the sample was female.

Preliminary results indicate that stressors related to vaguely defined tasks and unclear work goals are important contributions to the salaried employees' perceived health and well-being above and beyond more traditional role stressors like role overload, role ambiguity and role conflict. Similar results were also obtained for work attitudes and motivation. These results are in line with the notion that greater demands on employees to be independent and effective, along with increased autonomy, may result in a generally more demanding work situation if the work tasks and their goals are vaguely defined and blurred in terms of the output or results.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) new demands, work roles, stress

**Referens:** [Hellgren, J., Sverke, M., & Näswall, K. \(2006\). New demands and challenges in salaried employees' work situation. Paper presented at \*The 7th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology\*, Dublin, Ireland, November 8-10, 2006.](#)

**Abstract:** This study investigates the importance of these new potential stressors above and beyond more traditional role characteristics, for employee well-being and motivation. More specifically, the purpose of this study is to investigate the relative importance of demographics, role characteristics, and work stressors related to the new working life for salaried employees' experiences of health and motivation.

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**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings new demands, challenges, work stress

**Referens:** [Hellgren, J., Sverke, M., Näswall, K., & Berntson, E. \(2006\). Turnover as a response to job insecurity: The moderating effect of employability. Paper presented at \*The Sixth Conference on Psychology and Health\*, Kerkrade, the Netherlands, 8-10 May, 2006.](#)

**Abstract:** Previous research has identified a link between job insecurity perceptions and turnover intentions among employees. It has also been suggested that in times of turmoil and insecurity in the organization, employees who perceive themselves as employable are more prone to voluntarily leave the organization as compared to employees perceiving themselves as less employable and attractive on the labor market. Along this line it has also been proposed that the individuals most attractive on the labor market are often key-persons that the

organization want to keep, and consequently, the organization may suffer if employable employees leave the organization. The purpose of this study is to investigate the effects of job insecurity perceptions on two different types of turnover intentions, namely organizational turnover and occupational turnover. Secondly, this study aims at investigating the potential moderating role of employability on the relationship between job insecurity and the two types of turnover intention, suggesting that employees perceiving themselves as more employable will be more prone to leave the organization when experiencing job insecurity. The study is based on questionnaire data collected in an acute care hospital in Stockholm, Sweden. The results indicate that employability perceptions may play an important role in employees' turnover intentions during organization turmoil and in connection with feelings of job insecurity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings employability, job insecurity, turnover

**Referens:** Hirvikoski, T., Nordenström, A., Lindholm, T., Lindblad, F., Ritzén, M., Wedell, A., & Lajic, S. (in press). Prenatal Dexamethasone Treatment of Children at Risk for Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia Affects Cognitive Functions. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*.

**Abstract:** Context and Objective: In Sweden, during 1985-1995, 40 fetuses at risk for congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH) were treated with dexamethasone (DEX) in order to prevent virilisation of affected females. We report long-term effects on neuropsychological functions and scholastic performance of this controversial treatment.

Design and Patients: Prenatally treated children, 7-17 years, were assessed with standardized neuropsychological tests (NEPSY and WISC-III) and child-completed questionnaires measuring self-perceived scholastic competence (SPPC). A parent-completed questionnaire (CBCL/4-18 School Scale) was used to evaluate whether the treatment had any impact on the children's school performance. In addition, a child-completed questionnaire measuring social anxiety (SASC-R) was completed by the prenatally treated children aged 8-17 years (n=21) and age and sex matched controls (n=26).

Results: Of 40 DEX treated children, 26 (median age 11 years) participated in the study. Thirty-five sex- and age matched healthy children were controls. There were no between-group differences concerning psychometric intelligence, measures of cerebral lateralization, memory encoding, and long term memory. Short term treated, CAH unaffected children performed worse than the control group on a test assessing verbal working memory (p=0.003), and on self-perception of scholastic competence (p=0.003). This group also showed increased self-rated social anxiety, assessed by SASC-R (p=.026). Prenatally treated, CAH affected children performed poorer than controls on tests measuring verbal processing speed, although this difference disappeared when controlling for the child's Full-Scale IQ (FSIQ).

Conclusions: This study indicates that prenatal DEX treatment is associated with previously not described long-term effects on verbal working memory and on certain aspects of self-perception that could be related to poorer verbal working memory. The clinical significance of the observed differences in social anxiety is not possible to determine within the frames of this study. Additional studies of larger cohorts are essential to make more decisive conclusions on the safety of the treatment. Until then, it is important that the parents are thoroughly informed about the potential risks and uncertainties as well as the benefits of this treatment. Therefore, we encourage additional retrospective studies of larger cohorts to either confirm or challenge the present findings.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cognitive functions, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, dexamethasone

**Referens:** Hjälms, S., Kenttä, G., Hassmén, P., & Gustafsson, H. (in press). Burnout among elite soccer coaches. *Journal of Sport Behavior*.

**Abstract:** Burnout was investigated in a population of men coaching either men or women at the elite club level in Sweden. Out of 53 presently active top-level soccer coaches, 47 volunteered to participate. Results indicate that 71% of the coaches in the Premier league for women, compared to 23% of the coaches in the Premier league for men, experienced moderate to high levels of Emotional Exhaustion as measured by the Maslach Burnout Inventory. One possible explanation for this difference is that only 10% of the coaches responsible for teams in the Premier league for women had full time appointments, as compared to all coaches responsible for teams in the Premier league for men. The latter group also had more support staff, on average six people, whereas those coaching women only had four people available. In addition, leadership demands seem to vary between female and male teams, which together with less support and time-constraints place coaches in the Premier league for women at a relatively higher risk for burnout than coaches in the Premier league for men.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal coaching, burnout, exhaustion

**Referens:** Holmberg, U., Wexler, D., & Christianson, S.Å. (in press). Interviewing Offenders: A Therapeutic Jurisprudential Approach. In Christianson, S.Å. (Ed.). *Offenders' memories of violent crimes*. Wiley & Sons.

**Abstract:** Humanity and respect in police interviews that promote admissions should not only be seen from investigative and legal perspective because it is likely that therapeutic jurisprudential derived admissions promote experiences where a murderer or a sexual offender may work through the crime committed. Hereby, such admissions may be memory enhancing as well as facilitating psychological well-being. Regarding psychological well-being in therapeutic jurisprudence, there is a need for further research because Holmberg and Christianson's study (2002) only showed a relationship between perceptions of the police interview and psychological well-being. It is important to define the concept and find methods to measure psychological well-being in the legal context because when it is defined and measured, it offers a greater opportunity to develop legal methods and procedures. The use of the modified SOC instrument in this study may have somewhat weakened the results compared to when the original 13 items SOC form is used. However, this study indicates that psychological well-being in legal context can be measured and further research suggests using different standardized instruments to identify more deeply the psychological well-being in therapeutic jurisprudence.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) therapeutic jurisprudential, investigative interviewing, offenders

**Referens:** Holmgren, S., Molander, B., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). Intelligence in adult age: Effects of sibship size and birth order. *European Journal of Cognitive Psychology*, 18, 138-158.

**Abstract:** A study on intelligence (i.e., block design and word comprehension) and executive functioning (i.e., working memory and verbal fluency) as related to family size and birth order was performed in middle-aged, young-old,

and old-old adults. Previous studies and theories on the structural issues of family environment and its relationship to intelligence was the point of departure of this research. Using data from healthy participants, aged 35-85 years, in the Betula project (Nilsson et al., 1997, 2004), this study revealed that effects of sibship size and birth order, previously demonstrated in children, remain in adult age. Working memory was the most sensitive of the four tests used for revealing effects of the sibship size and birth order. Implications for the relationship between executive functioning and intelligence, and implications for the confluence and resource dilution models (Blake, 1981; Downey, 2001; Zajonc, 1976) are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal sibship size, birth order, intelligence

**Referens:** Huang, C., Wahlund, L.O., Almkvist, O., Elehu, D., Svensson, L., Jonsson, T., Winblad, B., & Julin, P. (2003). Voxel- and VOI-based analysis of SPECT CBF in relation to clinical and psychological heterogeneity of mild cognitive impairment. *NeuroImage*, 19, 1137-44.

**Abstract:** This study aimed to explore the heterogeneity of mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and detect differences in regional cerebral blood flow (rCBF) and cognitive function between progressive mild cognitive impairment (PMCI) and stable mild cognitive impairment (SMCI) in order to identify specific changes useful for early diagnosis of dementia. SPECT was performed in 82 MCI subjects and 20 controls using Tc-99m hexamethylpropyleneamine oxime. Cognitive functions were tested in five domains which included episodic memory, semantic memory, visuospatial function, attention, and general cognitive function. After the initial examination, MCI subjects were clinically followed for an average of 2 years. Twenty-eight subjects progressed to dementia and were defined as PMCI at baseline and 54 subjects remained stable and were defined as SMCI at baseline. The baseline rCBF and cognitive function of PMCI, SMCI, and controls were compared. PMCI had decreased relative rCBF in the parietal lobes and increased relative rCBF in prefrontal cortex compared to SMCI and controls at baseline. The cognitive function of PMCI was more severely impaired compared to SMCI with respect to episodic memory and visuospatial and general cognitive function. Both SPECT and neuropsychological tests had moderate discriminant function between PMCI and SMCI at baseline with the area under the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve at 75-77%. The combination of these two methods improved the diagnostic accuracy with the area under the ROC curve at 82-84%. Semantic memory and attention were negatively correlated with left prefrontal relative rCBF among the study population. The results show that the clinical heterogeneity of MCI is reflected in different patterns of psychological and CBF changes. Combined SPECT investigation and neuropsychological testing might predict the future development of dementia in patients with MCI.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Voxel, VOI, SPECT, mild cognitive impairment

**Referens:** Huang, Q. (2006). *The Nature of Women's Career Development: Determinants and Consequences of Career Patterns*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** Existing career theories are largely based on a stable working environment and have focused excessively on men and single work roles. In the postindustrial era, however, women's careers, characterized by the constant negotiation of multiple roles and more frequent job changes, have had implications on the changing nature of careers. The general purpose of this thesis is to increase knowledge about the process of career development of women. The focus is on two aspects: Life Career (characterized by multiple role constellations over the life course) and Occupational Career (characterized by different shapes of occupational movement over the life course). Three sets of questions addressed these two aspects of career: trajectory patterns, interrelationships, and antecedents and consequences. Career biographies covered ages 16 to 43. Antecedents reflecting individual agency (e.g., life role value, aspiration, and early experiences) were investigated. The impact of family context on occupational choice was also examined. Among the consequences examined were midlife work wellness and stress, health, and wellbeing.

Results showed that (1) Career patterns were highly diverse, including nine distinct life career patterns and ten occupational career patterns. (2) Occupational and life careers were significantly related, indicating that the paid work career is embedded in the overall life role structure throughout the life course. (3) Individual agency factors predicted life career. Occupational career was related to life career more than family context. (4) Occupational career did matter in work wellbeing. In terms of stress, health, and wellbeing at midlife, there was little difference among life career patterns, but more significant differences among occupational career patterns. The thesis indicates career theory can benefit from taking multiple roles and career development into account. Implications for career counseling, social policy, and organizations are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation career patterns, life career, occupational career, life course, human agency, family context, job perception, work attitude, quality of life, allostatic load, wellbeing, person-oriented approach, life history approach, sequence analysis

**Referens:** Huang, Q., El-Khoury, M., Johansson, G., Lindroth, S., & Sverke, M. (in press). Women's career patterns: A study of Swedish women born in the 1950s. *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Patterns of career development have been found to be an important factor for long-term career rewards and wellbeing. However, existing career models excessively focus on men or elite women and single work roles. Based on a life-course perspective, this study aimed to identify women's career development patterns by examining the dynamic interactions between individuals' involvement in working life and other career-related domains of life. Career biographies, from the ages of 16 to 43, were recorded through retrospective reports from a representative sample of Swedish women (n=549) participating in a longitudinal program on individual development. Seven career-related activities were coded and combined into career sequences covering the entire period. Data were analysed using optimal matching, and nine distinct career patterns - disparate in terms of the timing, ordering, and duration of activities - were identified. There were significant differences between the career patterns in early educational aspirations and early sexual experiences as well as in life-role values and socioeconomic status in middle age. With respect to the consequences of career patterns on wellbeing, there were significant differences in self-rated health but not in job satisfaction or life satisfaction. The diversity of patterns is discussed from a perspective taking into account both life course theory and the choices made by individual women in a society that provides childcare facilities, parental leave, and other types of support to working parents.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal career development, women's careers, life-course theory

**Referens:** Huang, Q., & Sverke, M. (in press). Women's occupational career patterns over 27 years: Relations to family of origin, life careers, and wellness. *Journal of Vocational Behavior*.

**Abstract:** This study aimed at identifying and describing occupational career patterns (OCPs) from age 16 to 43 by applying optimal matching techniques to sequence data obtained from a sample of Swedish women. Women's occupational trajectories were found to be diverse. Upward mobility (3 patterns) and stable careers (4 patterns) were prevalent, but there were also women characterized by downward mobility, fluctuation and being outside the labor market (1 pattern each). Women's OCPs were related to family of origin, but more strongly to their overall life career (i.e., multiple role constellations over the life course). The study indicates that occupational mobility patterns do matter in terms of job perceptions, work attitudes, and quality of life. The results generally confirm the popular belief of the advantage of upward mobility, followed by stable occupational careers, whereas women with downward or fluctuating careers fared worst.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal occupational career pattern, occupational mobility, life career

**Referens:** Huang, Q., & Sverke, M. (2006). Occupational career patterns and work and life wellness. Paper presented at *The South African Conference on Positive Psychology: Individual, Social and Work Wellness*, Potchefstroom, 3-7 April, 2006.

**Abstract:** This study aimed at identifying and describing occupational career patterns (OCPs) from age 16 to 43 by applying optimal matching techniques to sequence data obtained from a sample of Swedish women. Women's occupational trajectories were found to be diverse. Upward mobility (3 patterns) and stable careers (4 patterns) were prevalent, but there were also women characterized by downward mobility, fluctuation and being outside the labor market (1 pattern each). Women's OCPs were related to family of origin, but more strongly to their overall life career (i.e., multiple role constellations over the life course). The study indicates that occupational mobility patterns do matter in terms of job perceptions, work attitudes, and quality of life. The results generally confirm the popular belief of the advantage of upward mobility, followed by stable occupational careers, whereas women with downward or fluctuating careers fared worst.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings occupational career pattern, occupational mobility, life career

**Referens:** Härenstam, A., Marklund, S., Berntson, E., Bolin, M., & Ylander, J. (2006). Understanding the organisational impact on working conditions and health. *Arbete och Hälsa, 2006:04*. Stockholm: Arbetslivsinstitutet.

**Abstract:** It has long been known that organisational conditions affect working conditions and occupational health. However, the transfer of knowledge about risk factors from traditional occupational health research into prevention requires insight into the organisational context. Moreover, there is a breach between organisational research and health research in terms of concepts, theories, and methodologies, and there is a lack of useful theories and models for how organisational conditions are linked to working conditions and health. One argument for the development of concepts, theoretical models, and methodological tools for studies of the organisational impact on psychosocial working conditions and health is that working life is changing. Another argument is that organisation at the meso level and work practices at the worker level are greatly interdependent. Thus, when the organisation of work changes, our understanding of how organisations, work practices, and working conditions affect health must be scrutinised. We cannot take it for granted that traditional theories are still valid.

This report discusses some suggestions for the design and methodology of empirical studies aimed at bridging the gap between research on organisations and research on individual working conditions and health. This approach in work-life research can be described as organisation-oriented work and health research. Our main aim is to discuss the conceptual, theoretical, analytical, and empirical difficulties and options involved with such an approach. Using the examples of a number of research projects with different specific questions and different empirical designs, we attempt to detect some of the most common stumbling blocks and to find some pragmatic solutions to the problems which arise in this type of research. We discuss some specific problems with the integration of organisational studies and health research, and draw conclusions about the application of such research results to prevention and intervention.

There are several conceptual and theoretical challenges associated with the design of studies that try to integrate organisational-level data with working conditions and health data at the individual level. Firstly, there is a wide gap between organisational research and occupational health research in the use of theoretical concepts, in the choice of focal units of analysis, and in data treatment. Secondly, in relation to intervention and prevention, not all factors that affect working conditions and health may be equally easy to change, and there is thus a need to focus on factors that the employer and the representatives of the workers may be willing to adjust. Finally, although powerful statistical techniques such as multilevel analysis are available to link organisational and micro-level data, understanding of the causal mechanisms becomes even more complicated when individual and organisational conditions are to be interpreted. Thus, there is a need for improved analytical tools in order to understand such complex associations. There are also a number of empirical issues involved in the linking of organisations and individuals. One is the determination of what aspects at the organisational level are important and another is how such organisational aspects can be measured and assessed. It is also important to decide what level within organisations is most relevant to a specific study. Another problem that is particularly important, as many contemporary organisations are volatile and have diffuse boundaries, is how organisations should be defined and how individual employees should be linked to a specific part of an organisation.

This means, for example, that formal and informal power and responsibility structures for coping with the psychosocial work environment are very complex in contemporary organisations. Some of our most important observations have arisen as a consequence of an attempt to empirically explore contemporary organisations. One conclusion is that selection mechanisms should be taken into account, as many individuals move between occupational conditions. Additionally, these changes may be very different for different groups, depending on individual and organisational conditions. As a consequence of this insight, workers and managers cannot be seen as passive victims of conditions at the workplace or in the organisation, but must be viewed as elective and active humans. This is the case even when there are strong restrictions on their room for manoeuvre.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report organisation, work-related health, multi-level

**Referens:** Isaksson, K., Johansson, G., Lindroth, S., & Sverke, M. (2006). Women's career patterns in Sweden: A life-event approach. *Community, Work and Family, 9(4)*, 479-500.

**Abstract:** Although research on and models of career patterns often are implicitly assumed to be of general validity, they are usually coloured by their cultural, ethnical, and historical background and - until recently - by a lack of gender perspective. A review of research on women and career development (Philips & Imhoff, 1997) concluded that research in the recent decade took important steps but that critical gaps still remain. One such gap concerns changes and transitions in women's careers. The general aim of this paper is to describe career patterns over the life course of women born in the 1950s - in terms of shape, level, and stability. Data were taken from work histories in the interviews of a sample of Swedish women aged 43 (n=109) as part of a longitudinal study. Career patterns were plotted based on life events related to education, family, and work. Results revealed relative stability of labour force participation, but not of work hours over the life course. Career progress in terms of moving to higher career levels was a common feature of the cohort. However, continuous full-time work (from 16 until 43) was highly unusual and almost entirely limited to women with no children.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal career patterns, women, life-events

**Referens:** Jansson, B. (2005). *Does the way in which we perceive the world make us susceptible to anxiety?* Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** One major focus of anxiety research in recent years has been the identification of cognitive factors that promote increased vulnerability to anxiety. Cognitive formulations propose that anxiety is characterised by an increased tendency to attend to negatively valenced emotional information, and that this bias may play a causal role in the development and maintenance of clinical anxiety. Evidence suggests that this anxiety-linked processing bias occurs even in conditions in which the stimuli are masked in order to prevent awareness of the content (i.e., *preattentive bias*). The present thesis focused principally on the preferential processing of threat-related information that occurs outside awareness. Two different outcome measures were used to index preferential preattentive processing of threat-related information in non-clinical populations: The emotional Stroop task was used to index *selective attention* to masked presentation of threatening word stimuli, whereas skin conductance responses were used to index *selective autonomic responses* to masked presentation of threatening pictorial stimuli. The empirical studies in the present thesis showed that elevated levels of trait anxiety promote preferential preattentive processing of negatively valenced information, whereas elevated levels of social desirability (interpreted as defensiveness) generally prevent preferential preattentive processing of negatively valenced information, especially among those at higher levels of trait anxiety, irrespective of outcome measure used. Moreover, previous research has demonstrated that a person's most common emotional reaction when encountering a stressful event is causally influenced by that person's habitual tendency to selectively encode the most threatening aspects of all available information. Thus, preattentive bias (as measured with the emotional Stroop task) was used to predict the emotional responses (as seen on self-reported emotional distress and autonomic reactivity) following exposure to a laboratory stressor. This study showed that preattentive bias to negative information had significant effects on both self-reported and physiological measures in response to a laboratory stressor, but in diametrically opposite directions. Specifically, whereas preattentive bias was positively associated with self-reported negative emotional response, it was negatively associated with a physiological indicator of emotional response. The results were discussed in terms of an inability to automatically inhibit the processing of threatening cues, which seems to be a vulnerability marker for anxiety. Whether this bias is ultimately sufficient for the development of clinical anxiety remains to be examined in future research. Additionally, more information is needed before it can be established that the emotional Stroop task can be viewed as a reliable diagnostic tool for determining an individual's anxiety status.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation preattentive processing, selective attention, trait anxiety, defensiveness, emotional responses, emotional vulnerability

**Referens:** Johnson, D.W., Toumisto, M.T., & Patching, G.R. (in press). The Relationship between Cardiac Reactivity in the Laboratory and in Real Life. *Health Psychology*.

**Abstract:** An excessive cardiovascular response to acute stress is a probable risk factor for cardiovascular (CV) disease. Such reactivity is usually assessed from the CV response to laboratory stressors. However, if it is a risk factor, correlated responses must occur in real life. In the present study, we investigated the relationship between the heart rate (HR) response to five laboratory stressors and HR reactivity in the field assessed by HR variability, the response to a real life stressor (public speaking) and the increase in HR with periods of self-reported tense arousal. Ambulatory HR, activity and posture were measured continuously over a 7 hour period. The HR increase to laboratory stressors did not relate to HR variability consistently but it did relate to the other two field measures. The results suggested that increased HR reactivity may be a risk factor for cardiovascular disease when combined with exposure to stress.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal heart rate, cardiac reactivity, laboratory stressors

**Referens:** Johnson, M., & Blom, V. (2006). Competence or relationships as a determinant of self-esteem: development and validity of two scales of contingent self-esteem. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research, Special Issue on Neuropsychiatry*, p.397. Abstracts for *The 26th European Conference of Psychosomatic Research*.

**Abstract:** Aim and method: To distinguish between two different vulnerable self-structures, where individuals' perceived self-worth is defined either by accomplishments or emotional security, we developed two scales measuring Competence dependent self-esteem (SE) and Relation dependent self-esteem. Initially, responses (N = 216) to an item pool of 62 contingent SE items were subjected to exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses.

Results: Two factors emerged indicating SE dependent on competence and SE dependent on emotional relations. On this basis two scales were developed which both yielded a structure consisting of two factors: Competence SE dimensions referred to (1) SE conditional upon competence/need to outperform others and (2) frustrated strivings/self-criticism. Relation SE dimensions reflected (1) love seeking/fear of rejection and (2) emotional suppression/compliance. The study revealed good reliability indexes for both scales, and evidence of construct validity is obtained in three samples. The scales and their subdimensions have theoretical and practical importance for studies on health and adjustment.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings contingent self-esteem, vulnerability, scale construction

**Referens:** Jordan, T.R., & Patching, G.R. (2006). Effects of fixation demands on perception of lateralized words:

a visual window procedure for studying hemispheric asymmetry. *Neuropsychologia*, 44, 686-692.

**Abstract:**

A major concern when using lateralized words to study hemispheric asymmetry is that the retinal eccentricity of targets is matched across visual hemifields. The standard technique is to fixate a point fixed at the centre of the visual field. However, the demands of this fixation task are substantial and so may confound performance with lateralized targets. To investigate this possibility, words were presented unilaterally in each visual hemifield and retinal eccentricity was controlled using (a) a fixed central point or (b) a window technique that permitted small shifts in fixation while maintaining accurate retinal eccentricity by using automatic adjustments to target location. Fixation errors and time to fixate indicated that the demands of the standard technique were considerable and far greater than those of the window technique. Nevertheless, both techniques produced the same pattern of visual field effects, indicating that the demands of fixating a fixed central point do not confound performance with lateralized words. However, the window technique was more efficient and easier for participants to use and so offers a new improved methodology for studying hemispheric asymmetry.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal hemispheric asymmetry, word perception, fixation, attention

**Referens:**

Jordan, T.R., Sherman, S.M., & Patching, G.R. (in press). Using spatial-frequency adaptation to study word recognition. *Behavior Research Methods, Instruments & Computers*.

**Abstract:**

The study of spatial-frequency is being used increasingly often to investigate processes underlying visual word recognition. However, research in this area has adopted techniques that require the physical deformation of word targets used in experiments (e.g., filtered images of words, words embedded in visual noise) and this approach may limit the inferences that can be made about the role of spatial frequencies in normal word recognition. Spatial-frequency adaptation is described in this article as an additional technique for studying the role of spatial-frequency information in word recognition. The advantage of this technique is that it alters participants' sensitivity to particular spatial-frequencies and so allows the study of spatial-frequency involvement in word recognition using normal images of word stimuli. The application of the adaptation technique to studies of word recognition is explained in detail and its potential is then demonstrated by an example word-recognition experiment in which spatial-frequency adaptation was used.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal spatial-frequency adaptation, word recognition

**Referens:**

Jouper, J., Hassmén, P., & Johansson, M. (2006). Qigong exercise with concentration predicts increased health. *American Journal of Chinese Medicine*, 34, 949-957.

**Abstract:**

Regular physical activity has many positive health effects. Despite this, approximately 50% of all adults are not exercising enough to enjoy better health and may, therefore, need an alternative to vigorous physical exercise. Qigong offers a gentle way to exercise the body. A questionnaire sample of 253 participants was collected and correlations with the variable health-now were analyzed. Results showed that health-now was positively correlated with number of completed qigong courses ( $p < 0.05$ ), with level of concentration ( $p < 0.01$ ), session-time ( $p < 0.01$ ), and years of practice ( $p < 0.05$ ). Among these variables, concentration predicts an increased feeling of health ( $R^2 = 0.092$ ). Qigong exercise thereby seems to offer a viable alternative to other more vigorous physical activities when wellness is the primary goal. When interpreted using self-determination theory, qigong seems to satisfy needs related to autonomy, competence and relatedness, thereby, primarily attracting individuals who are intrinsically motivated.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal qigong, concentration, wellness

**Referens:**

Kabir, Z.N., Ferdous, T., Cederholm, T., Khanam, M.A., Streatfield, K., & Wahlin, Å. (2006). Mini Nutritional Assessment of rural elderly people in Bangladesh: The impact of demographic, socio-economic and health factors. *Public Health Nutrition*, 9, 968-974.

**Abstract:**

**Objective:** In stating the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations aims to halve malnutrition around the world by 2015. Nutritional status of the elderly population in low-income countries is seldom focused upon. The present study aimed to evaluate the magnitude of malnutrition among an elderly population in rural Bangladesh.

**Design and setting:** Data collection for a multidimensional cross-sectional study of community-based elderly people aged 60 years and over was conducted in a rural area in Bangladesh.

**Subjects:** Of 850 randomly selected elderly individuals, 625 participated in home interviews. Complete nutritional information was available for 457 individuals (mean age  $69 \pm 8$  years, 55% female). Nutritional status was assessed using an adapted form of the Mini Nutritional Assessment (MNA) including body mass index (BMI). Age, sex, education, household expenditure on food and self-reported health problems were investigated as potential predictors of nutritional status.

**Results:** BMI, 18.5 kg m<sup>2</sup>, indicating chronic energy deficiency, was found in 50% of the population. MNA revealed a prevalence of 26% for protein-energy malnutrition and 62% for risk of malnutrition. Health problems rather than age had a negative impact on nutritional status. Level of education and food expenditure were directly associated with nutritional status.

**Conclusion:** In order to reduce world hunger by half in the coming decade, it is important to recognise that a substantial proportion of the elderly population, particularly in low-income countries, is undernourished.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal mini nutritional assessment, malnutrition, Bangladesh

**Referens:**

Kadir, A., Almkvist, O., Darreh-Shori, T., Wall, A., Grut, M., Strandberg, B., Ringheim, A., Eriksson, B., Blomquist, G., Långström, B., & Nordberg, A. (2006). PET imaging of the in vivo brain acetylcholinesterase activity and nicotine binding in galantamine-treated patients with AD. *Neurobiology of Aging*, 188, 509-520.

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal

- Referens:** Kadir, A., [Almkvist, O.](#), Wall, A., Långström, B., & Nordberg, A. (2006). PET imaging of cortical <sup>11</sup>C-nicotine binding correlates with the cognitive function of attention in Alzheimer's disease. *Psychopharmacology*, 188, 509-520.
- Abstract:** Rationale: Patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease (AD) experience a marked reduction in cortical nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs). In particular, selective loss of the  $\alpha$ -sub-4 $\beta$ -sub-2 nAChR subtype was observed in postmortem AD brain tissue. The  $\alpha$ -sub-4 and  $\alpha$ -sub-7 nAChR subunits were suggested to play an important role in cognitive function. Positron emission tomography (PET) has so far been used to visualize neuronal nAChRs in vivo by <sup>11</sup>C-nicotine binding.
- Objectives: To investigate the relationship between measures of cognitive function and in vivo <sup>11</sup>C-nicotine binding in mild AD brain as assessed by PET.
- Materials and methods: Twenty-seven patients with mild AD were recruited in this study. A dual tracer model with administration of <sup>1</sup>-sup-50-water for regional cerebral blood flow and (S)(-)-<sup>11</sup>C-nicotine was used to assess nicotine binding sites in the brain by PET. Cognitive function was assessed using neuropsychological tests of global cognition, episodic memory, attention, and visuospatial ability.
- Results: Mean cortical <sup>11</sup>C-nicotine binding significantly correlated with the results of attention tests ( $r = -0.44$  and  $p = 0.02$ ) and Trail Making Test A (TMT-A) ( $r = 0.42$  and  $p = 0.03$ ). No significant correlation was observed between <sup>11</sup>C-nicotine binding and the results of tests of episodic memory or visuospatial ability. Regional analysis showed that <sup>11</sup>C-nicotine binding in the frontal and parietal cortex, which are the main areas for attention, correlated significantly with the Digit Symbol test and TMT-A results.
- Conclusion: Cortical nicotinic receptors in vivo in mild AD patients are robustly associated with the cognitive function of attention.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal PET, Alzheimer's disease, attention
- Referens:** Karlsson, I., & [Christianson, S.Å.](#) (2006). Police Officers involved in a manhunt of a mass murder: Memories and psychological responses. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 29, 524-540.
- Abstract:** Purpose: The focus of the present study was on police officers reactions to and memories of a manhunt after a shooting incident. Emotional impact and memories of these events are discussed in relation to time elapsed, support from co-workers, supervisors and professional debriefing.
- Design/methodology/approach: Eleven police officers responding to a mass shooting carried out by a young offender resulting in seven dead civilians were asked to describe the event 10 months after the event, five years after the event, and again nine years after the event.
- Findings: All police officers reported having vivid memories of the mass shooting incident, and visual and auditory memories of the event were best retained, although a decline was observed nine years after the incident. Regarding working through the traumatic experience, the police officers had not been offered professional help in connection with the mass shooting incident.
- Research limitations/implications: Due to the fact that police officers in the present study answered the survey anonymously, it was not possible to work out repeated measures statistics for these memories over time. Practical implications: Knowing that the psychological distress due to exposure to a traumatic event may be long lasting, it is crucial that police organizations consider time as an important factor in working through these experiences.
- Originality/value: Research on emotion and memory is highly relevant to the work of police officers and to the legal system.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal police, memory, crime
- Referens:** Kemdal, A.B., & [Montgomery, H.](#) (2006). Perspective taking with opponents in political discussions. *SPSP meeting*, Palm Springs, January, 2006.
- Abstract:** Previous research has shown that people show approximately the same attribution biases for their own and others' attitudes, as they do when attributing causes of own and others' behavior, i.e. attributing opponents' attitudes more to internal, ideological, or non normative causes, and own attitudes more to external or normative causes. Attribution biases can be reversed with an instruction to take opponents' perspective. In the current study different ways of achieving perspective taking with opponents were tested in political discussions in small groups.
- Perspective taking (either mentally or by role-playing) was assumed to lead to better quality of discussion, more moderate post-discussion attitudes, and less biased attributions of own and other participants' attitudes. Students and politicians (N=60) in a small Swedish town participated in group discussion experiments (average group size 4). The topics of discussion related to immigration policies. Own attitudes were rated before and after discussion. Perceived quality of discussion, other group members' attitudes, and attributions of own and others' attitudes were measured after discussions. The results showed few effects of perspective taking on attitudes and perceived quality of discussions, e. g. attitudes became more moderate for groups with mental perspective taking instruction, compared to the control group. Participants underestimated how extreme other people's attitudes were. Politicians were more satisfied with the discussions than students were both with their own contribution to the discussions and the discussion as a whole. There were few differences in the attributions of what self and other group members said during discussions, and few effects of perspective taking on attributions.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings perspective taking, attribution, discussion
- Referens:** Kenttä, G., [Hassmén, P.](#), & Raglin, J.S. (2006). Mood state monitoring of training and recovery in elite kayakers. *European Journal of Sport Science*, 6, 245-253.
- Abstract:** Eleven elite kayakers performed an identical weekly training schedule each week during a 3-week training-

camp. The Profile of Mood States (POMS) inventory ("right now" instructions) was completed before and after selected workouts each week to assess both training-induced mood disturbances and the extent of recovery following short and long rest. The ratio of POMS vigour to POMS fatigue scores was used as an "energy index". Energy index scores were compared with ratings of perceived exertion (RPE) to address the size of the training load. Performance measures were obtained during the first and last week. The results showed that the energy index decreased ( $p < 0.01$ ) throughout the camp and did not return to initial values following either the short (one night) or long rest (two nights and one day). Performance measures and RPE remained unaffected throughout training, as did the POMS depression scores, indicating that the athletes experienced an overreached state but did not develop staleness. Our results suggest that repeated evaluation using POMS fatigue, vigour, and depression scores during periods of intensified training may help prevent athletes from becoming severely overreached and reduce the likelihood of staleness.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal overtraining, staleness, recovery

**Referens:** Kjelldahl, L., & Schenkman, B.N. (in press) Color interaction on computer displays – adjacency and shape effects. *Behaviour and Information Technology*.

**Abstract:** The perceived interactions, induction and assimilation, between colours presented on a computer screen were investigated for seven participants who gave estimates on the perceived colours. A method based on memory estimation was used. In one experiment a red-green scale was used, while in a second experiment a white-green scale was used. The distance between objects, shape of objects and colour of objects were varied. A distance effect of colour interaction was found in both experiments, but stronger for the red-green scale. For objects adjacent to each other the interaction effects were statistically significant. For objects not adjacent to each other some smaller effects occurred. No shape effects were found. Assimilation effects were shown for the red-green colour combinations. The participants seemed to use their own internal memory scale for their 1 judgements. A theoretical model for distance effects of colour interaction is also presented.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal color, perception, HCI

**Referens:** Konstantinidis, I., Hummel, T., & Larsson, M. (2006). Identification of unpleasant odors is independent of age. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 21, 615-621.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to investigate (a) the relationship between identification proficiency for specific odors and chronological age and (b) to determine whether the relationships were related to perceived quality (i.e., judgments of familiarity, intensity, and hedonics) of the odor item. Data from 472 subjects (227 men, 245 women) ranging in age from 18-79 years were assessed in a cued identification test comprising 16 odors. The results indicated a reliable age effect in overall odor identification performance. Further analyses indicated that the observed age-related deficit was odorant-specific, with some odors being equally well identified across age cohorts and others showing sensitivity to the process of aging. Additional examination regarding the observed age-differential effects across the different odor types indicated that these may be understood according to the pleasantness/unpleasantness associated with the odor. Specifically, odors perceived as unpleasant showed age invariance whereas odors rated as pleasant exhibited age sensitivity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal odor identification, hedonics, aging

**Referens:** Krantz, G., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Workload, work stress, and sickness absence in Swedish male and female white-collar employees. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 34(3), 238-246.

**Abstract:** Aims: This study aimed to analyse, in a homogeneous population of highly-educated men and women, gender differences in self-reported sickness absence as related to paid and unpaid work and combinations of these (double exposure), as well as to perceived work stress and work-home conflict, i.e. conflict between demands from the home and work environment.

Methods: 743 women and 596 men, full-time working white-collar employees randomly selected from the general Swedish population aged 32-58, were assessed by a Swedish total work-load instrument. The influence of conditions in paid and unpaid work and combinations of these on self-reported sickness absence was investigated by multivariate regression analyses. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to assess differences between men and women.

Results: Overtime was associated with lower sickness absence, not only for men but also for women and a double-exposure situation did not increase the risk of sick leave. Contrary to what is normally seen, conflict between demands did not emerge as a risk factor for sickness absence for women, but for men.

Conclusions: Our assumption that sickness absence patterns would be more similar for white collar men and women than for the general population was not confirmed. However, the women working most hours were also the least sick-listed and assumed less responsibility for household chores. These women were mainly in top level positions and therefore we conclude that men and women in these high level positions seem to share household burdens more evenly, but they can also afford to employ someone to assist in the household.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal total workload, work stress, work-home conflict

**Referens:** Larsson, M., Lundin, A., & Robins Wahlin, T-B. (2006). Olfactory functions in asymptomatic carriers of the Huntington disease mutation. *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*, 28, 1373-1380.

**Abstract:** Huntington's disease (HD) is a neurodegenerative disorder initially affecting the basal ganglia and especially the head of the caudate nucleus. Neuropsychological research has indicated that olfactory dysfunction may appear early in HD, prior to the onset of significant motor or cognitive dysfunction. The aim of this study was to examine whether asymptomatic carriers of the Huntington disease mutation also exhibit olfactory dysfunction. To address this issue we presented an extensive olfactory test battery comprising tasks assessing olfactory sensitivity, intensity discrimination, quality discrimination, episodic odor memory, and odor identification, to a group of gene carriers and non-mutation carriers of the disease. The results showed that gene carriers were selectively impaired in discriminating odor quality, although performance did not differ from non-carriers across the other tasks. The role played by striatum and then in particular the caudate nucleus for olfactory processing in general, and for odor quality discrimination in particular, is discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Huntington, genetic, olfaction

- Referens:** Larsson, M., Öberg, C., & Bäckman, L. (2006). Recollective experience in odor memory: Influences of adult age and familiarity. *Psychological Research*, 70, 68-75.
- Abstract:** We examined recollective experience in odor memory as a function of age, intention to learn, and familiarity. Young and older adults studied a set of familiar and unfamiliar odors with incidental or intentional encoding instructions. At recognition, participants indicated whether their response was based on explicit recollection (remembering), a feeling of familiarity (knowing), or guessing. The results indicated no age-related differences in the distribution of experiential responses for unfamiliar odors. By contrast, for familiar odors the young demonstrated more explicit recollection than the old adults, who produced more know and guess responses. Intention to learn was unrelated to recollective experience. In addition, the observed age differences in remember responses for familiar odors were eliminated when odor naming was statistically controlled. This suggests that age-related deficits in activating specific odor knowledge (i.e., odor names) play an important role for age differences in recollective experience for olfactory information.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, odors, aging
- Referens:** Launer, L.J., Berger, K., Breteler, M.M.B., Dufail, C., Fuhrer, R., Giampoli, S., Nilsson, L.-G., Pajak, A., de Ridder, M., van Dijk, E.J., Sans, S., Schmidt, R., & Hofman, A. (2006). Regional variability in the prevalence of cerebral white matter lesions: An MRI study in 9 European countries (CASCADE). *Neuroepidemiology*, 26, 23-29.
- Abstract:** White matter lesions (WML) on MRI of the brain are common in both demented and nondemented older persons. They may be due to ischemic events and are associated with cognitive and physical impairments. It is not known whether the prevalence of these WML in the general population differs across European countries in a pattern similar to that seen for coronary heart disease. Here we report the prevalence of WML in 1,805 men and women drawn from population-based samples of 65- to 75-year-olds in ten European cohorts. Data were collected using standardized methods as a part of the multicenter study CASCADE (Cardiovascular Determinants of Dementia). Centers were grouped by region: south (Italy, Spain, France), north (Netherlands, UK, Sweden), and central (Austria, Germany, Poland). In this 10-year age stratum, 92% of the sample had some lesions, and the prevalence increased with age. The prevalence of WML was highest in the southern region, even after adjusting for differences in demographic and selected cardiovascular risk factors. Brain aging leading to disabilities will increase in the future. As a means of hypothesis generation and for health planning, further research on the geographic distribution of WML may lead to the identification of new risk factors for these lesions.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal white matter lesion, epidemiology, cardiovascular, multicenter study
- Referens:** Leander, L., Christianson, S.Å., & Granhag, P.A. (in press). A Sexual Abuse Case Study: Children's Memories and Reports. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*.
- Abstract:** The present study examines how children, who had been exposed to a single act of sexual abuse carried out by an unfamiliar perpetrator (the same perpetrator in all cases), remembered and reported on the abuse in subsequent police interviews. Interviews with 8 children were analysed with regard to the amount and type of information reported, and the number of times the children denied the sexual abuse. Documentation of the abuse (photographs and medical examinations) was analysed to verify that abuse had actually occurred. The majority of the children reported no, or very few, sexual details. Of all the event details reported, 7.6% referred to sexual acts, and in specific descriptions of the course of the sexual abuse, only 21% of the details were of a sexual nature. In addition, the youngest children expressed to the interviewer on almost 100 occasions that they did not wish to talk about the abuse. The present data indicate that children display difficulties when reporting on sexual abuse, even when the perpetrator is a stranger (i.e., when factors such as loyalty conflicts, dependence on the abuser, fear of negative consequences for the family may be excluded).
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal sexual abuse, children, memory
- Referens:** Leander, L., Christianson, S.Å., Svedin, C.G., & Granhag P.A. (in press). Judges', lay judges' and police officers' beliefs about factors affecting children's testimony. *Journal of Psychology: Interdisciplinary and Applied*.
- Abstract:** This study examined Swedish judges', lay judges' and police officers' beliefs about factors that may complicate or facilitate children's reporting about sexual abuse. A total of 562 participants filled out a questionnaire containing ratings of complicating and facilitating factors. In addition, participants were asked to freely report which criteria they considered important when assessing the reliability of child witnesses. The groups showed rather similar opinions regarding which factors are complicating and facilitating. Furthermore, the groups tended to regard emotional factors as more complicating than cognitive factors. When asked to freely report criteria, judges and police officers mainly reported criteria pertaining to the child, whereas lay judges mainly reported criteria pertaining to the police interview. Results indicate that participants believe that children have the capacity to remember and report about abuse, but are hindered in doing so by emotional factors. Results also suggest that police officers may underestimate their own influence on the reliability of children's reports.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal professionals' beliefs, beliefs about children, children as witnesses
- Referens:** Lehmann, C., Vannini, P., Wahlund, L.O., Almkvist, O., & Dierks, T. (2006). Increased sensitivity and specificity in mapping task demand in visuo-spatial processing using reaction-time convolved hemodynamic response predictors in rapid event-related fMRI. *NeuroImage*, 31, 505-512.
- Abstract:** Searching for the neural correlates of visuospatial processing using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) is usually done in an event-related framework of cognitive subtraction, applying a paradigm comprising visuospatial cognitive components and a corresponding control task. Besides methodological caveats of the cognitive subtraction approach, the standard general linear model with fixed hemodynamic response predictors bears the risk of being underspecified. It does not take into account the variability of the blood oxygen level-dependent signal response due to variable task demand and performance on the level of each single trial. This underspecification may result in reduced sensitivity regarding the identification of task-related brain regions. In a rapid event-related fMRI study, we used an extended general linear model including single-trial reaction-

time-dependent hemodynamic response predictors for the analysis of an angle discrimination task. In addition to the already known regions in superior and inferior parietal lobule, mapping the reaction-time-dependent hemodynamic response predictor revealed a more specific network including task demand-dependent regions not being detectable using the cognitive subtraction method, such as bilateral caudate nucleus and insula, right inferior frontal gyrus and left precentral gyrus.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal statistical modeling, visuospatial processing, fMRI

**Referens:** Lind, J., Ingvar, M., Persson, J., Cruts, M., Van Broeckhoven, C., Adolfsson, R., Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). Parietal cortex activation predicts longitudinal memory decline in APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers. *NeuroReport*, 17, 1683-1686.

**Abstract:** Apolipoprotein E-epsilon 4 is the main known genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. Functional abnormalities in the parietal cortex have been reported for Alzheimer's disease patients and also for those at risk. Hence, a critical question is whether measurements of parietal cortex integrity may predict negative outcome among at-risk persons. We studied nondemented apolipoprotein E-epsilon 4 carriers and found a significant relationship between parietal blood-oxygen-level-dependent functional magnetic resonance imaging response during a word categorization task and subsequent episodic memory performance. Thus, the results show that parietal cortex alterations predict memory decline in nondemented apolipoprotein E-epsilon 4 carriers, and hence likely progression to Alzheimer's disease.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal genetics, fMRI, memory

**Referens:** Lind, J., Larsson, A., Persson, J., Ingvar, M., Nilsson, L.-G., Bäckman, L., Adolfsson, R., Cruts, M., Slegers, K., Van Broeckhoven, C., & Nyberg, L. (2006). Reduced hippocampal volume in non-demented carriers of the Apolipoprotein E  $\epsilon$ 4: Relation to chronological age and recognition memory. *Neuroscience Letters*, 396, 23-27.

**Abstract:** Apolipoprotein E  $\epsilon$ 4 (APOE  $\epsilon$ 4) is the main known genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease (AD). Some previous studies have reported structural brain changes as well as cognitive changes in non-demented APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers, but the pattern of results is inconsistent and studies with larger sample sizes have been called for. Here we compared hippocampal volume and recognition-memory performance between AD-symptom free carriers (N=30) and non-carriers (N=30) of the APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 (age range: 49-79 years). We observed reduced right hippocampal volume in APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers, and found that the difference was most pronounced before the age of 65 years. Further, the results revealed that APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers made significantly more false alarms in the recognition-memory test, and that the number of false alarms correlated significantly with right hippocampus volume. These results indicate that younger individuals at genetic risk for AD have smaller hippocampal volume and lower performance on hippocampal-dependent cognitive tasks. An important question for the future is whether smaller hippocampal volume represents early AD-pathology or a pre-existing trait.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's, APOE, MRI, memory, hippocampus

**Referens:** Lind, J., Persson, J., Ingvar, M., Larsson, A., Cruts, M., Van Broeckhoven, C., Adolfsson, R., Bäckman, L., Nilsson, L.-G., Petersson, K.M., & Nyberg, L. (2006). Reduced functional brain activity response in cognitively intact Apolipoprotein  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers. *Brain*, 129, 1240-1248.

**Abstract:** The Apolipoprotein E  $\epsilon$ 4 (APOE  $\epsilon$ 4) is the main known genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease (AD). Genetic assessments in combination with other diagnostic tools, such as neuroimaging, have the potential to facilitate early diagnosis of AD. We have conducted a large-scale fMRI study, where we contrasted 30 APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers and 30 non-carriers with regard to brain activity during a semantic categorization task. Critically, both groups were cognitively intact and AD-symptom free. APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers showed reduced task-related responses in the left inferior parietal cortex, and bilaterally in the anterior cingulate region. A dose-related response was observed in the parietal area such that diminution was most pronounced in homozygous compared to heterozygous carriers. In addition, contrasts of processing novel vs. familiar items revealed an abnormal response in the right hippocampus in the APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 group, mainly expressed as diminished sensitivity to the relative novelty of stimuli. Collectively, these findings indicate that genetic risk translates into reduced functional brain activity, in regions pertinent to AD, well before alterations can be detected at the behavioral level.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, genetics, brain imaging

**Referens:** Lindfors, P., Berntsson, L., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Factor structure of Ryff's psychological well-being scales in Swedish female and male white-collar workers. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 40 (6), 1213-1222.

**Abstract:** The present study aimed to investigate the structure of a Swedish translation of Ryff's psychological wellbeing scales covering self-acceptance, positive relations, autonomy, environmental mastery, personal growth and purpose in life. Moreover, the consistency of previously reported age and gender profiles of psychological well-being was examined. Analyses were based on data from 1260 white-collar workers aged 32-58 years. The internal consistency coefficients of the translated scales were higher than that of the original Ryff scales. Further confirmatory factor analyses replicated previous findings showing that the proposed six-factor model with a single second-order super-factor had better fit than the single factor model. Besides confirming previously reported age and gender profiles, the study showed age differences in self-acceptance and gender differences in environmental mastery and purpose in life but not in personal growth. The present findings clearly demonstrate the adequacy of the Swedish version of the Ryff scales in female and male white-collar workers.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal positive health, factor structure, Ryff scales

**Referens:** Lindfors, P., Berntsson, L., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Total workload as related to psychological well-being and symptoms in full-time employed women and men. *International Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 13 (2), 131-7.

**Abstract:** Most research on the combined effects of paid and unpaid workload has related these factors to stress, depression, and physical symptoms. Thus, comparative knowledge concerning positive aspects of human

functioning, such as health and well-being and how they relate to total workload of employed women and men, is limited. Our aim in this study was to investigate how total workload including paid and unpaid work is related to psychological well-being and symptoms in full-time employed women and men. We obtained data on workload, general symptoms, and the Ryff scales covering self-acceptance, environmental mastery, positive relations, personal growth, purpose in life, and autonomy from questionnaires mailed to a stratified sample of highly educated white-collar workers aged between 32 and 58 years. Data from women (n = 430) and men (n = 400) living in partner relationships with at least one child showed that increasing hours of unpaid work was associated with decreasing levels of self-acceptance and environmental mastery in women, whereas paid work was associated with increasing levels of personal growth and decreasing levels of purpose in life. For men, paid work was associated with increasing levels of personal growth and more symptoms. We discuss factors underlying the gender-specific relationships between paid and unpaid work, psychological well-being, and symptoms.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal positive health, total workload, symptoms

**Referens:** [Lindfors, P., Lundberg, O., & Lundberg, U. \(2006\). Allostatic load and clinical risk as related to sense of coherence in middle-aged women. \*Psychosomatic Medicine\*, 68, 801-7.](#)

**Abstract:** Objective: To investigate how physiologic dysregulation, in terms of allostatic load and clinical risk, respectively, relates to sense of coherence (SOC) in women with no previously diagnosed pathology.

Methods: At baseline, 200 43-year-old women took part in a standardized medical health examination and completed a 3-item measure of SOC, which they completed again 6 years later. According to data from the medical examination, two different measures of physiologic dysregulation were calculated: a) a measure of allostatic load based on empirically derived cut points and b) a measure of clinical risk based on clinically significant cut points.

Results: In line with the initial hypotheses, allostatic load was found to predict future SOC, whereas clinical risk did not. In addition to baseline SOC and nicotine consumption, allostatic load was strongly associated with a weak SOC at the follow-up.

Conclusions: The better predictive value of allostatic load to clinical risk indicates that focusing solely on clinical risk obscures patterns of physiologic dysregulation that influence future SOC.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal positive health, physiologic dysregulation, women

**Referens:** [Lindfors, P., & Lundberg, U. \(2006\). Biological underpinnings of positive health in middle-aged women and men. \*International Journal of Behavioral Medicine\*, 13, S1, 69.](#)

**Abstract:** The objective is to present our recent research on the biological underpinnings of positive health. In the first study, the Ryff scales covering self-acceptance, environmental mastery, positive relations, personal growth, purpose in life, and autonomy were used to measure positive health in female and male white-collar workers (n = 23) at the same workplace. Biological indicators, including salivary cortisol, urinary catecholamines and blood pressure, were collected during two workdays. The results revealed that individuals with high scores on the Ryff scales had significantly lower levels of morning cortisol and a significantly lower total cortisol output than did the others, while no significant differences emerged for catecholamines or blood pressure. In a second study, sense of coherence (SOC) was used to measure positive health in 43 year-old women (n = 244) who took part in a standardized medical examination. As hypothesized, the results showed that women reporting a strong SOC had significantly lower systolic blood pressure and total cholesterol than did those with a weak SOC. A third study explored further the longitudinal associations between SOC and allostatic load in women (n = 200). The results showed that, at age 43, SOC, nicotine consumption and allostatic load were significantly associated with SOC at age 49. Taken together, our studies indicate possible mechanisms linking self-reports of positive health to health-related biological reactions. It is suggested that, in comparison to individuals with low positive health, individuals with high positive health have access to resources for dealing successfully with daily life stress, which reduces chronic stress and cumulative load on bodily systems and contributes to long-term health.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Ryff scales, sense of coherence, biological mechanisms

**Referens:** [Lindfors, P., von Thiele, U., & Lundberg, U. \(2006\). Work characteristics and upper extremity disorders in female dental health workers. \*Journal of Occupational Health\*, 48, 192-97.](#)

**Abstract:** Many dental health workers suffer from musculoskeletal disorders in the upper extremities. In addition to ergonomic factors, psychosocial work characteristics have been linked to musculoskeletal disorders. The present cross-sectional study aimed at investigating how musculoskeletal disorders in the upper extremities (UED) and occupational position are related to work characteristics and general health problems in female dental health workers. Questionnaire data from dentists, dental hygienists and dental nurses (N=945) showed that 81% reported UED. Multivariate analysis of variance showed that dentists reported the highest levels of physical load and fatigue whereas dental nurses reported the lowest levels of influence at work. Irrespective of position, those with UED considered their physical and psychosocial work environment and their own health to be significantly poorer than did those without UED. A hierarchical multiple regression showed that the physical load of dentistry was most strongly related to UED. Despite improvements to the ergonomics and physical work environment of dentistry, it is concluded that female dental health workers are still at high risk of developing UED.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal dentistry, musculoskeletal disorders, work environment

**Referens:** [Lindholm, T. \(in press\). Validity in judgments of high- and low-accurate witnesses of own and other ethnic groups. \*Legal and Criminological Psychology\*.](#)

**Abstract:** Purpose: Research has shown that people often have difficulties estimating eyewitness accuracy correctly. In most previous studies examining validity in credibility judgments, participants have assessed the accuracy of witnesses who have been homogeneous in their memory performance. This study investigated validity in judgments of witnesses who varied widely in memory. A further purpose was to examine whether judgmental validity was moderated by the witness' ethnic ingroup/outgroup status.

Methods: Participants rated the credibility of videotaped testimonies of high- and low- accurate in-group

(Swedish) and out-group (immigrants) witnesses who were genuinely trying to recall a criminal event.

Results: Participants assigned more credibility to high- than to low- accurate in-group witnesses, while out-group witnesses received low credibility ratings regardless of their actual memory performance. Path analyses demonstrated that the self-reported confidence of in-group, but not of out-group witnesses predicted participants' accuracy judgments.

Conclusions: The results indicate that the validity in judgments of in-group witnesses can be better than has previously been implied. Investigators may have difficulty distinguishing high- and low-accurate witnesses from other ethnic groups, and may also systematically underestimate the reliability of ethnic out-group witnesses. Implications for legal practices are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal eyewitness, credibility, ethnicity

**Referens:** Lindholm, T., & Bergvall, S. (2006). Diskriminering i vittnessammanhang: Resultat från ett social-kognitivt forskningsprojekt. I J. Sarnecki (red.) *Är rättvisan rättvis? Tio perspektiv på diskriminering av etniska och religiösa minoriteter inom rättssystemet*. Justitiedepartementet, Utredningen om makt, integration och strukturell diskriminering, SOU 2006:30.

**Abstract:** I kapitlet presenteras forsknings kring betydelsen av etnisk grupptillhörighet i vittnessammanhang. Studier som undersökt hur vittnen bedömer en brottsling, eller hur bedömningar av vittnens trovärdighet påverkas av etnicitet visar att etnisk bakgrund kan påverka rättsliga bedömningar. Konsekvenser för rättslig praxis diskuteras.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) etnicitet, vittnen, fördomar

**Referens:** Lindwall, M., Rennemark, M., Halling, A., Berglund, J., & Hassmén, P. (in press). The relationships of depression with exercise, gender and age for elderly: Results from the Swedish National Study on Aging and Care (SNAC). *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity*.

**Abstract:** This study investigated the relationship between light and strenuous exercise with depression, and gender differences in this relationship, in a representative sample of 860 suburban dwelling Swedish elderly men and women in age cohorts from 60 to 96 included in the Swedish National Aging and Care study (SNAC). The relation between self-reported changes in exercise status over time and depression was also examined. Exercise activities were measured by four survey questions and depression by the Montgomery Åsberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS). Inactive elderly revealed higher depression scores compared to more active individuals, both in terms of light and strenuous exercise. The continuously active group showed lower depression compared to continuously inactive individuals and individuals reporting a shift from activity to inactivity during the last year. Light exercise had somewhat stronger effect on depression for women whereas the effect of strenuous exercise was only significant for men.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal elderly, exercise, depression

**Referens:** Lundberg, U. (2006). Stress, subjective and objective health. *International Journal of Social Welfare*, 15, (Suppl. 1), S41-S48.

**Abstract:** The aim of this article is to describe the main physiological stress responses and to analyse under which conditions these responses are health-promoting versus health-damaging, and how subjective and objective health is related. The brain communicates with the rest of the body through nerves, hormones and the immune system. Thus, perceived stress affects various systems and organs in the body, such as the cardiovascular and the gastrointestinal systems, sleep and breathing patterns, healing processes, the effectiveness of the immune system and, by feedback mechanisms, the brain itself. These bodily responses to stress have developed during evolution and are necessary for survival and protection of the body. However, activation of the stress systems means energy mobilisation, and in modern society, where stress is often induced by mental and psychosocial conditions, the mobilisation of energy for fight or flight may have harmful consequences on various bodily systems. To maintain health, repeated or long-term activation of these systems, i.e. catabolic processes, has to be followed by periods of rest and restitution to allow growth, healing and buildup of new resources, i.e. anabolic processes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal physiology, catabolism, anabolism

**Referens:** Lundberg, U. (2006). Samspelet individ, samhälle, livsstil och biologi. I R. Ekman & B. Arnetz (Eds.), *Stress: Molekylerna - individen - organisationen - samhället* (pp. 275-288). Stockholm: Liber Förlag.

**Abstract:** Det moderna samhället rymmer många källor till stimulans, omväxling och utveckling, men bidrar även till hög arbetsbelastning och stress. Kunskapen om hur psykosociala faktorer bidrar till ökad risk för besvär och sjukdomar är viktig, både för att bättre förstå vad som händer i det moderna samhället och varför människor i vissa typer av arbetsmiljöer oftare drabbas än andra och för hur man skall kunna förebygga dessa problem. Denna kunskap är också viktig för att skapa större förståelse för de människor som drabbas, särskilt med tanke på att det ofta saknas säkra medicinska diagnoser på vad som orsakar smärtan och att många därför upplever att deras problem inte tas på allvar. I dagens samhälle, med stora krav på högt arbetstempo, ökad produktivitet och konkurrens, i kombination med minskad personaltäthet, kan avsaknaden av vila och tillfälle till rekreation och återhämtning kanske vara ett större hälsoproblem än arbetet i sig.

I detta bokkapitel beskrivs genom vilka olika psykiologiska mekanismer som psykosociala faktorer kan påverka den fysiska hälsan via beteende och kroppsliga reaktioner.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) arbetsbelastning, hälsa, återhämtning

**Referens:** Lundberg, U. (in press). Stress. *Encyclopedia of Public Health*.

**Abstract:** Psychobiological stress responses, induced by environmental conditions and demands, interact with behavior and contribute to a number of health problems in the industrialized countries today. However, the stress responses are also necessary for survival and protection of the body and the aim of this article is to describe how the body responds to stress and under what conditions the stress responses are health damaging versus

health protective. Present knowledge about the psychobiological mechanisms linking stress to health are summarized and the influence of social position, work conditions and gender on these relationships are described.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) psychobiology, health, society

**Referens:** Lundqvist, C. (2006). *Competing Under Pressure: State Anxiety, Sports Performance and Assessment*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** Elevated levels of anxiety are a common response to stressful competitive sports situations, are known to moderate athletic performance and are referred to as an unpleasant emotional state associated with perceptions of situational threat. The empirical studies in this dissertation considered primarily psychometric, methodological and conceptual issues of relevance for the study of anxiety and sports performance. In Study I, athletes were followed across a full competitive season to explore patterns of inter- and intra-individual variability of anxiety and self-confidence in relation to performance. The findings imply intra-individual anxiety and self-confidence variability to affect performance differently than the specific intensity level and are discussed in relation to more stable personality dispositions such as private self-consciousness. Study II evaluated the psychometric properties of the 27-item Competitive State Anxiety Inventory-2 (CSAI-2) and alternative versions of this scale. General support for a 17-item version (CSAI-2R) was found, but there are also psychometric limitations future research needs to resolve. Study III investigated assessment of intensity and directional ratings on single anxiety items with reference to the conceptualisation of anxiety symptoms as interpreted on a debilitating-facilitative continuum. The findings question the importance and rationale of assessing anxiety direction and revealed serious concerns with assessment procedures and statistical techniques applied in previous research. These concerns were also supported in Study IV, which explored athletes' idiosyncratic experiences of debilitating and facilitative anxiety symptoms in terms of intensity and emotional valence. The findings are discussed and summarised in a model in order to increase conceptual clarity and provide implications for future research regarding anxiety and related emotional performance states.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation competition, intra-individual, variability, directional interpretations, emotions, sports performance, CSAI-2, psychometrics

**Referens:** Magnussen, S., Andersson, J., Cornoldi, C., De Bini, R., Endestad, T., Goodman, G.S., Helstrup, T., Koriat, A., Larsson, M., Melinder, A., Nilsson, L.-G., Rönnerberg, J., & Zimmer, H. (2006). What people believe about memory. *Memory, 14*, 595-613.

**Abstract:** Two representative samples of adult Norwegians (n = 2000) were asked a set of general and specific questions regarding their beliefs and opinions about human memory. The results indicate that on many questions, such as time of the earliest memories, inhibiting effects of collaboration, and memory for dramatic versus ordinary events, the views of the general public concurred with current research findings, and people in general had realistic views about their own memory performance. On other questions, such as the reliability of olfactory as compared with visual and auditory memory, the memory of small children in comparison with that of adults, the likelihood of repression of adult traumatic memories, and on more general questions such as the possibility of training memory and the capacity limitations of long-term memory, a large proportion of the participants expressed views that are less supported by scientific evidence. Implications of these findings are briefly discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, survey, beliefs

**Referens:** Magnusson, C., & Trost, K. (2006). Girls experiencing sexual intercourse early: Could it play a part in reproductive health in middle adulthood? *Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynecology, 27*, 237-244.

**Abstract:** The aim of the present study is to examine the possible relationship between experiencing early intercourse and reproductive health characteristics in midlife for women. The participants belonged to the Swedish longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation (IDA) project. By the age of 14, the cohort consisted of 590 girls, whereas 522 gave information about the timing of their first sexual intercourse experience. Approximately 29 years later, when the women were 43 years old, a sub-cohort of 369 women participated in the psychological-medical investigation. Those who experienced early intercourse were likely to be different on various demographics and have markers of poorer reproductive health characteristics than their counterparts. More specifically, those experiencing early intercourse were less formally educated, left home earlier, and earned on average less than their counterparts who experienced sexual intercourse later. Early intercourse likely plays a role in not only specific reproductive health but also reproductive health characteristics as a whole in midlife. Early intercourse was consistently a predictor of teenage pregnancy, terminated pregnancies, no use of contraception, and having menstrual symptoms.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal reproductive health, early intercourse, problem behavior

**Referens:** Magnusson, D., & Stattin, H. (2006). The person in context: A holistic interactionistic approach. In R.M. Lerner (Ed.), *Theoretical models of human development*. Vol. 1. in W. Damon & R.M. Lerner (Eds.), *Handbook of child psychology* (6th ed, pp. 400-464). New York: Wiley.

**Abstract:** The chapter presents an analysis of individual development as an integrated process, in which mental, biological, and behavioral aspects of individual functioning and social, economic, and physical factors in the environment are involved. It is suggested that an individual's way of thinking, feeling, acting, and reacting at any stage of the life process is the result of an integrated transformation process which takes place on the basis of biologically based potentialities and restrictions. The measurement implications of this view are discussed with reference to a person approach in research on developmental processes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) holistic interactionism, longitudinal, development

**Referens:** Marklund, S., Berntson, E., Bolin, M., Härenstam, A., & Ylander, J. (2006). *Changing organisations and work-related health: Technical report of methods, sample and design of three studies*. Arbetslivsrapport 2006:47. Stockholm: Arbetslivsinstitutet.

**Abstract:**

This report is presenting the methodological designs of different studies aiming at the investigation of the relationship between organisational characteristics and individual working conditions and health. The theoretical background to this line of research is summarized in Härenstam and collaborators (2006). The report displays methods, samples and designs of three studies. Three different methods were used in the studies and different focal units were chosen. In the first presented study "The Healthy Workplace Study", the Organisation was used as the focal unit. In the second study, "The National Working Life Cohort", individuals were set as focal units, and in the final study, "Power over Working Conditions" -Case studies of organisational responsibility, interpersonal relations were set as focal units.

In the Healthy Workplace Study the aim was to explore the importance of organisational conditions and individual characteristics for the variation in working conditions and health for employees. The study was designed as a longitudinal, multilevel analysis, of a two-step data collection of organisations, and of the individuals working within the studied organisations. About 5,000 employees, in 90 establishments in 32 parent organisations were included.

The National Working Life Cohort examined how work career and changes in employment and working conditions affect health and well-being. The study also covered aspects of how individuals' ambitions and plans change over time and how this affects working life behaviour. The study was representative and longitudinal and comprised a representative sample of 4,929 individuals living in Sweden between the ages of 25 and 50.

In the third study called "Power over Working Conditions" - Case studies of organisational responsibility, two multiple case studies were used to explore mechanisms of power and responsibility within public and private organisations. The first of the two studies explored mechanisms of power and responsibility within private multinational industry and service organisations. The second study explored a similar complex of relations in the public sector. Critical-Incident interviews, semi structured interviews and workshops with about 140 employees, managers, labour union representatives and politicians, were conducted in one company group and two municipalities between 2004 and 2006.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report organisation, work-related health, technical report

**Referens:**

McGovern, P., Dowd, B., Gjerdingen, D., Gross, C.R., Kenney, S., Ukestad, L., McCaffrey, D., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Postpartum health of employed mothers 5 weeks after childbirth. *Annals of Family Medicine*, 4, 159-167.

**Abstract:**

**Purpose:** Most new mothers return to work soon after childbirth. A need exists to reexamine the definition of postpartum health and evaluate employed women's recovery from childbirth in association with such factors as delivery type and breastfeeding.

**Methods:** Using a prospective cohort design, we recruited Minnesota women into the study while they were hospitalized for childbirth in 2001. Telephone interviews were conducted 5 weeks postpartum. Eligible women were 18 years or older, employed, and spoke English. Multivariate models using 2-stage least squares were used to estimate factors associated with physical and mental health and postpartum symptoms.

**Results:** A total of 817 women were enrolled (71% response) in the study; 716 women completed interviews at 5 weeks postpartum. On average, women reported 6 postpartum symptoms, most frequently fatigue (64%), breast discomfort (60%), and decreased desire for sex (52%). Findings showed that cesarean (vs vaginal) deliveries were associated with significantly worse physical function, role limitations, and vitality. Multivariate findings showed that the effect of delivery type on physical health was moderately large ( $\beta = -5.96$ ;  $P = <.01$ ), and breastfeeding was associated with an increased frequency of postpartum symptoms ( $\beta = 4.63$ ;  $P = .01$ ).

**Conclusions:** These mothers experienced several childbirth-related symptoms at 5 weeks postpartum, indicating a need for ongoing rest and recovery. Health concerns were greater for women who were breastfeeding and for those whose babies were delivered by cesarean section, suggesting a need for greater support for these women and a reassessment by the medical community of the progressively growing practice of cesarean deliveries.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal postnatal care, maternal health, occupational health

**Referens:**

Merkelbach, H., & Christianson, S.Å. (in press). Amnesia as a form of malingering. In Christianson, S.Å. (Ed.). *Offenders' memories of violent crimes*. Wiley & Sons.

**Abstract:**

Crime-related amnesia refers to a claim raised by defendants or convicted perpetrators that they cannot remember essential details of the crime they have committed or even of their entire life including the crime. Experts who have to evaluate claims of crime-related amnesia can learn the following lessons from two cases presented in the chapter, the Ferdinand's case and the case of NN: (1) Experts should ensure that they have access to the complete record of the defendant. In particular, third-party eyewitness testimonies about the defendant's behavior before and after the crime might be informative. (2) Experts should have access to collateral sources that might provide them with crucial information about the defendant's background. (3) Experts should not take the defendant's self-report about his memory complaints at face value. That is, psychological testing of memory functioning is essential. (4) Experts should routinely use appropriate tests and tools to evaluate the possibility of malingering. (5) Experts are well advised to consider the medical records of the defendant critically and to ask themselves whether the amnesia claim is consistent with well-established facts about organic amnesia (e.g., time frames, Ribot's law). (6) Experts should not use PET, MRI or EEG data as a starting point for a forensic leap of faith.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) amnesia, memory, malingering

**Referens:**

Meyer, T.D., Hammelstein, P., Nilsson, L.-G., Skeppar, P., Adolfsson, R., & Angst, J. (2006). The Hypomania Checklist (HCL-32): Its factorial structure and association to indices of impairment in German and Swedish nonclinical samples. *Comprehensive Psychiatry*, 48, 79-87.

**Abstract:**

Bipolar disorders are often not recognized. Several instruments were developed but none primarily focused on hypomania. The hypomania checklist (HCL) is aimed at the identification of bipolarity in outpatients. Using a German and Swedish sample, we investigated if the factor structure in nonclinical samples is similar to the one reported for outpatient samples. Furthermore, we tested if people who probably had a lifetime history of hypomania report more depression or other signs of impairment and if current depression is associated with

lifetime hypomania.

In the German study, participants completed the HCL-32 as an online questionnaire that also included questions about lifetime and current depression (n=695), whereas the Swedish data relied on the paper-and-pencil version of the HCL-32 completed by a random sample from a representative population sample (n=408).

The factor structure of the HCL-32 was fairly similar in both samples and to the ones presented by Angst et al (Journal of Affective Disorders, 2005; 88: 217-33). People reporting "highs" (>= 4 days and experiencing negative consequences) not only endorsed more HCL-32 symptoms but also had higher rates of current and former depression and psychotherapy. Level of current depression was also associated with lifetime hypomanic symptoms.

An "active-elated" and "risk-taking/irritable" factor of hypomania can be distinguished with the HCL-32 in clinical and nonclinical samples. Based on our results, the HCL-32 might even be useful as screening tool in nonclinical samples and not only in depressed outpatients. However, our data do not allow estimating sensitivity and specificity of the HCL-32 because structured clinical interviews were not included.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal national-comorbidity-survey, bipolar spectrum disorder, major depressive disorder

**Referens:** [Moniri, S. \(2006\). \*Bilingual memory: A lifespan approach\*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. \(Doctoral dissertation\).](#)

**Abstract:** Bilingualism and its effect on individuals have been studied within different disciplines. Although the first psychological study of bilingualism was conducted by Cattell as early as 1887, only a few studies have exclusively investigated the effect of bilingualism on memory systems' functioning. In the field of cognitive psychology of bilingualism, there is some evidence for the positive influence of bilingualism on children's cognitive ability across various domains but there is little knowledge about the relationship between bilingualism and memory in a lifespan perspective. This thesis's main aim was to investigate memory systems' functioning and development in bilingual individuals. To this end, two studies were performed: a cross-sectional study of bilingual children (Study I) and a longitudinal study of young and older adults (Study II). The purpose of Studies I and II was to determine whether there are differences between monolinguals and bilinguals regarding various memory systems' functioning. Study I compared monolingual and bilingual children's performance on episodic and semantic memory, and Study II investigated performance on episodic and semantic memory in bilingual younger and older adults. Specifically, these studies aimed to examine a) which memory systems will be affected more as a function of language, and b) to what extent the differences would manifest themselves during a subject's lifespan. The purpose of Study III was to explain the relation among word representations, lexical access and lexical selection in a bilingual word production paradigm. In this study, a model of bilingual production was developed to explain the results and clarify the role of automatic and controlled processes in using two languages. The results of Studies I and II showed a superiority of bilinguals over monolinguals as well as a variation of association between memory performance and bilingualism across different periods of adulthood. It appears that the lifelong experience of managing two languages enhances control processes, which in turn play an important role in enhancing memory performance. Using a "dual mechanism model", Study III explains the efficiency of inhibitory processing when having two languages activated.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation bilingual model, children, elderly, memory, control, lexical selection

**Referens:** [Montgomery, H., & Dimdins, G. \(2006\). Facets of value conflicts in two cultures: Rankings, preferences and trade-off judgments of freedom and equality in Sweden and USA. \*SPSP Conference\*, Palm Springs, January, 2006.](#)

**Abstract:** A questionnaire study compared Swedish and American attitudes towards freedom and equality and the potential trade-off between these two values. The participants were first-year students from Stockholm University (N=54) and Stanford University (N=92). When participants simply rank-ordered a number of values related to freedom and equality no significant between-group differences in orderings were observed. However, when participants were asked to indicate their willingness to see increased freedom in their society at the expense of reducing equality, and vice versa, clear between-group differences were apparent. Both in direct measures regarding this tradeoff and in evaluation of public policy options, Swedish participants generally proved more willing than Americans to increase freedom at the expense of equality whereas the American participants proved more willing to increase equality at the expense of freedom. This result implies that answers to trade-off questions may reflect the perceived fulfillment of values in the society (more freedom in USA, more equality in Sweden), which is not shown by importance ratings. The results are discussed in the context of previous cross-cultural studies comparing political value preferences in both countries.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings human values, culture, freedom

**Referens:** [Nilsson, L.-G. \(2006\). Memory processes, aging, cognitive decline and neurodegenerative diseases. \*European Psychologist\*, 11, 304-311.](#)

**Abstract:** This paper presents four domains of markers that have been found to predict later cognitive impairment and neurodegenerative disease. These four domains are (a) data patterns of memory performance, (b) cardiovascular factors, (c) genetic markers, and (d) brain activity. The critical features of each domain are illustrated with data from the longitudinal Betula Study on memory, aging, and health (Nilsson et al., 1997; Nilsson et al., 2004). Up to now, early signs regarding these domains have been examined one by one and it has been found that they are associated with later cognitive impairment and neurodegenerative disease. However, it was also found that each marker accounts for only a very small part of the total variance, implying that single markers should not be used as predictors for cognitive decline or neurodegenerative disease. It is discussed whether modeling and simulations should be used as tools to combine markers at different levels to increase the amount of explained variance.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, genetics, cardiovascular factors, brain activity

**Referens:** [Nilsson, L.-G. \(2006\). Selective gene-environment interactions and memory function. \*Abstracts of the Psychonomic Society\*, 11, 11-11.](#)

**Abstract:** Associations between two genes, ApolipoproteinE (APOE) and Catechol O-methyl-transferase (COMT), and

performance in episodic memory tasks will be presented and discussed in relationship to main effects and gene-environmental interactions in healthy individuals (35-80 years of age). We found that participants with mild head injury but without APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 showed no decline in memory performance. Participants with APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 showed decline in performance, and those with both APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 and head injury showed a dramatic decline. This study confirms that APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 is a risk factor for later cognitive decline, that mild injury in isolation does not increase the risk, but that head injury in combination with the APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 leads to a synergistic effect. For the COMT gene, the data pattern is different. Carriers of the Met allele show no decline, whereas carriers of the Val allele show a decrease in performance. None of these alleles interacts synergistically with mild head injury.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, genetics, genetics, early signs of dementia

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). Kan generna lära oss något om minnet? [Can genes teach us anything about memory?] *Norska vetenskapsakademins årsbok*.

**Abstract:** This chapter in the yearbook of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences constitutes a summary of a lecture held at the academy in February 2004. The chapter describes how declarative memory can be divided into episodic and semantic memory. Each of these two memory systems can be further subdivided into recall and recognition (episodic memory), knowledge and fluency (semantic memory). On the basis of data from the longitudinal Betula project on memory, aging and health, it is furthermore described how different genes seem to affect episodic memory, and recall in particular, but not semantic memory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) memory, genetics, health

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). Memory, genes, and brain imaging. In S. Ballesteros (Ed.), *Aging, cognition and neuroscience* (pp. 43-46). Madrid: UNED Ediciones.

**Abstract:** This chapter outlines and discusses potential risk factors for cognitive dysfunction and dementia. Illustrations of the arguments made are based on data from the Betula Study, which is a longitudinal, multi-cohort study being conducted in Umeå, Sweden. As a first step in these analyses of potential risk factors we have analyzed memory data by means of cluster analysis. We found that those who became demented belonged to one single cluster 15 years prior to dementia diagnosis. A second step in this search for early signs of dementia is to identify persons with the  $\epsilon$ 4 allele of the ApolipoproteinE gene. A third step described in the chapter is to assess brain activity by means of functional MR. Individuals with genetic risk of Alzheimer's disease show a lower degree of brain activity than those with no such genetic risk.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) memory, genetics, brain imaging

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). Memory, aging, and dementia: The Betula Study. In S. Ballesteros (Ed.), *Aging, cognition and neuroscience* (pp. 51-52). Madrid: UNED Ediciones.

**Abstract:** This chapter describes the core features of the Betula Study, which is a longitudinal multicohort study conducted in Sweden since 1988. The focus in this description is in design of the study, the memory tests used and the health instruments used.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) cognition, aging, multi-cohort study

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Genetic and other influences on memory in healthy individuals. In V. Cubela Adoric (Ed.), *15th Psychology Days in Zadar*. Book of selected proceedings. Zadar, Croatia: University of Zadar.

**Abstract:** A question of long standing in psychology and elsewhere is whether genes influences memory performance in healthy individuals. If there is an effect of a certain gene, one basic question is whether the effect is specific such that it affects a certain form of memory or is the effect general affecting several forms of memory and perhaps intellectual functioning in general. Another basic question, in case of a genetic effect, is what the mechanism for the effect is. Several options are possible. The mechanism could be at the level of microbiology, at a cellular level, at a synaptic level, at a network level, or perhaps at the cognitive level. Still another basic question is which the candidate genes are. Assuming that there are approximately 20 000 genes affecting the brain, the question is where to start. Which gene is the most likely candidate to affect memory? Having found one gene that seems to influence memory performance, the next question is whether there are more genes with a similar effect. Do these genes interact? Do they produce additive effects? Do they produce synergistic effects? Do the active genes in this regard interact with the environment? Genetics has not played a major role in psychology to date, but behavioral genetics is a new exciting field of investigation and as can be seen from the examples mentioned, there are many questions to answer. I will examine, discuss, and try to answer these questions in my talk and I will use data from a large prospective study on memory, health, and aging, to illustrate possible answers.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings memory, genetics, cardiovascular disease

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., Adolfsson, R., Bäckman, L., Cruts, M., Nyberg, L., Small, B.J., & Van Broeckhoven, C. (2006). The influence of APOE status on episodic and semantic memory: Data from a population-based study. *Neuropsychology*, 20, 645-657.

**Abstract:** We examined the effect of the  $\epsilon$ 4 allele of ApolipoproteinE (APOE) in non-demented healthy individuals in the age range of 35-85 years of age. In a prospective cohort study we demonstrated a more pronounced  $\epsilon$ 4-related deficit for participants in the age of 70 years and older in tasks assessing episodic recall. Somewhat smaller  $\epsilon$ 4-related deficits for these persons were found in episodic recognition. The effect of APOE on semantic memory tasks was of a different nature. Whereas APOE and age interacted for episodic memory tasks, the interaction for semantic memory tasks was between APOE and test wave. No effects of APOE were found in tasks assessing vocabulary, primary memory and priming. We also demonstrated that  $\epsilon$ 4 heterozygotes among middle-age and young-old participants performed at a higher level than non-carriers of this allele in episodic recall tasks, but not in episodic recognition tasks, nor in tasks assessing semantic memory, primary memory and priming. Furthermore, we found a dose effect, such that carriers of two  $\epsilon$ 4 alleles fail more profoundly in acquiring and recollecting episodic information than carriers of one  $\epsilon$ 4 allele, who in turn fail more than carriers of non- $\epsilon$ 4 alleles. The pattern of findings observed for older  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers suggests that these individuals have particular difficulty when the executive task demands are high. Several factors (e.g., smaller hippocampal

volumes, less effective neural repair mechanisms) may account for these findings. On the basis of the data obtained we argue that analyses of the effect of specific genes in cognition should be accompanied by assessment of performance at a specific level, with due attention to the age of the individual.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal genetics, memory, brain correlates

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., & de Frias, C.M. (2006). The effect of genetics and vascular health on memory functioning: The Betula Study. In Q. Jing, H.-C. Chen, G. d'Ydewalle, M.R. Rosenzweig, H. Zhang, & K. Zhang (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 28th International Congress of Psychology*, pp. 113-128. London: Psychology Press.

**Abstract:** This chapter presents a review of the role of different genes and vascular health factors in understanding normal and pathological human memory. Recent results are presented from a large-scale prospective cohort study on memory, health, and aging. The Betula project. Possible mechanisms for the genetic and vascular influences on individual differences and changes in memory in adulthood and old age are discussed. It is proposed that multiple genes, each with specific functions, impact different memory systems and at specific points in the adult lifespan. It is also suggested that a combination of experimental methods in cognitive psychology, genetics, and brain imaging may be the ultimate recipe for the detection of early signs of neurodegenerative diseases.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings memory, genetics, brain imaging, individual differences

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., & Larsson, M. (in press). Self-referent beliefs about memory and actual performance: Relationships with age and sex. In S. Magnussen & T. Helstrup (Eds.), *Everyday memory*. Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

**Abstract:** Previous research has demonstrated a positive, but modest, relationship between knowledge about one's own memory capabilities and objective memory performance as measured by laboratory memory tests in late life. Less is known about the relationship between subjective and objective measures across a wider range of the life span. Little is also known whether men and women differ in their abilities to estimate subjectively the actual memory capacity. We used data from a large prospective study on memory health and aging to shed light on this lack of knowledge. The results obtained show age deficits and female superiority in episodic memory completely in line with previous research. The data obtained for semantic memory are also in line with those obtained in previous research. When relating these objective measures of memory to subjective measures significant correlations were found for old participants in episodic memory, but not for younger subjects and not for semantic memory. An interesting and not previously shown result was obtained when relating the subjective experience of a change in memory function to the actual change demonstrated in objective assessment of memory. It was found that men, not women, as they become older show a growing insight of a declining memory functioning. We discuss this result involving both age and sex variables as reflecting more serious memory conditions in men than in women.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) subjective memory, objective memory, age, sex differences

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., & Ohta, N. (Eds.). (2006). *Memory and Society: Psychological Perspectives*. Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

**Abstract:** This book includes 18 chapters on various topics related to how laboratory research on memory and theories developed on the basis of such research can be implemented in practical, applied situations in society. The chapters are organized around three broad topics. Each topic is introduced by a chapter written by the editors of the book. The first topic is about self, society, and culture with contributions from Qi Wang and Martin A. Conway, Susan Joslyn and Jonathan W. Schooler, D. Stephen Lindsay and J Don Read, and Kathy Pedzek. The second topic is about learning in social settings including four chapters written by Dietrich Albert, Cord Hockemeyer and Toshiaki Mori, Robert A. Bjork and Elizabeth L. Bjork, Elizabeth L. Bjork, Robert A. Bjork and Malcom D. MacLeod, Yukio Itsukushima, Kazunori Hanyu, Yasunari Okabe, Makiko Naka, Yuji Itoh and Satoshi Hara. The third topic is entitled Memory deficits: Social costs and includes six chapters written by Fergus I.M. Craik, Ingvar Lundberg, Robert L. Logie and Sergio Della Sala, Masaru Mimura, Douglas Herrmann, Michael M. Gruneberg, Steve Fiori, Jonathan W. Schooler and Rebecca Torres, and Barbara A. Wilson.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) memory, society, culture

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., & Ohta, N. (2006). Self, society, and culture. In L.-G. Nilsson & N. Ohta (Eds.), *Memory and Society: Psychological Perspectives* (pp. 5-8). Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

**Abstract:** This chapter introduces the main concepts that are dealt with in this section of the book. One common theme in the four chapters Qi Wang and Martin A. Conway, Susan Joslyn and Jonathan W. Schooler, D. Stephen Lindsay and J Don Read, and Kathy Pedzek is autobiographical memory. The four chapters also converge on the notion that memory of the past is based on how the individual conceives of the present, and that this conceptualization of the present is built up in a narrative way throughout life – in much the same way that a society or a culture is built up by oral or written narrative in that society.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) self, autobiographical memory, society

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., & Ohta, N. (2006). Learning in social settings. In L.-G. Nilsson & N. Ohta (Eds.), *Memory and Society: Psychological Perspectives* (pp. 83-85). Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

**Abstract:** This chapter introduces main concepts, theories and data that are covered in this section of the book. After having discussed the applied ambitions of Herrmann Ebbinghaus the chapter reflects on the topics of e-learning, an interesting theory how to optimize treatment and training, intended and unintended forgetting, and eyewitness testimony. The four chapters are written by Dietrich Albert, Cord Hockemeyer and Toshiaki Mori, Robert A. Bjork and Elizabeth L. Bjork, Elizabeth L. Bjork, Robert A. Bjork and Malcom D. MacLeod, Yukio Itsukushima, Kazunori Hanyu, Yasunari Okabe, Makiko Naka, Yuji Itoh and Satoshi Hara.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) e-learning, forgetting, eyewitness testimony

- Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., & Ohta, N. (2006). Memory deficits: Social costs. In L.-G. Nilsson & N. Ohta (Eds.), *Memory and Society: Psychological Perspectives* (pp. 171-174). Hove, UK: Psychology Press.
- Abstract:** This chapter summarizes the section about practical consequences of various forms of memory deficits and the costs involved, both with respect to the individual and his or her family and with respect to the society. Memory deficits occurring in normal aging and pathological changes in old age, memory deficits that are related to dyslexia, working memory problems in everyday cognition, problems in executive functions chronic alcoholics, and Korsakoff amnesics. This chapter also includes a description of memory failures and their causes in everyday life and the rehabilitation of memory in everyday life. The chapter authors in this section of the book are: Fergus I.M. Craik, Ingvar Lundberg, Robert L. Logie and Sergio Della Sala, Masaru Mimura, Douglas Herrmann, Michael M. Gruneberg, Steve Fiori, Jonathan W. Schooler and Rebecca Torres, and Barbara A. Wilson.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) aging, dyslexia, rehabilitation
- Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., & Rönnerberg, J. (2006). Learning and memory. In K. Pawlik & G. d'Ydewalle (Eds.), *Psychological concepts: An international historical perspective* (pp. 223-236). Hove, UK: Psychology Press.
- Abstract:** This chapter describes major concepts in the area of learning and memory in a historical perspective. The chapter takes into account the various influences that cultures have had on the concepts used in learning and memory research of today. A large portion of the chapter is devoted to defining and discussing different forms of learning and memory. The issue of behavior vs. cognition is discussed at some length. The concepts of storage of information, the spatial metaphor of memory, and memory trace are central concepts in memory research and are therefore dealt with thoroughly and are evaluated in the light of today's knowledge of human memory. The chapter is ended by a discussion of the requirements for scientific concepts to survive.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) concepts, memory, learning
- Referens:** Nilsson, M.E. (2006). Traffic noise is a threat to outdoor recreation in urban areas. In *Abstract Guide of the 26th International Congress in Applied Psychology*. Athens: International Association of Applied Psychology, 2006, Abstract S125.4.
- Abstract:** Current noise policy focuses on reducing high levels of community noise in dwellings, primarily with measures designed to reduce indoor levels. For example, one of Sweden's environmental objectives is to reduce the number of persons highly exposed to traffic noise in dwellings by 5 % from 1998 to 2010. In the same period, car use is expected to increase with 29 %. This development is a threat to outdoor recreation in urban areas, because there is a real danger that in striving to reduce residential noise exposure, the sound environment in non-residential areas will be sacrificed. Unfortunately, guideline values for noise exposure in such areas, e.g., urban parks and green open spaces, are missing, mainly due to lack of knowledge on what makes a sound environment pleasant and restorative. Existing guideline values for residential areas are not relevant, because they are only intended for limiting negative effects of noise, such as annoyance and sleep disturbance, not for creating positive sound environments. This paper presents results from recent research on positive sound environments, and discusses the potential implications for noise policy.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings traffic noise, positive sound environments, noise policy
- Referens:** Nilsson, M.E. (in press). A-Weighted sound level as an indicator of short-term loudness or annoyance of road-traffic sound. *Journal of Sound and Vibration*.
- Abstract:** Two listening experiments were conducted in order to determine whether A-weighting is a valid indicator of the perceived loudness or annoyance of road-traffic sound. Because –weighting has been criticized for not properly integrating energy at low frequencies, experimental road-traffic sounds were selected with a wide range in low-frequency content, assessed as the difference between C- and A-weighted sound pressure levels ( $L_{C-A}$ ). In the first experiment, 30 listeners assessed the perceived loudness of the selected sounds. In the second experiment, another group of 31 listeners assessed the perceived annoyance of the same sounds. Sounds with high levels of  $L_{C-A}$  were louder and more annoying than sounds with medium levels of  $L_{C-A}$ , which in turn were louder and more annoying than sounds with low levels of  $L_{C-A}$ , at similar A-weighted sound pressure levels ( $L_A$ ). It was estimated that the change in perceived loudness or annoyance associated with a 1 dB change in  $L_{C-A}$  would correspond to approximately a 0.4 dB change in  $L_A$ . In contrast, sounds with similar Zwicker loudness levels ( $L_N$ ) were approximately equal in loudness and annoyance irrespective of their  $L_{C-A}$ . Thus,  $L_N$  was found to be superior to  $L_A$  as an indicator of short-term loudness and annoyance of road-traffic sounds with wide variation in low-frequency content.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal sound, loudness, annoyance
- Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., & Berglund, B. (2006). Noise-mitigation efficiency of barriers. In C. Burroughs & G. Maling (Eds.), *Inter-Noise 2006-Engineering a Quieter World*. Washington, DC: The Institute of Noise Control Engineering of the USA, Inc., 2006, Paper 386.
- Abstract:** To create acceptable sound environments in residential areas along heavily traveled main roads and railways, a common procedure is to build noise barriers. Noise barriers reduce residents' noise annoyance. However, the extent of annoyance-reduction may not be predictable from the corresponding reduction in A-weighted sound level. One reason for this is that noise barriers not only reduce the sound level, they also change the character of the noise, which may influence perceived annoyance. It is therefore a need for psychophysical research on the effect of noise mitigation on perceived annoyance. Two experiments were conducted, involving road-traffic and railway noise recorded with or without the influence of noise barriers. A linear function described fairly well the relationship between A-weighted sound level and perceived annoyance. However, road-traffic noise recorded behind one barrier was found to be more annoying than predicted from the linear function. Zwicker Loudness level was found to be a better indicator of perceived annoyance than A-weighted sound level. This was especially true for sounds with relatively large proportion of low-frequency content. This is relevant for noise barriers, which always reduce high frequencies more than low frequencies and, thereby, increase the relative proportion of low-frequency content.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings noise barrier, annoyance, noise mitigation

- Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., & Berglund, B. (2006). Soundscapes in city parks and suburban green areas. In J. Hyuryinen & R. Pääkönen (Eds.), *EuroNoise 2006: Advanced Solutions for Noise Control*. Tampere, Finland: European Acoustics Association, Paper SS25-349. [Available on CD]
- Abstract:** According to guidelines proposed in Sweden, at least 80% of visitors in quiet areas should perceive the sound environment as good. This was the starting point for a questionnaire study conducted in four suburban green areas and in four city parks. The soundscape in the suburban areas was completely dominated by sounds from nature (e.g., bird song and sounds from water), whereas traffic noise was a main component of the city-park soundscapes. Measured equivalent sound levels (from all sources) ranged from 42 to 50 dBA in the suburban green areas, and from 49 to 60 dBA in the city parks. Between 84 and 100 % of the respondents in the suburban green areas and between 53 and 65 % of the respondents in the city parks assessed the soundscapes as "Good" or "Very good". Thus, all the suburban green areas and none of the city parks reached the stipulated goal (at least 80%). Taken together, the results suggest that a good urban outdoor soundscape should (a) be dominated by positive sounds from nature, and (b) have an overall equivalent sound level below 50 dBA.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings soundscape, green areas, city-parks
- Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., & Berglund, B. (2006). Soundscape quality in suburban green areas and city parks. *Acta Acustica united with Acustica*, 2006, 92, 903-911.
- Abstract:** According to guidelines proposed in Sweden, at least 80% of the visitors in quiet areas should perceive the sound environment as good. This was the starting point for a questionnaire study on "soundscape quality" in four suburban green areas and in four city parks. The soundscapes in the suburban areas were completely dominated by sounds from nature (e.g., bird song and sounds from water), whereas traffic noise was a main component of the city-park soundscapes. Measured equivalent sound levels (from all sources) ranged from 42 to 50 dBA in the suburban green areas, and from 49 to 60 dBA in the city parks ( $L_{Aeq,15min}$ ). "Soundscape quality" was assessed by a five-point bipolar category scale. Among the respondents, 84-100% in the suburban green areas and 53-65% in the city parks assessed the soundscape as "Good" or "Very good". Thus, all suburban green areas but none of the city parks reached the stipulated goal (at least 80%). The soundscape quality was confirmed by attribute profiling using a set of 12 adjectives. Based on the visitor's responses, it is concluded that good soundscape quality can only be achieved if the traffic noise exposure in suburban green areas and city parks during day time is below 50 dBA.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal soundscape, green areas, city-parks
- Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., & Berglund, B. (2006). Noise annoyance and activity disturbance before and after the erection of a roadside noise barrier. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 119(4), 2178-2188.
- Abstract:** Questionnaire studies were conducted in a residential area before and after the erection of a 2.25 m high noise barrier of conventional type along a heavily traveled road (19 600 vehicles/24 h). The interval between studies was two years. Houses closest to the barrier received a sound-level reduction from ~70.0 to 62.5 dB  $L_{den}$  at the most exposed facade. The sound-level reduction decreased with distance to the road, and was negligible for houses at more than 100 m distance. Up to this distance, the noise barrier reduced residents' noise annoyance outdoors and indoors as well as improved speech communication outdoors. Indoors, speech communication and sleep disturbance were slightly but nonsignificantly improved.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal noise barrier, sound-level reduction, annoyance
- Referens:** Näswall, K., Baraldi, S., Richter, A., Hellgren, J., & Sverke, M. (2006). *The salaried employee in the modern working life: Threats and challenges*. Technical report on the sample, data collection, and measurement properties of the instruments. SALTSA Report No 2006:3. Stockholm: National Institute for Working Life & SALTSA.
- Abstract:** The present report presents data collected within a project focusing on salaried employees, among whom we have witnessed profound changes both in the conditions under which work is carried out and in the reported frequencies of psychological health complaints. The aim has been to capture traditional and new demands that have previously not been the focus of empirical studies, as well as to investigate what factors related to attitudes, behavior, and well-being among salaried workers. The project has consisted in a longitudinal data collection among white-collar workers in four Swedish organizations. Documentation on the procedure, samples, and questionnaire items is presented in the present technical report, along with measurement properties and descriptive statistics at both time points for the scales used. The results indicate that the measures are for the most part satisfactory, and the report provides a solid basis for future research on the data collected in this project.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Report data collection, measures, working life
- Referens:** Näswall, K., Hellgren, J., & Sverke, M. (in press). *The individual in the changing working life*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Abstract:** This book contributes to the understanding of contemporary working life, and how recent changes have affected employees' work climate, attitudes, and well-being. Contemporary working life has been associated with more autonomy and varied work tasks, and increased opportunities to shape their own competencies, but also new and less clearly defined tasks and demands, increasing difficulty to limit work to traditional working hours, and conflict between work and family life. The chapters in the book collectively describe and discuss the current state of working life as well as positive and negative consequences of current phenomena, all from the perspective of the employees. The book also brings new research in to the light of traditional theoretical frameworks, as well as discusses developing theoretical frameworks suited to describe contemporary working life phenomena. The book centers on employee reactions but brings up organizational strategies to help individuals cope and fare better in the contemporary working life.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) working life

- Referens:** [Näswall, K., Pienaar, J., & Hellgren, J. \(2006\). Depression and work stressors: gender differences in stress experiences. Paper presented at \*The Sixth International Conference on Occupational Stress & Health\*, Miami, March 2-4, 2006.](#)
- Abstract:** The general category of factors labeled job stress has been associated with a number of negative outcomes, such as health complaints, as well as negative attitudes and behaviors. The exact nature of the particular stressors may vary in different studies, but individuals who are exposed to different stressors generally report lower well-being and symptoms of ill-health and depression.
- Depression has been reported as a consequence of job stress in several studies, and there are indications of reverse causation, in that depression has been found to influence perceptions of work stressors, thus actually exacerbating the experience of negative conditions at work. Moreover, levels of depression have been found to be higher among women, and women tend to be more likely to experience depressive episodes. Fewer studies have tested whether the link between job stressors and depression is stronger among women as compared to men. Based on this, the present study investigates the relationship between work stressors and depression, and potential gender differences in this relationship, as well as testing the direction of the relationship, using a longitudinal design. In order to investigate the whether the strengths of the relationships between work stressors and depression vary between women and men by a multiple group comparison using structural equation modeling.
- Wave 1 of the data collection was completed during February 2005. Questionnaires were sent out to the home addresses of all employees at an accounting firm with branches all over Sweden, and 250 filled out and returned their questionnaires for a response rate of 86%. Women comprised 50% of the sample, and the mean age was 42 years (SD=10). Wave 2 data will be collected in January 2006.
- The preliminary results indicate that work stressors predict depression similarly among women as compared to men, implying that explanatory models for depression hold for both groups, at least when pertaining to work stressors. The results also indicate that work stressors explain a larger proportion of the variance in depression than indicated by previous research. The results indicate that depression may be partly prevented by improving the work situation. When expanded with tests for reverse causality and control for initial values, the study will be able to shed light on gender differences in the development of depressive symptoms over time as well, and have implications for helping individuals cope with depression at work.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings depression, work stressors, predicting
- Referens:** [Näswall, K., Sverke, M., & Hellgren, J. \(2006\). Gender differences in coping with job insecurity. Paper presented at \*The Sixth Conference on Psychology and Health\*, Rolduc, the Netherlands, May 8-10, 2006.](#)
- Abstract:** Flexibility demands on organizations along with an ever-changing economic environment have made the working situation for employees less stable and more unpredictable. Perceptions of job insecurity have been more frequently reported and researched. Such perceived threats to one's future employment have been shown to give rise to stress experiences and have been linked to several different negative outcomes, such as strain reactions, dissatisfaction with the job, and turnover intention. However, the reactions are not the same for all individuals who experience job insecurity. It has been suggested that coping strategies moderate the relationship between job insecurity and outcomes, and that some coping strategies are more effective than others. To date, few studies have investigated whether problem-focused or emotion-focused coping strategies are more frequently used, or are more effective in dealing with job insecurity perceptions. Also, previous research has indicated that there are some gender differences in the reactions to job insecurity. Such gender differences may be attributed to different coping strategies. For example, it has been found that women tend to use emotion-focused strategies to a greater extent than men, who typically use problem-focused strategies in dealing with other types of stressors. The purpose of the present study is to investigate gender differences in the coping with job insecurity. In doing this, the answers to the following two research questions will be sought. First, are there gender differences in coping with the stressor of job insecurity? Second, do the different coping strategies moderate the relationship between job insecurity and well-being outcomes differently for women as compared to men? These questions are tested in a sample of Swedish civil servants (data is currently being collected), by conducting a multiple group comparison using SEM. The results will indicate to what extent women and men differ in their utilization of coping strategies, and whether they are effective to different extents for women and men.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, coping, gender
- Referens:** [Patten, C.J.D., Kircher, A., Östlund, J., Nilsson, L., & Svenson, O. \(2006\). Driver experience and cognitive workload in different traffic environments. \*Accident Analysis and Prevention\*, 38, 887-894.](#)
- Abstract:** How do levels of cognitive workload differ between experienced and inexperienced drivers? In this study we explored cognitive workload and driver experience, using a secondary task method, the peripheral detection task (PDT) in a field study. The main results showed a large and statistically significant difference in cognitive workload levels between experienced and inexperienced drivers. Inexperienced, low mileage drivers had on average approximately 250 milliseconds (ms) longer reaction times to a peripheral stimulus, than the experienced drivers. It would, therefore, appear that drivers with better training and experience were able to automate the driving task more effectively than their less experienced counterparts in accordance with theoretical psychological models. It has been suggested that increased training and experience may provide attention resource savings that can benefit the driver in handling new or unexpected traffic situations.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cognitive workload, PDT, driver experience
- Referens:** [Persson, J., Lind, J., Larsson, A., Crutz, M., Van Broeckhoven, C., Adolfsson, R., Nilsson, L.-G., & Nyberg, L. \(2006\). Altered brain white-matter integrity in non-demented carriers of the APOE ε4 allele: A risk for Alzheimer's disease. \*Neurology\*, 66, 1029-1033.](#)
- Abstract:** Previous research has shown that polymorphisms of the apolipoprotein E (APOE) represent genetic risk factors for dementia and for cognitive impairment in the elderly. The neural mechanisms by which these genetic variations influence behavioral performance or clinical severity are not well understood. We used diffusion tensor imaging to investigate ultrastructural properties in brain white-matter to detect pathological processes that modify tissue integrity. Sixty participants were included in the study of which 30 were homozygous for the APOE ε3 allele, 10 were homozygous for the APOE ε4 allele, and 20 had the APOE ε3ε4 allele combination. All

individuals were non-demented, and the groups were matched on demographic variables and cognitive performance. The results showed a decline in fractional anisotropy, a marker for white-matter integrity, in the posterior corpus callosum of  $\epsilon 4$  carriers compared to non-carriers. Additional sites of altered white-matter integrity included the medial temporal lobe.

Conclusions: Although the mechanism underlying vulnerability of white matter tracts in APOE  $\epsilon 4$  carriers is still unknown, our findings suggest that increased genetic risk for developing AD is associated with changes in microscopic white-matter integrity well before the onset of dementia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, genetics, brain imaging

**Referens:** Persson, J., Nyberg, L., Lind, J., Larsson A., Nilsson, L.-G., Ingvar, M., & Buckner, R.L. (2006). Structure –Function correlates of cognitive decline in aging. *Cerebral Cortex*, 16, 907-915.

**Abstract:** To explore neural correlates of cognitive decline in aging, we used longitudinal behavioral data to identify two groups of older adults (n= 40) that differed with regard to whether their performance on tests of episodic memory remained stable or declined over a decade. Analysis of structural and diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) revealed a heterogeneous set of differences associated with cognitive decline. Manual tracing of hippocampal volume showed significant reduction in those older adults with a declining memory performance as did DTI-measured fractional anisotropy in the anterior corpus callosum. Functional magnetic resonance imaging during incidental episodic encoding revealed increased activation in left prefrontal cortex for both groups and additional right prefrontal activation for the elderly subjects with the greatest decline in memory performance. Moreover, mean DTI measures in the anterior corpus callosum correlated negatively with activation in right prefrontal cortex. These results demonstrate that cognitive decline is associated with differences in the structure as well as function of the aging brain, and suggest that increased activation is either caused by structural disruption or is a compensatory response to such disruption.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aging, hippocampus, memory

**Referens:** Preisler, G. (in press). The Psychosocial Development of Deaf Children with Cochlear Implants. In L. Komesaroff (Ed.), *Surgical Consent: Bioethics and Cochlear Implantation* (pp. 120-136). Washington D.C.: Gallaudet University Press.

**Abstract:** This chapter discusses the psychosocial situation for deaf children with cochlear implants from multiple perspectives: the parents' perspective, the teachers' perspective, and the children's perspective. It considers results from international research and a recent Swedish longitudinal study that (a) indicate problems if communication and education for children with implants is based only on speech and (b) suggest that a cochlear implant cannot replace using sign language, but it can facilitate everyday life in hearing families.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) deaf, children, cochlea implant, psychosocial, development

**Referens:** Ramnerö, J. (2006). Depression och bipolär störning [Depression and bipolar disorder]. I L.-G. Öst (Ed.). *Kognitiv Beteendeterapi inom Psykiatri*. [Cognitive Behavior Therapy in Psychiatry.] Stockholm: Natur och Kultur.

**Abstract:** Kognitiv beteendeterapi är idag en etablerad behandlingsform vid depression och som även finner ett ökat stöd vid bipolär störning. Detta bokkapitel går igenom grundläggande begrepp för att förstå och behandla dessa besvär utifrån ett kognitivt beteendeterapeutiskt perspektiv.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) KBT, depression, bipolär störning

**Referens:** Ramnerö, J., & Törneke, N. (2006). *Beteendets ABC - En introduktion till behavioristisk psykoterapi*. [The ABC of Human Behavior - An Introduction to Behavioral Psychotherapy.] Lund: Studentlitteratur.

**Abstract:** Beteendets ABC är en grundbok i klinisk inlärningspsykologi och fungerar som en introduktionstext till modern beteendeterapi. Den presenterar både klassiska principer för inläring och nyare tankegångar, särskilt vad gäller mänskligt språk och kognition. Allt sätts in i ett kliniskt perspektiv med särskilt fokus på inledande bedömning. Genom att väva in kliniska fall ger boken en konkret framställning av en inlärningspsykologiskt förankrad psykoterapi.

Boken är avsedd för grundläggande utbildningar inom psykoterapi, klinisk psykologi och psykiatri men vänder sig också till yrkesverksamma inom psykiatri och relaterade vårdområden.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) beteendeterapi, klinisk inlärningspsykologi, psykoterapi

**Referens:** Ramnerö, J., & Öst, L.-G. (in press). Panic and avoidance in panic disorder with agoraphobia: Clinical relevance of change in different aspects of the disorder. *Journal of Behavior Therapy and Experimental Psychiatry*.

**Abstract:** Different aspects of change were examined in 62 patients who fulfilled the DSM-IV criteria for a primary diagnosis of panic disorder with agoraphobia of moderate to severe magnitude, and who were treated with 16 sessions of behavioral therapy. The treatment resulted in substantial effects on panic attacks and agoraphobic avoidance. Panic-free status only differentiated the patients regarding mood at pre- and post-treatment. Changes in panic and avoidance were related to each other, but change in avoidance was more related to change in negative affect. Change in quality of life (QOL) was also more associated with change in avoidance at post-treatment. At follow-up change in QOL was more related to change in panic than change in avoidance.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal DSM-IV, panic disorder

**Referens:** Ramnerö, J., & Öst, L.-G. (in press). Therapists' and clients' perceptions of each other and working alliance in the behavioral treatment of panic disorder with agoraphobia. *Psychotherapy Research*.

**Abstract:** Fifty-nine patients that fulfilled DSM-IV criteria for a primary diagnosis of panic disorder with agoraphobia of

moderate to severe magnitude were treated with 16 sessions of behavioural therapy. The study investigated the relationship between therapists' and clients' perception of each other, working alliance and outcome. There was initially a low correspondence between therapist and client perceptions, but a growing consensus during treatment. This was most pronounced regarding high ratings of therapist qualities and the perception of the client as attractive. Clients' perceptions showed virtually zero correlation with outcome, regardless of time. Therapist perception of client as showing active participation and goal direction, yielded positive correlations with outcome at post-treatment and follow-up, from session 4 and through the treatment. No significant relation between working alliance and outcome were found, apart from the fact that those who improved during follow-up rated the alliance significantly higher than those who remained not improved.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal panic disorder, agoraphobia, behavioural therapy

**Referens:** Rana, A.K.M.M., Lundborg, C.S., Wahlin, Å., Ahmed, S.M., & Kabir, Z.N. (in press). The impact of health education in managing self-reported arthritis-related illness. *Health Education Research*.

**Abstract:** This study examines the impact of health education on prevalence of and expenditure on treatment of self-reported arthritis-related illness among elderly persons in rural Bangladesh. An intervention study was conducted, including 1135 elderly persons (70 years) from eight randomly selected villages, four each of an intervention and a control area. The analyses include 839 elderly persons who participated in both pre- and post-intervention surveys (Intervention area: n=425; Control area: n=414). Participants of the intervention area were further categorized as compliant (n=315) and non-compliant (n=110) based on adherence to the intervention instructions. The intervention that lasted for fifteen months comprised home-based physical exercise, dietary instructions and other aspects of management. Results show that although there was no significant difference in self-reported arthritis-related illness between the compliant and non-compliant groups at baseline, it was significantly lower in the compliant group (71%) at post-intervention compared to the non-compliant (81%). Related monthly expenditure on treatment was significantly reduced in the compliant group (from Taka 104 to Taka 52) but not in the other two groups. Logistic regressions further showed that the control group had a higher probability of increased treatment-related expenditure compared to the compliant group (OR: 2.0, 95% CI 1.4-2.8).

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal intervention, arthritis, Bangladesh

**Referens:** Rissén, D. (2006). *Repetitive and monotonous work among women: Psychophysiological and subjective stress reactions, muscle activity and neck and shoulder pain*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology. (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** Repetitive and monotonous work is frequently associated with neck and shoulder pain and negative psychosocial factors inducing stress reactions. The present thesis concerns the relations between psychophysiological and subjective stress reactions, muscle activity measured by surface electromyography (SEMG) in the trapezius muscle, and neck and shoulder pain in women performing repetitive and monotonous work.

In Study I cardiovascular and subjective stress reactions were investigated during computer work in a laboratory setting. The findings indicated that heart rate variability is a more sensitive and selective measure of mental stress compared with blood pressure recordings.

Study II explored the relations between stress reactions and muscle activity during supermarket work. The results showed that perceived negative stress reactions may have a specific influence on muscle activity in the neck and shoulder region, which can be of importance for work-related musculoskeletal disorders in repetitive and monotonous work.

In Study III the association between SEMG activity patterns and neck and shoulder pain was investigated during cash register work. It was found that pain-afflicted women had a different muscle activation pattern (more static, more co-contraction, less muscle rest) compared with pain-free women.

Study IV was a follow-up study evaluating the introduction of job rotation among female cashiers. The results indicated positive effects on diastolic blood pressure, muscle activity, and partly on neck and shoulder pain, although perceived stress was unchanged. It was concluded that job rotation seems to have a limited effect on chronic neck and shoulder pain, but may be an effective preventive measure. The empirical findings are particularly relevant for women who, compared with men, more often perform repetitive and monotonous work and are also more often affected by neck and shoulder pain.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation repetitive and monotonous work, women, psychophysiological stress reactions, subjective stress reactions, muscle activity, trapezius muscle, neck and shoulder pain, job rotation

**Referens:** Rydstedt, L., Devereaux, J., & Sverke, M. (in press). Comparing and combining the demand-control-support model and the effort-reward imbalance model to predict long-term mental strain. *European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology*.

**Abstract:** A first purpose of this prospective study was to investigate whether the levels of mental strain and the working conditions included in the Effort-Reward Imbalance (ERI) model and the Demand-Control-Support (DCS) model differed for managers/professionals (n=658) and manual workers (n=343). An additional purpose was to compare the predictive power of the DCS and ERI models in the regard to long-term mental strain for these two groups. The study further aimed to investigate whether combining the models would improve the predictive power of long-term mental strain. Managers/professionals reported higher job demands and intrinsic efforts than did the manual workers, as well as slightly higher mental strain, but also higher decision latitude, social support and rewards from work. Both models explained small albeit significant proportions of variance in mental strain for both occupational groups. A tentative conclusion from the study is that combining the two models may slightly increase the explanatory power to predict work-related mental strain.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal work stress, well-being, stress models

**Referens:** Rönnlund, M., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). Adult life-span patterns in WAIS block design performance: Cross-sectional versus longitudinal age gradients and relations to demographic predictors. *Intelligence*, 34, 63-78.

Aging pattern in WAIS-R Block Design test (BDT) performance were examined cross-sectionally and

**Abstract:** longitudinally. One sample (35-80 years, n = 1000) was assessed in 1988-1990 and five years later (836 returned). An independent cohort-matched sample (n = 974) was included at Time 2 to estimate the magnitude of practice effects. Relations between BDT performance, gender, and education were also examined. The cross-sectional analyses indicated a gradual age-related deterioration from 35 to 55, even when minor practice effects were adjusted for. Decline was apparent for the older cohorts, regardless of estimation method. Education-adjusted cross-sectional differences showed a similar pattern. A minor age- and time-invariant gender difference favoring males was observed. Education predicted some time-related change, such as higher education was associated with lesser decline. Collectively, the results demonstrate the need to control for cohort and retest effects in cross-sectional and longitudinal studies, and reveal interesting relations between BDT performance and demographic variables.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal block design, aging, cross-sectional, longitudinal

**Referens:** Rönnlund, M., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). The Betula Study: Reliabilities and long-term stabilities of memory test performances over the adult lifespan. *Baltic Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Major characteristics of the Betula study on memory, health, and aging (Nilsson et al., 1997, 2004) were presented. In addition, reliability and stability coefficients (5 and 10 years) were computed for individual measures of episodic memory and semantic memory (and for Block Design and MMSE) and for unit-weighted composites (min. n = 1000, 830, and 653 for T1, T2, and T3). Reliability estimates ranged from .42 to .88 overall. Stability coefficients were substantial at the composite level (r = .77-.83) and did not differ for younger (35-55 years) and older adults (60-80 years). Finally, the stability coefficients decreased minimally over retest intervals, regardless of age. Together, the results indicate considerable stability of interindividual differences of declarative memory across age and time, suggesting that heterogeneity of the aging processes, at least as reflected at the behavioral level, may be less prominent than is often asserted. This indication of relative lack of diversity needs to be supplemented with careful analyses of differences/changes in variance across age and time.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, semantic, memory, aging, reliability, stability coefficients

**Referens:** Rönnlund, M., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). The Magnitude, Generality, and Determinants of Flynn Effects on Forms of Declarative Memory and Visuospatial Ability: Time-sequential Analyses of Data from a Swedish Cohort Study. *Intelligence*.

**Abstract:** To estimate Flynn effects (time-lag gains) on forms of declarative memory (episodic, semantic) and visuospatial ability (Block Design) adult samples (35-80 years), assessed on either of four measurement occasions (1989, 1994, 1999, 2004; n = 2974), were compared. The relation between time-related changes in cognition and markers of nutrition (body height), family structure (sibsize), and education (years of schooling) were examined. Continuous time-related gains were observed on the cognitive variables across the 15-year period, regardless of age and ability level. The "gender-gaps" on measures of memory and on Block Design were largely time-invariant. The results suggest that the Flynn effect is a cohort effect, with gains up to nearly one standard deviation unit across the 1909 to 1969 birth cohorts. Differences in educational attainment appear to be the major factor. Height and sibsize, in addition, predicted a minor portion of the time-related variance, suggesting that a full account of Flynn effects needs to consider multiple factors. Their relative contribution to secular gains in cognitive performance likely depends on which ability factors and socio-cultural and historical contexts are considered.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Flynn effect, cohort, memory, visuospatial ability

**Referens:** Salo, I. (2006). Norwegian petroleum operations and regulatory activities from a system safety perspective. In O. Svenson, I. Salo, P. Oedewald, T. Reiman, & A.B. Skjerve (Eds.), *Nordic perspectives on safety management in high reliability organizations: Theory and applications* (pp. 131-150). Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology.

**Abstract:** This chapter treats the former Norwegian Petroleum Directorate NPD in 2003, at that time an organization not yet settled after a period of organizational change. We attempt to model Safety management in NPD according to important themes from the general system theoretic framework presented in this volume. The analysis was based on publicly available documents about NPD. The results include several themes with implications for safety management related to important aspects of the system theoretic framework described by Svenson in a preceding chapter, such as the system structure, safety threats, and information management and feedback. A brief background to the Norwegian petroleum activities from both a historical and a societal perspective is also presented.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) oil industry, regulatory, off-shore oil industry

**Referens:** Schenkman, B.N., & Brunnström, K. (in press). Camera position and presentation scale for infrared night vision system in cars. *Human Factors and Ergonomics in Manufacturing*.

**Abstract:** Principles of an infrared night vision system in cars were studied in a stationary car simulator. The 20 participants drove for about 45 min on a rural route in night conditions where four objects were placed in or next to the road. When the camera was mounted on the grill of the car and the scale was true size, i.e. 1:1, the time to collision was the longest. Changing the scale to a wide-angle view of 1:2 decreased this time. When the camera was mounted on the roof of the car, the scale change produced an increase of the time to collision. Principal component analysis indicated that the speed and the lateral position of the car were independent. The results were explained partly in terms of differences between the optic arrays presented to the drivers and to motion adaptation. It is suggested that the camera for a night vision system should be placed at the level of the car grill and the presentation scale should be 1:1.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal infrared, human factors, car

**Referens:** Schenkman, B.N., & Kjell Dahl, L. (2006). Färginteraktion i en CIE u\*v\* rymd hos färgmonitorer. [Color interaction in a CIEu\*v\* space on computer screens.] Presented at meeting of *Swedish expert group of CIE, division 1*, in Gothenburg, 6 September 2006.

**Abstract:** Syftet med denna experimentella studie var att studera färginteraktion hos geometriska objekt presenterade på bildskärm. Beträkningsföremål utgjordes av små färgytor som visades mot färgade bakgrunder på en bildskärm av katodstråletyp, CRT. Sex observationsfärger och tre interaktionsfärger för repektive observationsfärg presenterades för tio försökspersoner, vilka i huvudsak var studenter, 22 -33 år, medelvärde 25 år gamla. De studerade färgerna var gult, rött, magenta, blått, cyan och grönt. Observationsfärgerna hade en låg mättnad, d.v.s. var ganska nära origo i CIE  $u^*v^*$  rymden, m.a.o. nära vitpunkten. De sex interaktionsfärgerna hos bakgrunden hade ungefär samma färgnyans, men en hög grad av mättnad, d.v.s. låg utåt periferin i en CIE  $u^*v^*$  rymd. Försökspersonerna matchade en observationsfärg mot en referensfärg. Uppgiften var att ställa in färgen på ett litet färgfältet, presenterat till höger, så att det fick samma färg som ett annat litet färgfält, till vänster. Färgen hos referensföremålet skulle ställas in av försökspersonen, så att färgen matchade färgen hos observationsföremålet. Detta skedde genom två tangenter på tangentbordet. Föremålet med observationsfärgen mot de olika bakgrunderna antogs påverka perceptionen och därmed bedömningarna hos observatören. Denna färg skulle jämföras med referensobjektet, som visades mot tre olika monokromatiska bakgrunder, svart, grått och vitt. Interaktionseffekter med olika magnituder framkom för interaktion med bakgrundsfärgerna gul och cyan. Effekterna för de tre referensbakgrunderna skilde sig inte åt på ett systematiskt sätt. Resultatet kommer att visas som diagram för färginteraktion i CIE  $u^*v^*$  rymd.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings färg, interaktion, CIE

**Referens:** Selén, A. (2006). Sambandet mellan generellt och områdesspecifikt välbefinnande: En jämförelse mellan män och kvinnor [The relationship between general and area-specific subjective well-being: A gender comparison.] Stockholm University, Department of Psychology, *Reports from the project Individual Development and Adaptation*, No. 88.

**Abstract:** This study uses data for the main group of the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation. About 1000 men and women were studied at age 48 and 43, respectively, and the participation rate was high (82% and 89%, respectively). In this report, general and area-specific subjective well-being (SWB) are compared between genders. No significant mean differences were found. The focus is on gender differences in the relationships between general and area-specific SWB. Generally speaking, the relationships were fairly strong and strongest between general SWB and satisfaction with family life. The relationship between extrinsic job satisfaction and general SWB was stronger for men than for women while the relationship between general SWB and satisfaction with the partner relation was stronger for women than for men.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report subjective well-being, gender, life satisfaction

**Referens:** Selenius, H., Dåderman, A.M., & Hellström, Å. (2006). Memory performance in dyslexic male juvenile delinquents convicted of severe offences does not differ from that in dyslexic male junior college students. *World Journal of Biological Psychiatry*, 7(1), 41-50.

**Abstract:** Background: There are different research approaches regarding the causes and possible overrepresentation of dyslexia in criminals. One approach focuses on sociological explanations such as under-stimulation at home, while another focuses on the importance of cognitive neurobiological dysfunctions. In several studies, poor memory for digits and poor verbal learning ability have been found in non-criminal dyslexics.

Aim: To compare memory performance in two groups of dyslexics, namely, juvenile delinquents and junior college students, in order to discuss their dyslexic problems in the light of sociocultural and cognitive neurobiological approaches.

Participants: Two groups of male adolescent dyslexics: 11 juvenile delinquents (mean age 18.55 years, SD = 2.07), all of them convicted for severe offences, and 11 junior college students (mean age 17.09 years, SD = 0.83).

Results: Matched-samples t-tests indicate that there is no difference in memory performance between the two different groups of dyslexics, which supports the accuracy of the diagnoses of dyslexia in the group of juvenile delinquents.

Conclusions: The present results show that the memory performance of dyslexic juvenile delinquents does not differ from that of dyslexic junior college students. A sociocultural approach, therefore, cannot plausibly explain the high prevalence of reading and writing difficulties among juvenile delinquents.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal juvenile delinquents, dyslexia, memory performance

**Referens:** Selenius, H., Dåderman, A.M., Wirsén Meurling, A., & Levander, S. (2006). Assessment of dyslexia in a group of male offenders with immigrant backgrounds undergoing a forensic psychiatric investigation. *Journal of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology*, 17 (1), 1-22.

**Abstract:** It is known that offenders with immigrant backgrounds are over-represented in criminal as well as forensic psychiatric populations and that the prevalence of dyslexia among prisoners with Swedish as a native language is much higher than in the general population in Sweden. The aim of this study was to diagnose dyslexia in a sample of 23 male offenders with immigrant backgrounds undergoing a forensic psychiatric investigation with the objective to discuss the appropriateness of a commonly used assessment procedure in accordance with DSM-IV. Dyslexia was diagnosed individually; the participants took reading and writing tests, as well as intelligence and neuropsychological tests. Nine out of 23 participants (39%) were diagnosed as having dyslexia. Thus, dyslexia seems to be common among male offenders with immigrant backgrounds undergoing FPI, and for that reason it is important to investigate their reading and writing abilities. Dyslexia is regarded as a functional impairment in Sweden, and therefore all offenders with dyslexia undergoing a forensic psychiatric investigation, irrespective of their background, should receive help with the legal procedure, for example their crime files and police investigation documents should be read to them. We conclude that in addition to the criteria in DSM-IV the assessment procedure should be extended with phonological tests.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal dyslexia, immigrant background, forensic psychiatric investigation

**Referens:** Sharafi, P., Hedman, L., & Montgomery, H. (2006). Using information technology: Engagement modes, flow experience, and personality orientations. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 22, 899-916.

**Abstract:** The engagement mode (EM) model describes how an IT user (subject) engages in an activity with an object in a certain mode. The model specifies five engagement modes (Enjoying/Acceptance, Ambition/Curiosity, Avoidance/Hesitation, Frustration/Anxiety, and Efficiency/Productivity), which are characterized on three dimensions (evaluation of object, locus of control between subject and object, and intrinsic or extrinsic focus of motivation). Using questionnaire data from 290 participants, we extended previous empirical support for the model as well as described the model's relationship to flow experience. In addition, it was found that autonomy, controlled and impersonal orientation in conjunction with socio-demographic variables differentiated among specific engagement modes and flow experience. We conclude that the EM-model, flow experience, and causality orientation theories provide a uniform framework for understanding how people adapt to information technology.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal engagement modes, flow experience, information technology

**Referens:** Sjöberg, A., Rüdén, S., & Sverke, M. (2006). Personality and a typology of job involvement and organizational commitment. Paper presented at *The 21st Annual Convention of the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology*, Dallas, Texas, 5-7 May, 2006.

**Abstract:** Whereas job involvement and organizational commitment have attracted considerable research attention over the years, little is known about how these phenomena may be influenced by personality factors. This paper investigates the relationship between the Five Factor Model (FFM) of personality and employee attachment using a typology based on the individuals level of job involvement and organizational commitment. The results show that Emotional Stability, Extraversion and Conscientiousness have a significant impact on individual classifications according to the attachment typology. Given the well established links between employee attachment and behavioral outcomes, these findings indicate that personality measures may be a highly valuable tool in personnel selection procedures.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job involvement, organizational commitment, personality

**Referens:** Sjölander, M. (2006). *Age-related cognitive decline and navigation in electronic environments*. Swedish Institute of Computer Science. (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** The older population is increasing, as is life expectancy. Technical devices are becoming more widespread and used for many everyday tasks. Knowledge about new technology is important to remain as an active and independent part of the society. However, if an old user group should have equal access to this technology, new demands will be placed on the design of interfaces and devices. With respect to old users it is and will be important to develop technical devices and interfaces that take the age-related decline in physical and cognitive abilities into account. The aim of this work was to investigate to what extent the age-related cognitive decline affects performance on different computer-related tasks and the use of different interfaces. With respect to the use of computer interfaces, two studies were conducted. In the first study, the information was presented with a hierarchical structure. In the second study the information was presented as a 3D-environment, and it was also investigated how an overview map could support navigation. The third study examined the age-related cognitive decline in the use of a small mobile phone display with a hierarchical information structure. The results from the studies showed that the most pronounced age-related difference was found in the use of the 3D-environment. Within this environment, prior experience was found to have the largest impact on performance. Regarding the hierarchical information structures, prior experience seemed to have a larger impact on performance of easy tasks, while age and cognitive abilities had a larger impact on performance of more complex tasks. With respect to navigation aids, the overview map in the 3D-environment did not reduce the age-differences; however, it contributed to a better perceived orientation and reduced the feeling of being lost.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation ageing, cognition, navigation, computers, internet, mobile phones, interface design

**Referens:** Stefanova, E., Wall, A., Almkvist, O., Nilsson, A., Forsberg, A., Långström, B., & Nordberg, A. (2006). Longitudinal PET evaluation of cerebral glucose metabolism in rivastigmine treated patients with mild Alzheimer's disease. *Journal of Neural Transmission*, 113, 205-218.

**Abstract:** In this study 11 patients with mild Alzheimer's disease (AD) were treated with the cholinesterase inhibitor rivastigmine (mean dose  $8.6 \pm 1.3$  mg) for 12 months and underwent positron emission tomography (PET) studies of cerebral glucose metabolism (CMRglc) and neuropsychological testing at baseline and after 12 months. An untreated group of 10 AD patients served as control group. While the untreated AD patients showed a significant decline of CMRglc in the temporo-parietal and frontal cortical regions after 12 months follow-up the rivastigmine-treated patients showed no decline in CMRglc in corresponding cortical brain regions. Furthermore, a significant dose-related increase in CMRglc was recorded in the right frontal association region after 12 months rivastigmine treatment. A positive correlation was observed between changes in CMRglc and several cognitive tests in patients receiving higher doses (10.5–12 mg) of rivastigmine. These results suggest a stabilization effect of rivastigmine on CMRglc in mild AD patients receiving long-term rivastigmine treatment.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cerebral glucose metabolisms, rivastigmine, Alzheimer's disease

**Referens:** Sternäng, O., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). ApoE and vascular health synergy effects on cognitive functioning. Presentation at *The 11th Cognitive Aging Conference*, Atlanta, GA, USA.

**Abstract:** The APOE gene is a determinant for the body's transportation of cholesterol. APOE status, involving any combination of allele  $\epsilon 4$ , is also a known risk factor for developing vascular disorders and, although disputed, has a minor impact on cognitive functioning. Recent research have found that APOE  $\epsilon 4$  status might also act as a vulnerability factor, and that the combination of APOE  $\epsilon 4$  and certain diseases can cause a larger than expected impairment in cognitive functioning. Further, the impact of vascular health on cognitive functioning is well documented, and a main mechanism for this is variation in levels of cholesterol. The present study, which is based on data from the Betula project, examines how the interaction of APOE and vascular health (levels of cholesterol, triglycerides and blood pressure) influences performance on memory, verbal and visuospatial tasks. The results are also discussed in the perspective of age and gender differences in cognitive functioning.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings APOE, vascular health, cognition

- Referens:** [Stillström, H. \(2006\). Gender and Management Characteristics: Role Congruity Theory in an Egalitarian Context. \*EAESP Small Group Meeting on Gender and Career Advancement: Social Psychological Perspectives\*, Otterlo, the Netherlands, 14-16 June, 2006.](#)
- Abstract:** The present series of studies investigate possible explanations for the lack of female managers. The first study resulted in a categorisation scheme of characteristics associated with good, bad, female and male management, to a large degree pertaining to communion and agency. In a second study, student participants evaluated women more highly, but believed that women meet with more difficulties than men. Concurrently, preliminary data (n=80) from a study validating a Swedish translation of the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory (ASI, Glick & Fiske, 1996) indicate that both men and women dissociate themselves from sexist ideas. Interestingly, women disagreed to a greater extent with Benevolent items than Hostile items. A suggested link between system justification and the belief in complementary gender stereotypes (e.g., Glick & Fiske, 1997, 2001) could not be confirmed. Further investigation of these aspects will take place, both in qualitative and quantitative studies, in order to understand why women do not rise to the top, while good management and female leadership both are described in many communal terms.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings gender, role congruity, management stereotypes
- Referens:** [Stillström, H. \(2006\). Gender Stereotypes and Management Characteristics in an Egalitarian Culture: The Influence of Role Incongruity, Social Identity and System Justification. \*8th European Social Cognition Network Meeting\*, Warsaw/Pultusk, Poland, 6-10 September, 2006.](#)
- Abstract:** The present study sought to understand the lack of corporate female managers by investigating management stereotypes. Participants from different settings answered open-ended questions on good, bad, female and male management. A qualitative categorisation process resulted in a coding scheme and examples of items used in the second phase. Ideas of good management entailed many stereotypically feminine aspects. However, participants' open-ended responses often entailed comparisons between women and men, implying a norm of men as managers. Participants in the quantitative study had a more positive view of female than male managers. They strongly opposed the idea that female managers would be less competent, but believed that women meet with more difficulties as managers than men. There was also a tendency for women to adhere more strongly to these views, which is interpreted as social identity concerns relating to gender.
- In a forthcoming study, participants will be asked to express opinions concerning their general view of male and female managers, and their own managers. In addition, their social identity based self-esteem relating to gender will be measured, as well as Modern Sexism, system justification and political stance. It will be explored whether subtyping of participants' own managers takes place, and whether minority/majority status of the managers' gender group influences the evaluation. More specifically, female managers in a minority status may be evaluated more negatively than female managers in a majority status and male managers more generally. The consequence for female participants' social identity based self-esteem is of particular interest. This study will also investigate the link between system justification and the belief in complementary gender stereotypes.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings gender stereotypes, role congruity, social identity
- Referens:** [Stillström, H.L. \(2006\). Stereotype description and evaluation – comparing male and female managers. Group and Intergroup Processes Pre-conference of \*The 7th Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology\*, Palm Springs, USA, 26-28 January 2006.](#)
- Abstract:** The present study sought to understand the lack of corporate female managers by investigating management stereotypes. In a first step, participants from different settings answered open-ended questions on good, bad, female and male management. A qualitative categorisation process resulted in a coding scheme and examples of items used in the second phase. Student participants indicated degree of agreement on items reflecting the categories extracted previously. Half the participants answered a particular item concerning male managers, and the other half the same item concerning female managers. In addition, there were items that focused exclusively on male or female managers, and those were given in the same form to all participants. The qualitatively formed categories were tested, and items extracted, using principal components analyses and Cronbach's alpha. Ideas of good management entailed many stereotypically feminine aspects. However, participants' open-ended responses often entailed comparisons between women and men, implying a norm of men as managers. Participants in the quantitative study had a more positive view of female than male managers. They strongly opposed the idea that female managers would be less competent, but believed that women meet with more difficulties as managers than men. There was also a tendency for women to adhere more strongly to these views, which is interpreted as social identity concerns relating to gender.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings management stereotypes, gender
- Referens:** [Sundin, E., & Ögren, M.-L. \(2006\). Supervisees' and supervisors' experiences of group climate in group supervision in psychotherapy. Effects of admission procedure. \*Issues in Educational Research\*, 16 \(2\), 226-240.](#)
- Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effects of two different admission procedures (high school grades/scholastic aptitude test (SAT) versus high school grades/SAT + interview) to a program in professional psychology on students' and supervisors' experiences of the group climate in psychotherapy supervision groups during an eighteen-month clinical practicum. A self-rating scale constructed to measure experiences of group climate in group supervision in psychotherapy was used. The results showed that students who were admitted based on the alternative admission procedure reported that their supervision groups had a more beneficial climate compared to those who were admitted based on high school grades/SAT. The evaluation suggested that admission via interviews together with high school grades/SAT is a good alternative to traditional admission procedures.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal admission procedure, psychotherapy supervision, group climate
- Referens:** [Sundström, A., Nilsson, L.-G., Cruys, M., Adolfsson, R., Van Broeckhoven, C., & Nyberg, L. \(in press\). Increased risk of dementia following mild head injury for carriers but not for non-carriers of the APOE ε4 allele. \*International Psychogeriatrics\*.](#)
- Abstract:** The ε4-allele of Apolipoprotein-E (APOE) and head injury are risk factors for dementia diseases, and these factors may act synergistically to further increase the risk. The aim of the present study was to examine the association between mild head injury, APOE, and dementia. Data were obtained from the Betula prospective

population-based study of aging, memory, and health. The study included 543 participants in the age range 40-85 years, free of dementia at baseline, who were followed-up within a 5-year interval. Dementia was classified using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Criteria. Information of previous head injury was done through screening of the participants' answers to health questionnaires both at baseline and at following test occasions. We found that subjects with head injury but without APOE ε4 had no increased risk of dementia. Subjects with APOE ε4 had elevated risk and those with both APOE ε4 and head injury had the highest risk (OR = 5.2). This study confirms that APOE ε4 constitutes a risk factor of dementia, that mild injury in isolation does not increase the risk, but that head injury in combination with the APOE ε4 lead to increased risk of dementia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal brain injury, apolipoprotein, Alzheimer's disease

**Referens:** [Svenson, O. \(2006\). A frame of reference for studies of safety management. In O. Svenson, I. Salo, P. Oedewald, T. Reiman, & A.B. Skjerve \(Eds.\), \*Nordic perspectives on safety management in high reliability organizations: Theory and applications\* \(pp. 1-7\). Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology.](#)

**Abstract:** The chapter gives a theoretical framework for studies of safety management based on a system approach. Safety management is considered a process, in which, industries, societal representatives and the public interact in finding a balance between the benefits, costs and risks of products, activities and processes. The purpose of the chapter is to provide a framework based on a system perspective that is general enough for application in different approaches to safety management. A system theoretic perspective supports a safety manager in his/her analysis of and work in an organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) system theory, living systems, feedback

**Referens:** [Svenson, O. \(2006\). On event reporting in the Swedish health care and civil aviation systems. In O. Svenson, I. Salo, P. Oedewald, T. Reiman, & A.B. Skjerve \(Eds.\), \*Nordic perspectives on safety management in high reliability organizations: Theory and applications\* \(pp. 67-72\). Stockholm: Stockholm University, Department of Psychology.](#)

**Abstract:** This chapter describes the safety feedback from event reporting systems. The companies who were investigated in more detail (SAS and Danderyd Hospital Company) and also the corresponding safety regulation authorities were quite open about their own internal reporting systems and provided valuable information. The present chapter covers company internal event reporting systems and external reporting systems to the societal authorities.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) incident reports, aviation, health care

**Referens:** [Svenson, O., & Erixon, A.-L. \(2006\). \*Om myndighets- och industriperspektiv på rapportervärda omständigheter, "kategori 2 händelser" - RO-rapporter\*. SKI-Report 2005/1132.](#)

**Abstract:** Syftet för detta arbete är att ge en bild av hur man inom SKI och inom kärnkraftsindustrin ser på händelserapportering till SKI enligt "kategori 2", så kallad RO-rapportering. Tanken är inte att i första hand reflektera officiella skrivna dokument, som behandlar och reglerar RO-rapporteringen. I stället är målet att återspegla något av den mångfald av omdömen om rapporteringen som finns inom de olika organisationerna. Därför redovisas resultaten i form av olika bedömningar av RO-rapporteringen i stället för en integrerad sammanfattning. Genom att låta dessa olika bedömningar bli grunden för en analys av RO-rapporteringen inom SKI och industrin (där två kärnkraftverk bidragit med information), kan olika argument för och emot förändring av rutinerna. genomgående för befattningshavarna inom de olika organisationerna är att de anser RO-rapporteringen vara ett bra instrument för att säkerställa en hög grad av säkerhet.

En rad synpunkter som varierar mellan verk och SKI, framförallt också är kopplat till dessa framförs en rad förslag om förbättringar som en enhetligare rapportering, att blanketterna för rapportering inte ändras i onödan, att datorsystem utvecklas med efter behov, att rapporteringen fokuseras på verkligt viktiga händelser. För en utförligare beskrivning av de olika synpunkterna hänvisas läsaren till resultatredovisningen.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report kärnkraftsindustrin, "Kategori 2 händelse", rapportering RO-rapportervärda omständigheter

**Referens:** [Svenson, O., Salo, I., & van de Loo, K. \(in press\). Memories of real-life decisions. \*Memory\*.](#)

**Abstract:** Three studies investigated decision makers' memory representations of choice alternatives in most important real-life decisions. In study 1, each participant recalled the most important decision that she or he had ever made and rated to what degree a number of characteristics could describe the decisions. In study 2, the participants were asked to think about an important decision that they had made during the last 7 - 10 days. In Study 3, the memory representations of decisions of a group of action-oriented participants were compared with those of a group of state-oriented participants (Kuhl, 1983). Characteristics related to standard decision theory like consequences, values and likelihood had high ratings of applicability as well as affect/feeling. When testing the applicability of a circumplex model, the fuzzy-trace theory of memory and differences between state- and action-oriented decision makers we found (1) that there was no support for the circumplex model of emotions. Instead, an important decision problem was characterized by both positive and negative affect/emotion and thus, a bipolar mapping was found inadequate, (2) that a comparison of abstract and concrete aspects showed that the abstract characteristics scored higher thereby supporting the fuzzy-trace theory, and (3) that the prediction that action-oriented participants would score higher than state-oriented participants on the characteristic of activity was not supported. However, state-oriented decision makers rated passivity higher than action-oriented decision makers for the important decision of leaving a partner. State-oriented decision makers used perceptual/cognitive scenario representations to a greater extent than action-oriented participants. Finally, it was stressed that in the development of decision theories it is essential to find theoretical representations as close as possible to how decision makers themselves represent the decisions. The method used in this contribution is focused on the role of memory in decision making and gives further insights into how important real-life decisions are represented by different decision makers.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory representation, decision, individual differences

- Referens:** Sverke, M. (2006). Work motivation and organizational commitment: Antecedents and consequences. Keynote presentation at *The South African Conference on Positive Psychology: Individual, Social and Work Wellness*, Potchefstroom, 3-7 April, 2006.
- Abstract:** Over the past decades, the concept of work commitment has attracted empirical research attention both as an antecedent and as a consequence of other work-related variables. Unfortunately, however, the rising interest in commitment as a phenomenon and the growth of commitment related concepts have not been accompanied by careful theoretical consideration of its conceptual domain. An important issue in terms of work commitment concerns the distinction between various foci of commitment. Employees can commit themselves, for instance, to the organization they work for, the workgroup, the job itself, their career, and the union. Another important issue concerns the dimensionality of commitment. A striking characteristic of research on the nature of commitment is that various fundamental dimensions of commitment are sometimes assigned different labels, thus increasing the risk of concept redundancy. This presentation will discuss similarities and differences between various forms of work motivation and commitment, as well as between different dimensions of commitment, in order to arrive at a clearer understanding of the fundamentals of commitment. Since a crucial issue in commitment research concerns the processes through which the different aspects of commitment are assumed to develop, the presentation will also summarize research evidence on the antecedents of commitment. The relation of commitment to various potential outcomes will also be highlighted. The presentation will also point out some future challenges.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings organizational commitment, work attitudes, motivation
- Referens:** Sverke, M. (in press). Design, sampling, and analysis in quantitative investigations. In B. Gustavsson (Ed.), *Knowledge creating methods*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.
- Abstract:** This chapter aims to illustrate the relation between the objective of the research study, its sample and design, the choice of data analyses, as well as those conclusions that may be drawn. Quantitative research usually has as a goal to generalize the results to a larger population than the group under study, and by doing so achieving more general knowledge. Quantitative methods are often based on theories and the more developed the theories in an area is, the more the research question (the issue of what is the problem) can be of an explanatory nature. The prerequisites for correctly addressing the research question and drawing general conclusions depend on the how the sampling for the study is done (the issue of who should be investigated). Since non-representative samples limit the possibilities of generalizing to groups other than those studied it is important to begin by identifying and delimiting the population one wishes to know more about and proceed by drawing a representative (random) sample from this population. The context of the study (the issue of where) and the aspect of time regarding development of effects (the issue of when) may also affect the conclusions drawn. The chapter gives a review of the most common study designs (the issue of how) and illustrates that for each type of research question there is an optimal research design. Even if the choice of design may be restricted by factors such as economic resources or the time available, it is important to be attentive to those advantages and limitations associated with each design – and that these may affect the validity in the conclusions reached. The chapter also shows that conclusions regarding cause and effect are problematic, even if some designs, more than others, facilitate causal inferences.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) research design, sampling, causal inferences
- Referens:** Sverke, M. (in press). Quantitative methods: The art of measuring what you want measured. In B. Gustavsson (Ed.), *Knowledge creating methods*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.
- Abstract:** In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how accurate are the measurements) and one about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that aggregated measures based on multiple indicators of the same theoretical phenomenon may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) measurement theory, validity, reliability
- Referens:** Sverke, M., De Witte, H., De Cuyper, N., Näswall, K., & Hellgren, J. (2006). Job insecurity and absenteeism: Cross-lagged analysis. Poster presented at *The 7th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology*, Dublin, Ireland, November 8-10, 2006.
- Abstract:** Organizations in most industrialized countries have engaged in various adaptive strategies in order to remain competitive in a gradually more unpredictable environment. Restructurings, privatizations, mergers and acquisitions have become more frequent, and typically involve personnel reductions through layoffs, offers of early retirement, and increased utilization of subcontracted workers. Although these reorganizations differ in many ways, they usually have at least one thing in common – they lead to the workforce being permeated with worries regarding the future. Job insecurity can be defined as a perceptual phenomenon, reflecting the fear of involuntary job loss. In the literature, job insecurity is often considered a classical work stressor, and it has been linked to several negative outcomes. A growing number of studies have documented that job insecurity is related to job dissatisfaction, impaired organizational commitment, increased turnover intention, and physical as well as mental health complaints. There are also indications that the worry of job loss may be related to factors such as impaired compliance with safety procedures, ischemic heart disease occurrence, and absenteeism. However, whereas previous research has concluded that job insecurity has psychological, behavioral as well as health-related consequences, there is insufficient evidence to draw any causal inferences. The aim of the present study is to shed light on the issue of causality in the relationship between job insecurity and a potential outcome that has attracted comparatively limited research attention – absenteeism. Drawing upon the literature on work stress, it is reasonable to suggest that job insecurity may lead to increased absenteeism from work. Equally plausible, however, would be to assume that individuals with high absenteeism records would feel more at risk in organizations where there is a threat of layoffs. The study also aims at ruling out the yet alternative hypothesis that both job insecurity and absenteeism are caused by third variables, by controlling for factors such as seniority and well-being. Longitudinal data for this study are currently being collected using mail questionnaires among white-collar workers in a Swedish organization. The second wave of

data collection, conducted a year after Time 1, is currently being completed. Preliminary analyses based on cross-sectional Time data indicate a positive association between job insecurity and absenteeism. The longitudinal design will make it possible to test various alternative models of causality. Latent variable cross-lagged analysis will contribute to the understanding of the development and consequences of job insecurity by shedding light on the issue of absenteeism in this process.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, absenteeism, work stress

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Hellgren, J., & Näswall, K. (2006). Arbeitsplatzunsicherheit: Überblick über den Forschungsstand (Job insecurity: A literature review). In B. Badura, H. Schellschmidt, & C. Vetter et al. (eds.), *Fehlzeiten-Report 2005: Arbeitsplatzunsicherheit und Gesundheit [Absenteeism report 2005: Job insecurity and well-being]* (pp. 59-92). Berlin: Springer-Verlag.

**Abstract:** This chapter describes the nature of job insecurity and addresses conceptual as well as methodological issues affecting our understanding of its antecedents and consequences. The literature review suggests that a great deal of theoretical and empirical work is needed to capture the nature of job insecurity, develop psychometrically sound measures of the different aspects, and arrive at valid conclusions regarding the effects of insecurity. Job insecurity is defined as a subjectively experienced stressor which may be divided into different dimensions. Experiences of job insecurity originate in both situational and a number of individual factors. Job insecurity perceptions have been consistently related to reactions such as negative work-related attitudes and behaviors, and job-induced stress symptoms. However, despite a few longitudinal studies on the consequences of job insecurity, most research results derive from cross-sectional studies, and a lot of work remains to expand knowledge on how job insecurity contributes to changes in various outcomes. There are also a number of plausible factors that may moderate the relationships between job insecurity and its potential outcomes. These issues need to be addressed in theoretical as well as empirical work in order to improve the understanding of both what job insecurity is and what it may imply for the individual and the organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) job insecurity, work stress, employment

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Hellgren, J., & Näswall, K. (2006). *Job insecurity: A literature review*. SALTSA Report 2006:01. Stockholm: National Institution of Working Life & SALTSA.

**Abstract:** This report describes the nature of job insecurity and addresses conceptual as well as methodological issues affecting the understanding of its antecedents and consequences. The literature review suggests that a great deal of theoretical and empirical work is needed to capture the nature of job insecurity, develop psychometrically sound measures of the different aspects, and arrive at valid conclusions regarding the effects of insecurity. Job insecurity is defined as a subjectively experienced stressor which may be divided into different dimensions. Experiences of job insecurity originate in both situational and a number of individual factors. Job insecurity perceptions have been consistently related to reactions such as negative work-related attitudes and behaviors, and job-induced stress symptoms. However, despite a few longitudinal studies on the consequences of job insecurity, most research results derive from cross-sectional studies, and a lot of work remains to expand knowledge on how job insecurity contributes to changes in various outcomes. There are also a number of plausible factors that may moderate the relationships between job insecurity and its potential outcomes. These issues need to be addressed in theoretical as well as empirical work in order to improve the understanding of both what job insecurity is and what it may imply for the individual and the organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report job insecurity, work stress, employment

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Hellgren, J., & Pienaar, J. (2006). Job insecurity and sense of mastery: Cross-lagged analysis. Paper presented at *Work, Stress and Health 2006: Making a difference at the workplace*, Miami, 2-4 March, 2006.

**Abstract:** Job insecurity can be defined as a perceptual phenomenon, reflecting the fear of involuntary job loss, and it has been linked to several negative outcomes. Just like for other stressors, these consequences can be classified in three broad categories – psychological, behavioral, and health-related. However, whereas previous research has concluded that job insecurity is associated with negative job attitudes and poor well-being, there is insufficient evidence to draw any causal inferences. Most studies are cross-sectional and therefore unable to control for initial levels of the outcome variables and examine temporal precedence. Only a few studies have explicitly addressed the issue of direction of relation between job insecurity and such outcomes. The aim of the present study is to shed light on the issue of causality in the relationship between job insecurity and a hitherto neglected potential psychological outcome – sense of mastery. Drawing upon the unemployment literature, it is reasonable to suggest that job insecurity may lead to impaired sense of mastery, as reflected in, for instance, impaired self-esteem and reduced confidence in one's own capacity. Equally plausible, however, would be to assume that a strong sense of mastery serves a protective function. Whether job insecurity, just like unemployment, may lead individuals to lose confidence in their capacity to make a difference is still an unresolved issue. Longitudinal data for this study are currently being collected using mail questionnaires among white-collar workers in a Swedish organization. The time 1 data collection wave was completed in Winter 2004/2005 (response rate: 64%). Preliminary analyses, based on Time 1 data, indicate that job insecurity was negatively related to various indicators of sense of mastery (e.g., self-esteem). The Time 2 data will make it possible to test various alternative models of causality. Latent variable cross-lagged analysis will contribute to the understanding of the development and consequences of job insecurity by shedding light on the issue of sense of mastery in this process.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, personality, work stress

**Referens:** Söderfjell, S., Molander, B., Johansson, H., Barnekow-Bergkvist, M., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2006). Musculoskeletal pain and performance on cognitive tasks over the adult life span. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 47, 349-359.

**Abstract:** The present study aimed at comparing participants with and without self reported musculoskeletal pain in a normal population with regard to performance on a range of tests for episodic memory, semantic memory, and other cognitive functions and to see if expected differences interacted with age. The results showed that participants with pain performed worse on a range of tasks as compared to participants without pain, and that these differences occurred regardless of age. The most robust effects of pain were displayed on tests for vocabulary and construction ability as these were the only effects that remained significant after controlling for years of education and reported depression in separate analyses. When depression and education were

controlled for in the same analysis, even these effects were eliminated suggesting interplay between pain, depressive status, and educational level in the negative effects on cognitive functioning.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal musculoskeletal pain, age, memory

**Referens:** Söderlund, H., Nilsson, L.-G., Berger, K., Breteler, M.M., de Ridder, M., Dufouil, C., Fuhrer, R., Giampaoli, S., Hofman, A., Pajak, A., Sans, S., Schmidt, R., & Launer, L. (2006). Cerebral changes on MRI and cognitive function: The CASCADE Study. *Neurobiology of Aging*, 27, 16-23.

**Abstract:** The aging, non-demented brain undergoes several physiological changes, some of which may and some of which may not affect cognitive function. The goal of the present study was to examine the effects of subcortical and periventricular white matter hyperintensities (WMHs), and cortical and subcortical atrophy on cognitive function (episodic and semantic memory, attention, and perceptual, cognitive, and motor speed). This was done within a European collaborative study, CASCADE (Cardiovascular Determinants of Dementia), in which Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) was performed on community-dwelling individuals. The study includes 1,254 persons from eight European study centers, ranging between 64 and 76 years of age (M 69.4 + 3.3; 55% men). When demographics (age, education, and sex), study center, and concurrent brain changes had been adjusted for, periventricular WMHs predicted lower performance in motor speed and Stroop (errors). The findings are consistent with findings from lesion and functional neuroimaging studies.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal white matter hyperintensities, MRI, cognition

**Referens:** Tallberg, I.M., Wennerborg, K., & Almqvist, O. (2006). Reading words with irregular decoding rules: a test of premorbid cognitive function? *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 47, 531-539.

**Abstract:** The present study investigated the relation between level of general cognitive function and the oral reading of irregular words in Swedish. Swedish is an orthographically regular language, so many irregular words are loan words from other languages. A test comprising such words (irregularly spelled words (ISW)) was designed, and tested on a sample of 48 healthy Swedish adults, stratified according to age, gender, and level of education. The results confirmed that the ability to read words that do not follow the regular rules for decoding in Swedish was positively related to general cognitive level. ISW in combination with demographic variables gave a good estimate of general cognitive function and a better estimate than demographic variables alone. Exposure to written and spoken vocabulary during the lifespan may be indexed by ISW performance, for factor analysis suggested that this may constitute a discrete factor contributing to cognitive function.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal ISW, premorbid cognitive function

**Referens:** Torbiörn, I. (2006). Elements of uncertainty and risk in intercultural contact. In O. Svensson, I. Salo, P. Oedewald, T. Reiman, A. Skjerve (Eds.). *Nordic Perspectives on Safety Management in High Reliability Organizations: Theory and Applications* (pp. 183-193). Valdemarsvik, Akademitryck.

**Abstract:** Intercultural exchange is discussed from a perspective of risk in terms of generally unwanted outcomes of contact. Elements of risk are identified at individual and organizational levels and it is held that risk emanates from basically the same psychological or human factors. At organizational levels risk is taken to manifest as frictions or costs of transaction. At the individual level the commonplace phenomenon of substitution is proposed to mediate risk. The occurrence of substitution, i.e. acceptance without understanding or acceptance of what would normally not be accepted, may increase as well as reduce risk. The same holds for the non-occurrence or lack of substitution. The phenomenon is discussed regarding its relation to trust as well as to qualities of intercultural situations. It is argued that insofar as situations may be influenced or set, substitution may be favored or disfavored in order to reduce risks in intercultural contacts.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) intercultural contact, cultural risk, diversity

**Referens:** Trost, K. (2006). Adolescents in Sweden. In J. Arnett (Ed.), *International Encyclopedia of Adolescence* (Vol. 2, pp. 947-965). New York: Routledge.

**Abstract:** This book chapter is in the Routledge International encyclopedia of adolescence. The encyclopedia is a comprehensive socio-cultural survey of the lives of adolescents around the world. In four volumes, the work will explore all aspects of the lives of young people between childhood and adulthood, i.e., between (roughly) age 10 and 25. Coverage will not only stress psycho-pathological issues, but instead will cover a wide range of topics concerning the lives of young people in countries as varied as Iran, India, Sweden, the USA, or Japan. In the present chapter, the following issues are presented about youth in Sweden: period of adolescence, beliefs, gender, the self, family relationships, friends and peer/youth culture, love and sexuality, health risk behaviors, education, work, media, politics and military, as well as issues that may be particularly unique to Sweden.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) adolescence, adolescents, youth culture

**Referens:** Wahlin, Å., MacDonald, S.W.S., deFrias, C.M., Nilsson, L.-G., & Dixon, R.A. (2006). How health and biological age influence chronological age and sex differences in cognitive aging: Moderating, mediating, or both? *Psychology and Aging*, 21, 318-332.

**Abstract:** Much research on cognitive competence in normal older adults has documented age and sex differences. We used cross-sectional data from the Victoria Longitudinal Study (n=386; age 61-95 years) to examine how health and biological age influence age and sex differences in cognitive aging. We found evidence for both moderating and mediating influences. Age differences were moderated by health status, such that the negative effects of age were most pronounced among participants of relatively better health. Sex differences were moderated by health and were pronounced among participants reporting comparatively poorer health. Although health mediated a notable amount of age-related cognitive variation, BioAge mediated considerably more variance, even after statistical control for differences in health. A complex pattern emerged for the mediation of sex differences: whereas BioAge accounted for sex-related variation in cognitive performance, health operated to suppress these differences. Overall, both health and BioAge predicted cognitive variation independently of chronological age.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal health, bioage, cognitive aging

- Referens:** Van Den Eede, F., Venken, T., Del-Favero, J., Norrback, K.-F., Souery, D., Nilsson, L.-G., Van den Bossche, B., Houlstijn, W., Sabbe, B.G.C., Cosyns, P., Mendlewicz, J., Adolfsson, R., Van Broeckhoven, C., & Claes, S.J. (in press). SNP analysis of CRF-binding protein gene in recurrent major depressive disorder. *Psychiatry Research*.
- Abstract:** Corticotropin-releasing factor-binding protein (CRF-BP) regulates the availability of free CRF and is a functional candidate gene for affective disorders. Previous research showed an association between polymorphisms in CRF-BP gene and recurrent major depression (MDD) in a Swedish sample. The purpose of the current study was to re-evaluate the previous findings in an extended Swedish sample and in an independent Belgian sample of patients with recurrent MDD and in control samples. In total, 317 patients and 696 control individuals were included. Six single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in CRF-BP gene were genotyped and the haplotype block structure of the gene was assessed. The association between genetic variants and neuro-endocrine function was examined in a small Belgian subgroup with the combined dexamethasone/CRF test. In the Swedish population, there was a trend towards an association between two SNPs and MDD. The subsequent gender analysis showed significant associations of three SNPs (CRF-BPs2 T p = 0.015; CRF-BPs11 T p = 0.005 and CRF-BPs12 C p = 0.030) and haplotype G\_T\_C\_T\_C (p = 0.016) with MDD in Swedish males. These results could not be replicated in the Belgian sample. However, in remitted Belgian MDD patients, CRF-BPs12 C and G\_T\_C\_T\_C homozygotes showed a significantly higher cortisol output after CRF stimulation. In conclusion, the association between specific genetic CRF-BP variants and MDD may be sexually dimorphic. The influence of the polymorphisms on neuro-endocrine function in MDD needs further investigation.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal CRHBP, corticotropin-releasing hormone-binding protein, depression, dexamethasone, gene
- Referens:** Van Den Eede, F., Venken, T., Van Den Bogaert, A., Del-Favero, J., Norrback, K.-F., Nilsson, L.-G., Adolfsson, R., Van Broeckhoven, C., & Claes, S.J. (in press). SNP analysis of CRF-binding protein gene in bipolar disorder. *Psychiatric Genetics*.
- Abstract:** Corticotropin releasing factor-binding protein (CRF-BP) regulates the availability of free CRF and is a functional candidate gene for affective disorders. The aim of the present study was to examine the association between polymorphisms in CRF-BP gene and bipolar disorder in an isolated Swedish population. Hundred and eighty-two patients with bipolar I disorder and 333 control individuals from Northern Sweden were included in the study. Five single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and a deletion polymorphism in CRF-BP gene were genotyped. The haplotype block structure of the gene was considered and the expectation maximization algorithm was adopted to estimate the haplotype frequencies. As a result, there were no significant associations of the different polymorphisms in the CRF-BP gene with bipolar disorder. In conclusion, this study in an isolated Swedish population does not support a role for the CRF-BP gene in the vulnerability for bipolar disorder.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal corticotropin releasing, factor-binding protein, bipolar disorder, genetics, HPA axis, vulnerability
- Referens:** Wiens, S. (2006). Current Concerns in Visual Masking. *Emotion, 6 (4)*, 675-680.
- Abstract:** Theories of emotion postulate that emotional input is processed independently from perceptual awareness. Although visual masking has a long tradition in studying whether emotional pictures are processed below a supposed threshold of perceptual awareness (subliminal perception), a consensus has yet to be reached. This article reviews current concerns in the use of visual masking. These include a reliable presentation method, the role of masking pictures, common definitions of awareness and their problems, current models of awareness, and neural mechanisms. A useful strategy may be the study of dose-response relationships between awareness and emotion processing that avoids a dichotomous view of awareness and allows conclusions about the relative independence of emotional processing from awareness.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal emotion, masking, consciousness
- Referens:** Wiens, S. (2006). Is perceptual awareness objective or subjective? Presented at the "Visual masking and the dynamics of vision and consciousness" at *Hanse Wissenschaftskolleg*, 27-30 June, 2006. Delmenhorst, Germany.
- Abstract:** When pictures are masked, people can discriminate among them even though they may claim that they are not consciously aware of the pictures. In deciding whether people are actually aware of the pictures, it is debated whether measures based on discrimination ability (objective measures) are preferable to measures of self-reported subjective experience (subjective measures). The present paper discusses commonly used indexes and relates them to contemporary concepts of phenomenal, access, and reflexive consciousness. Because objective and subjective measures capture different aspects of consciousness, their comprehensive use is recommended.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings consciousness, masking, awareness
- Referens:** Wiens, S. (2006). Perceptual awareness and responses to fear and faces. Presented at the *Alpine Brain Imaging Meeting*, 22-26 January, 2006. Champéry, Switzerland.
- Abstract:** Because evidence for subliminal perception of fearful faces is mixed, we used event-related fMRI (N = 29) to study activations of amygdala and fusiform gyrus to backward masked fearful, neutral, and scrambled target faces. Scrambled faces served as masks to isolate responses to fearful expressions (fearful vs. neutral) and faces (fearful and neutral vs. scrambled). To manipulate perceptual awareness, targets were masked at four durations (10, 20, 30, and 60 ms). During scanning, participants responded whether they detected a face. After scanning, participants performed objective tasks to measure their abilities in face detection and fear discrimination at the four target durations. Results showed that perceptual awareness varied substantially over target durations. Only left amygdala (MNI = -28, -4, -24) showed a main effect for fear across target durations. This response to fear was small and varied little over target durations, but was stronger for men and correlated with face detection. In contrast, regions in bilateral amygdala (-16, 2, -16; 28, -4, -18) and fusiform gyrus (-40, -60, -18; 38, -62, -16) showed a main effect for faces across target durations. This response to faces was large at 60 ms and dropped substantially at shorter durations. All regions showed this pattern. Results suggest that responses to fear and faces vary with perceptual awareness and that behavioral indexes of awareness are more sensitive than functional imaging.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings consciousness, fear, masking

**Referens:** [Wiens, S. \(2006\). Remain aware of awareness \[Correspondence\] \[Electronic Version\]. \*Nature Reviews Neuroscience\*, 6 from \[www.nature.com/nrn/journal/v6/n3/full/nrn1630-c1.html\]\(http://www.nature.com/nrn/journal/v6/n3/full/nrn1630-c1.html\).](#)

**Abstract:** Hannula, Simons, and Cohen<sup>1</sup> advocate several changes for future imaging research of implicit perception. First, a reliable display technology should be used, and behavioural and imaging data should be acquired for the same participants under identical conditions. Because a valid masking set-up is now available for imaging<sup>2, 3</sup>, future studies can realize these recommendations. Second, in terms of assessing unawareness, the authors maintain that, as in behavioural research, subjective (self-report) measures should be abandoned in favour of objective measures that demonstrate an absence of discrimination ability. That is, it is irrelevant whether participants claim that they are not aware of the pictures (subjective unawareness); instead, participants should not be able to discriminate them beyond chance (objective unawareness).

Although it is true that most imaging studies might have inadvertently established subjective unawareness, behavioural researchers do not generally agree that objective measures are more valid measures of awareness<sup>4, 5, 6</sup>. The debate persists because there is no conclusive evidence that either subjective or objective measures satisfy the requirements for a valid index of awareness — that they capture all aspects of conscious processing (exhaustive) but no non-conscious processing (exclusive)<sup>7, 8</sup>. Because stronger masking is typically required for objective unawareness than subjective unawareness<sup>9</sup>, this finding is often interpreted as evidence that subjective measures are affected by response biases<sup>10</sup> and, therefore, are less sensitive than objective measures<sup>11</sup>. However, the principal drawback of objective measures is that they ignore the principally subjective nature of awareness. That is, because awareness is a subjective experience, it is more relevant to index what people notice subjectively than what they can discriminate objectively<sup>5, 12</sup>. In analogy, the experience of pain cannot be indexed in terms of whether people can discriminate stimuli objectively, but whether they experience them subjectively as painful. Therefore, there is no evidence that objective measures fulfill validity requirements of exhaustiveness and exclusiveness better than subjective measures, so the discussion cannot be considered resolved in favour of objective measures. Furthermore, whereas the authors imply that methodological issues will disappear once imaging studies use objective measures, the results of behavioural research suggest that this conclusion is unwarranted. First, even for signal-detection measures, it is unclear what objective measure should be used (for example, face detection versus discrimination). Indeed, if discrimination ability per se is considered proof for awareness, implicit perception (for example, blindsight) is logically impossible<sup>5, 12</sup>. Second, because unawareness is demonstrated by null sensitivity, this procedure attempts to prove the null (absence of awareness), and so depends on power<sup>13</sup>. However, there are no generally accepted criteria (such as number of trials, or alpha level). Third, if pictures are presented below subjective awareness, participants might have no motivation to perform the task<sup>14</sup>. If so, they might respond randomly, and, as a result, an objective measure would assess only subjective unawareness<sup>13</sup>. So, objective measures ignore the subjective nature of awareness and have additional problems.

Until the debate concerning a valid index of awareness is resolved, researchers are advised to adopt an eclectic approach using signal-detection measures to characterize unawareness comprehensively in terms of subjective and objective unawareness<sup>15</sup>.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings consciousness, awareness, masking

**Referens:** [Wiens, S. \(2006\). Subliminal emotion perception in brain imaging: Findings, issues, and recommendations. \*Progress in Brain Research\*, 156, 105-121.](#)

**Abstract:** Many theories of emotion propose that emotional input is processed preferentially due to its relevance for the organism. Further, because consciousness has limited capacity, these considerations imply that emotional input ought to be processed even if participants are perceptually unaware of the input (subliminal perception). Although brain imaging has studied effects of unattended, suppressed (in binocular rivalry), and visually masked emotional pictures, conclusions regarding subliminal perception have been mixed. The reason is that subliminal perception demands a concept of an awareness threshold or limen, but there is no agreement on how to define and measure this threshold. Although different threshold concepts can be identified in psychophysics (signal detection theory), none maps directly onto perceptual awareness. Whereas it may be tempting to equate unawareness with the complete absence of objective discrimination ability ( $d' = 0$ ), this approach is incompatible with lessons from blindsight and denies the subjective nature of consciousness. This review argues that perceptual awareness is better viewed as a continuum of sensory states than a binary state. When levels of awareness are characterized carefully in terms of objective discrimination and subjective experience, findings can be informative regarding the relative independence of effects from awareness and the potentially moderating role of awareness in processing emotional input. Thus, because the issue of a threshold concept may never be resolved completely, the emphasis is to not prove subliminal perception but to compare effects at various levels of awareness.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal emotion, brain imaging, consciousness

**Referens:** [Wiklund, G., Ruchkin, V., Koposov, R., & af Klinteberg, B. \(2006\). Impulsivity Research: New Data and Future Perspectives and presenter of Pro-bullying attitudes among incarcerated juvenile offenders: The relation to delinquency, aggression, psychopathy and violence. \*The International Society for the Study of Impulsivity \(ISRI\) Regional Workshop\*, Paris, France, September, 2006. \(Org. Britt af Klinteberg, Franck J. Bayle, Hervé Caci\).](#)

**Abstract:** A new scale to assess pro-bullying attitudes, the Pro-Bullying Attitude Scale (PAS) was evaluated in 259 voluntarily recruited male juvenile delinquents in Russia. Exploratory factor analysis gave a two-factor solution: Callous Dominance (CD) and Manipulativeness/ Impulsiveness (MI). The subjects were divided into three groups (low, intermediate, high) according to their scores on PAS and its two factors. Low and high group Ss were compared and results indicated higher delinquent and aggressive behavior among high group Ss as assessed by the Youth Self Report (YSR) and violent behavior as assessed by the Antisocial Behavior Checklist (ABC), as well as higher scores on the personality trait Novelty seeking and lower on Cooperativeness as assessed by the Temperament and Character Inventory (Cloninger et al., 1994). High PAS and CD groups displayed significantly higher scores on psychopathy traits as assessed by the Childhood Psychopathy Scale (Lynam, 1997) significantly related to registered violent crime. Probullying attitudes are discussed as a link between personality and psychopathy on the one hand and antisocial and violent behavior on the other. The PAS is also discussed in terms of usefulness in identifying high-risk individuals for violent behavior among incarcerated delinquents and in preventing violence and bullying tendencies in juvenile forensic institutions.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings bullying, psychopathy, personality, juvenile delinquents

**Referens:** Willander, J., & Larsson, M. (in press). Olfaction and emotion: The case of autobiographical memory. *Memory & Cognition*.

**Abstract:** This study investigated (a) the influence of verbal and conceptual processing on the retrieval and phenomenological evaluation of olfactory evoked memories, and (b) whether the experienced qualities of retrieved information are affected by olfactory exposure per se. Seventy-two older adults were randomized into one of three cue conditions (odor-only, name-only, or odor-name) and asked to relate any autobiographical event for the given cue. The results indicate that explicit knowledge of an odor's name significantly affects the age distribution of memories such that the memory peak in childhood observed for odors-only was attenuated. Also, experiential factors such as pleasantness, and feelings of being brought back in time were lower when odors were presented with their respective names. Olfactory evoked memories were associated with a higher emotional arousal that could not be accounted for by the perceptual stimulation alone. Taken together, the overall pattern of findings suggests that retrieval of olfactory evoked information is sensitive to semantic and conceptual processing, and that odor-evoked representations are more emotional than memories triggered by verbal information.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal autobiographical, memory, odor

**Referens:** Willander, J., & Larsson, M. (2006). Smell your way back to childhood: Autobiographical odor memory. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, 13, 240-244.

**Abstract:** This study addressed age distributions and experiential qualities of autobiographical memories evoked by different sensory cues. Ninety-three older adults were presented with one of three cue types (i.e., word, picture, or odor) and asked to relate any autobiographical event for the given cue. The main aims were to explore whether: (a) the age distribution of olfactory evoked memories differs from memories cued by words and pictures, and whether (b) the experiential qualities of the evoked memories vary over the different cues. Results showed that autobiographical memories triggered by olfactory information were older than memories associated with verbal and visual information. Specifically, most odor-cued memories were located to the first decade of life (< 10 years), whereas memories associated with verbal and visual cues peaked in early adulthood (11-20 years). Also, odor-evoked memories were associated with stronger feelings of being brought back in time and had been thought of less often as compared with memories evoked by verbal and visual information. This pattern of findings suggests that odor-evoked memories may be different from other memory experiences.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, autobiographical, odor

**Referens:** Willén, H., & Montgomery, H. (2006). From marital distress to divorce: The creation of new identities for the spouses. *Journal of Divorce and Remarriage*, 45, 125-147.

**Abstract:** The aim of this article was to examine how people arrived at the decision to divorce. Semi-structured interviews were carried out with twelve couples in which both agreed the relationship was in trouble and at least one partner was seriously considering divorce. We found that initiating informants used cognitive, interactional and preparatory strategies, aiming at reconstructing the mental representation of the partner, the self, the relationship, as well as of the divorce option. Non-initiating partners sometimes used resistance strategies. Results are discussed in terms of dynamics between partners, identity making process and implications for family practice.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal distress, divorce, decision making

**Referens:** von Thiele, U., Lindfors, P., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Evaluating different measures of sickness absence with respect to work characteristics. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 34 (3), 247-253.

**Abstract:** Aims: Four different measures of sickness absence were related to psychosocial and physical work characteristics in workplaces with high, intermediate, and low sickness absence. The relationships between work characteristics and sickness absence were hypothesized to differ depending the sickness absence measure used.

Methods: Questionnaire data on physical work environment, physical load, support, influence at work, and worry were collected from 1,726 employees at 48 dental clinics in Stockholm, Sweden and were related to registry-based sickness absence obtained at the workplace level. The sickness absence measures included: (1) frequency, (2) one-day absence, (3) overall duration, and (4) duration between 2 and 21 days.

Results: For frequency, significant differences were found for all work characteristics, with poor work characteristics being associated with a high frequency of sickness absence. Considering duration between 2 and 21 days, there were significant differences in support, influence at work and physical work environment; for one-day absence, support, influence at work and physical load differed significantly. Conversely, there were no significant differences for the overall duration measure.

Conclusions: The results show that frequency of sickness absence is most consistently related to work characteristics, that short-time sickness absences have more inconsistent relationships and that relationship with overall duration is lacking. This highlights the need for further differentiation between different sickness absence measures, the behavioral patterns associated with different types of absences and the implication of such processes for prevention and intervention.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal sickness absence, measurement, dentistry

**Referens:** von Thiele, U., Lindfors, P., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Self-rated recovery from work stress and allostatic load in women. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, 61 (2), 237-42.

**Abstract:** Objective: The objective of this study was to investigate the relationships between self-rated recovery from work stress and biologic dysregulation in terms of allostatic load (AL) and individual biomarkers, respectively, in healthy women within the public health care sector.

Methods: Two hundred forty-one women completed self-ratings of recovery and took part in a standardized medical examination, which provided individual biomarkers that were used to compute AL.

Results: Cluster analysis of self-rated recovery resulted in three cluster profiles, including (1) recovered women (n=108), (2) nonrecovered women (n=51), and (3) fatigued women (n=82). Sequential logistic regression analysis showed that the fatigued profile had an increased risk for high AL. In contrast, there was no significant difference in individual biomarkers between recovery profiles.

Conclusions: The findings establish an association between biologic processes and self-rated recovery from work stress, thus supporting the hypothesis that insufficient recovery may result in high AL.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal recovery, allostatic load, women

**Referens:** von Thiele, U., Lindfors, P., & Lundberg, U. (2006). Self-rated recovery from work stress and allostatic load in women. *International Journal of Behavioral Medicine, 13*, S1, 352.

**Abstract:** This cross-sectional study was set to investigate the relationships between self-rated recovery from work stress and biological dysregulation in terms of allostatic load and individual biomarkers, respectively. 241 healthy women within the public health care sector completed self-ratings of recovery and took part in a standardized medical examination which provided individual biomarkers. These biomarkers were used to compute allostatic load, a summary indicator of biological challenges of multiple bodily systems. Cluster analysis of self-rated recovery resulted in three distinct cluster profiles: 1) recovered women (n = 108), with sufficient recovery and low levels of fatigue 2) non-recovered women (n = 51), with poor recovery in general and poor long term recovery in particular and 3) fatigued women (n = 82), characterized by poor short term recovery and high levels of mental and physical fatigue. A sequential logistic regression analysis was performed and the risk of high allostatic load was predicted from cluster group membership while controlling for age, education and whether or not participants had children living at home. Odds ratios showed that higher age and belonging to the fatigued profile were associated with high allostatic load. In contrast, there were no significant differences in individual biomarkers between recovery profiles. This study provides support for a focus on cumulative load when investigating the biological pathways of self-rated recovery from work stress. Furthermore, it adds to the research field by clarifying how self-rated recovery from work stress is related to allostatic load in healthy women employed in the public health care sector, which suggests that assessment of self-rated recovery from work could be used to prevent future ill health.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal occupational health, biological dysregulation, recovery profiles

**Referens:** Yonker, J.E., Adolfsson, R., Eriksson, E., Hellstrand, M., Nilsson, L.-G., & Herlitz, A. (in press). Verified hormone therapy improves episodic memory performance in healthy postmenopausal women. *Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition, 13*, 291-307.

**Abstract:** Studies of hormone therapy (HT) and cognition have yielded conflicting results. The aim of this observational study was to examine the effect of estradiol, via serum verified HT (estradiol, estriol, progesterone<sup>9</sup> and endogenous estradiol, on 108 healthy postmenopausal women's cognitive performance. The results demonstrated that the 43 HT- users performed at a significantly higher level than non- users on episodic memory tasks and on a verbal fluency task, whereas HT- users and non- users did not differ on tasks assessing semantic memory and spatial visualization. In addition, there was a positive relationship between serum estradiol level and episodic memory performance, indicating that postmenopausal HT is associated with enhanced episodic memory and verbal fluency, independent of age and education. These observational results suggest that HT use may be sufficient to exert small, yet positive effects on female sensitive cognitive tasks. HT compliance and formulation is discussed as confounding factors in previous research.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal estrogen, memory, menopause

**Referens:** Yonker, J.E., Eriksson, E., Nilsson, L.-G., & Herlitz, A. (2006). Negative effects of testosterone on visuospatial ability in 35 to 80 year old men. *Cortex, 42*, 376-386.

**Abstract:** Androgens have been linked to visuospatial ability. We examined the relationship between serum free testosterone (T) levels and spatial visualization ability in a population-based sample of 450 healthy men between the ages of 35 and 80 years. They were tested on block design and Mini Mental State of Examination (MMSE) draw-a-figure, as well as tasks assessing episodic memory, semantic memory, procedural memory, and verbal fluency. Blood was analyzed for free T and estradiol. Participants were grouped into high or low free T based on age-specific median values. Participants with low free T performed at a superior level on both the block design task and draw-a-figure task as compared to participants with high free T. The results are discussed within the scant body of research on androgens and cognition in men.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, testosterone, block design

**Referens:** Zettergren, P. (2006). Does childhood peer status predict social adjustment in midadolescence? CRD Clinicians's Research Digest, *Briefings in Behavioral Science, 24*, Number 4. (Abstract) Also in Zettergreen, P. (2005). Childhood peer status as predictor of midadolescence peer situation and social adjustment. *Psychology in the Schools, 42*, 745-757.

**Abstract:** The author examined the relationship between (a) stable sociometric status (rejected, popular, and average popularity) among same-gender class peers at ages 10-11 and (b) peer situation and social adjustment at age 15. Findings revealed that rejected children maintained their lower popularity with same-gender classmates as well as with different-gender peers up to midadolescence, suggesting that low popularity is gender independent. This group of children also perceived their peer situation (index of friendship, loneliness, and popularity) more negatively than did children in the average and popular groups. As expected, adolescents of both genders reported most of their peers to be in conventional peer categories, such as school-mates, same-age peers, and classmates. However, the rejected participants reported a smaller number of conventional peers. These findings suggest that exposure to peer rejection during late childhood among same-gender classmates as well as among different-gender classmates may be seen as a negative factor for an individual's future adjustment and development. With the development of sexual maturity during adolescence, negative reactions of both genders increase difficulties in identity formation and self-esteem. Therefore, clinicians working with individuals in late childhood and midadolescence should implement interventions that focus on decreasing the impact of peer rejection in late childhood.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal peer status, adjustment, adolescence

- Referens:** Zettergren, P., Bergman, L.R., & Wångby, M. (2006). Girls' stable peer status and their adulthood adjustment: A longitudinal study from age 10 to age 43. *International Journal of Behavioral Development, 30*, 315-325.
- Abstract:** Stable peer status clusters of rejected, popular, and average girls from ages 10 to 13 were identified and associated to young and middle adulthood adjustment. The study included a representative sample of 445 females from the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation. Results showed that, by young adulthood, rejected girls were at increased risks for criminal offending and especially alcohol abuse (two and eight times increased risk, respectively). In midlife, popular girls had achieved a more successful vocational career than average girls. However, for most midlife adjustment areas, like social relations and subjective well-being, there were no significant differences between the stable childhood clusters. To test an incidental explanatory model, childhood confounding variables (aggression, withdrawal, academic achievement, and SES) were introduced and explained some of the significant relations.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal adult adjustment, cluster analysis, sociometric peer status
- Referens:** Zhang, Y., Han, B., Verhagen, P., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Executive functioning in older adults with mild cognitive impairment: MCI has effects on planning, but not on inhibition. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*.
- Abstract:** In this study, we compared executive functioning in 32 Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) individuals with that of normally aging controls. Cognitive planning tests (Trail Making, Porteus Maze Test, verbal fluency tests) show a group difference favoring the normal controls, but tests for inhibition of prepotent responses (no-go accuracy, two measures of the Stroop effect, and negative priming) failed to uncover a significant group difference. The results indicate that there is no general executive control function impairment in MCI; rather, the deficits found are compatible with the hypothesis that MCI is an accelerated form of normal aging.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aging, cognition, executive functions
- Referens:** Zimmer, H.D., Helstrup, T., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Action-events in everyday life and their remembering. In S. Magnussen & T. Helstrup (Eds.), *Everyday memory*. Hove, UK: Psychology Press.
- Abstract:** On the basis of a large body of research on action memory, this chapter discusses how this area has developed and how the basic principles established can be implemented in many situations of memory in everyday life. It is discussed at some length how action skills are acquired and how actions are executed. It is also discussed how actions can be visually encoded and how visually encoded action events are remembered. Accuracy of memory for perceived and imagined is another topic that is considered at some length in the chapter. Still another topic is actions are intended in the context of prospective memory.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) actions, action memory, subject-performed tasks
- Referens:** Ögren, M.-L., & Sundin, E. (2006). *Gruppens inverkan på lärandeprocessen*. Vetenskapsrådets rapportserie, 15:2006, 200-206.
- Abstract:** Despite the fact that group supervision in psychotherapy appears to be the most frequently used modality in many training institutions (Holmes, Stader, Swaim, Haigler, & deRosset, 1998; Ögren, Jonsson, & Sundin, 2005), relatively few systematic studies of psychotherapy supervision in group have been published. GUT (Group Supervision in Psychotherapy in an Academic Context) is a research project that studies aspects of group supervision in psychotherapy training. The project is performed in collaboration between a number of Swedish universities and university-affiliated institutions. Four questionnaires have been developed; 1) Attained knowledge and skill, 2) Group climate, 3) Supervisor style, 4) Actual and ideal usage of the group format. In this project, data is collected from psychodynamic and cognitive-behavioral supervisors and their supervisees who work at different training institutions and different training levels. The supervisors and supervisees complete self-ratings at three measurement points during a supervision period of 1.5 to 2 years. Up until now, data has been collected during a five-year period (2002 to 2006), and a data-base with data from 150 supervision groups has been developed. Results from this project have been published in a number of articles.
- Our main findings of this net-work project is summerized as well as major limitations of this project and its design. Implications for future research is discussed.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Report group supervision, psychotherapy, design
- Referens:** Ögren, M.-L., & Sundin, E. (in press). Experiences of the group format in psychotherapy supervision. *The Clinical Supervisor*.
- Abstract:** The major purpose of this study was to examine differences between supervisors' and novice supervisees' experience of actual and desired usage of the group format in psychotherapy supervision. Second, differences between supervisors and supervisees who worked with cognitive behavioral and psychodynamic group supervision were examined. The results showed significant differences between the actual and desired usage of the group format. Psychodynamic supervisors and supervisees, to some extent, presented higher wish ratings compared to cognitive behavioral supervisors and supervisees. In conclusion, from a supervisor and supervisee perspective, a more frequent usage of group processes as a teaching tool in group supervision of psychotherapy is desired.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal group processes, group supervision, psychotherapy orientations
- Referens:** Öhman, L., Bergdahl, J., Nyberg, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Longitudinal analysis of the relation between moderate long-term stress and health. *Stress and Health*.
- Abstract:** The main goal of the present work was to longitudinally examine consequences of long-term moderately elevated levels of stress for various health outcomes. To address this issue, data covering 10 years was used from the ongoing Swedish population-based prospective Betula Study. Based on the ratings on a validated

stress-reported stress scale, matched subsamples between 40 and 65 years of age were divided into a high (n= 137) and low (n= 211) stress group. The reported incidence of cardiovascular, diabetes, psychiatric, tumour and musculoskeletal diseases was assessed 5 and 10 years after baseline (1993-1995) without contaminating effects of past health history. The incidence of diseases 5 years after baseline assessment showed no differences between the groups. After 10 years, there was a significantly higher incidence of psychiatric diseases, mainly depression in the high-stress group as well as a significant effect for tumours, although the number of cases was low. Although moderately elevated stress level may have a possible impact on psychiatric diseases especially depression and some tumours, it seems that prolonged moderate stress does not appear to be harmful to other stress-related diseases.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cardiovascular, depression, diabetes, musculoskeletal, tumours