

## Thomas C. O'Brien

### Curriculum Vitae

603 East Daniel St., Room 809  
Champaign, IL 61820  
[tcobrien@illinois.edu](mailto:tcobrien@illinois.edu)

723 South Neil St, Unit 210  
Champaign, IL 61820  
(860) 916-8796

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Psychology, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2017  
Concentrations: *Quantitative Methods, Psychology of Peace and Violence*
- M.S. Social Psychology, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2014
- A.B. Psychology and Jewish, Islamic, & Near Eastern Studies, (*Magna cum Laude*), Washington University, St. Louis, 2009

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2019-present Postdoctoral Associate, Social Action Lab, University of Illinois
- 2019-present Affiliated Scholar, Justice Collaboratory, Yale Law School
- 2019 Lecturer, Justice Collaboratory, Yale Law School
- 2016-2019 Research Scholar, Justice Collaboratory, Yale Law School

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2015 Topol Peace Fellowship, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2013 Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

- In press Evans Peterman, D., Rubien-Thomas, E., **O'Brien, T.C.**, Richeson, J.A., Casey, B.J., Meares, T.L., Tyler, T.R., & Baskin-Sommers, A. Procedurally just organizational climates improve relations between corrections officers and incarcerated individuals. *Psychology, Crime, and Law*.

- 2020 **O'Brien, T.C.**, Meares, T.L., & Tyler, T.R. Reconciling police and communities with apologies, acknowledgements, or both: A controlled experiment. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 687(1), 202-215, doi: [10.1177/0002716220904659](https://doi.org/10.1177/0002716220904659)
- 2020 **O'Brien, T.C.**, & Tyler, T.R. Authorities and communities: Can authorities shape cooperation with communities on a group level? *Psychology, Public Policy, & Law*, 26(1), 69-87, doi: [10.1037/law0000202](https://doi.org/10.1037/law0000202)
- 2019 **O'Brien, T.C.**, Tyler, T.R. Rebuilding trust between police and communities through procedural justice and reconciliation. *Behavioral Science & Policy*, 5(1), 34-50, [Link Here](#)
- 2019 **O'Brien, T.C.**, Tyler, T.R., & Meares, T. L. Building popular legitimacy with reconciliatory gestures and participation: A community-level model of authority. *Journal of Regulation & Governance*, 14(4), 821-839, doi: [10.1111/rego.12264](https://doi.org/10.1111/rego.12264)
- 2019 Rovenpor, D., **O'Brien, T. C.**, Roblaine, A., De Guissme, L., Chekroun, P., Leidner, B. How conflict corrupts: The role of meaning in the perpetuation of intergroup conflict. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 116(1), 119-140. doi: [10.1037/pspp0000169](https://doi.org/10.1037/pspp0000169)
- 2018 **O'Brien, T.C.**, Leidner, B., & Tropp, L.R. Are they for us or against us: How intergroup metaperceptions shape foreign policy attitudes. *Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*, 21(6), 941-961. doi: [10.1177/1368430216684645](https://doi.org/10.1177/1368430216684645).
- 2017 Tropp, L. R., Hawi, D. R., **O'Brien, T. C.**, Gheorghiu, M., Zetes, A., Butz, D. A. Intergroup contact and the potential for post-conflict reconciliation: Studies in Northern Ireland and South Africa. *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, 23(3), 239-249. doi: [10.1037/pac0000236](https://doi.org/10.1037/pac0000236)
- 2016 Rovenpor, D.R., Leidner, B., Kardos, P., **O'Brien, T.C.** Meaning threat can promote peaceful, not only military-based approaches to intergroup conflict. The moderating role of ingroup glorification. *European Journal of Social Psychology*. 46(5), 544-562. doi: [10.1002/ejsp.2183](https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.2183).
- 2016 Tropp, L. R., **O'Brien, T. C.**, Gutierrez, R. G., Valdenegro, D., Migacheva, K., Tezanos-Pinto, P., Cayul, O. How school norms, peer norms, and discrimination predict interethnic experiences among ethnic minority and majority youth. *Child Development*, 87(5), pp. 1436-1451. doi: [10.1111/cdev.12608](https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.12608).
- 2014 Tropp, L.R., **O'Brien, T.C.**, Migacheva, K. How peer norms of inclusion and exclusion predict children's interest in cross-ethnic friendship. *Journal of Social Issues*, 70(1), 151-166. doi: [10.1111/josi.12052](https://doi.org/10.1111/josi.12052).

- 2010 Lambert, A.J., Scherer, L.D., Schott, J.P., Olson, K.R., Andrews, R.K., **O'Brien, T.C.**, & Zisser, A.R.. Rally effects, threat, and attitude change: An integrative approach to understanding the role of emotion. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 98(6), 886-903. doi:[10.1037/a0019086](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0019086).

### Encyclopedia Entries and Book Chapters

- 2017 **O'Brien, T.C.**, Tropp, L.R. Contact theory, 141-143. In F. Moghaddam (Ed.) *Sage Encyclopedia of Political Behavior*, Thousand Oaks Sage Publications, Inc.
- 2015 **O'Brien, T.C.**, Tropp, L.R. Psychology: The phenomenology of human security, 137-155. P. Bourbeau (Ed.) *Security: Dialogue Across Disciplines*. Cambridge University Press.

### Manuscripts in Submission

- O'Brien, T.C.**, Palmer, R. & Albarracín, D. Misplaced trust: When trust in science fosters belief in pseudoscience and the benefits of critical evaluation. Under review at *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*.

### Manuscripts in Preparation

- O'Brien, T.C.**, & Albarracín, D. A meta-analysis of interventions to build trust in authorities and institutions.
- O'Brien, T.C.**, Feinberg, J., Gross, R., & Albarracín, D. Creating supportive environments to curb the opioid epidemic: How perceptions of providers' support for intervention strategies might shape patient-provider interactions.

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

### Leadership

- 2021 Co-Chair. Second Annual Preconference on Conflict and Conflict Resolution. w/Schumann, K. & Koetke, J. Preconference of Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Virtual Meeting.
- 2020 Co-chair. First Annual Preconference on Conflict and Conflict Resolution. w/Schumann, K. & Koetke, J. Preconference at Society for Personality and Social Psychology. New Orleans, LA, February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- 2020 Co-chair. Legitimacy and its discontents. w/Travaglino, G. Symposium at Society for Personality and Social Psychology. New Orleans, LA, February 29th.
- 2019 Co-chair. Reconciliation in Contentious Contexts.w/Tyler, T.R. Symposium at Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Portland, OR. February 8th.

### Papers Presented

- 2020        “The role of relational concerns in shaping participation in government and rejection of violence.” Society for Personality and Social Psychology. New Orleans, February 27<sup>th</sup>-February 29<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2019        “Reconciliation between Authorities and Communities.” International Meeting of Law and Society. Toronto, May 30<sup>th</sup>-June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  
- 2018        “Why matters: Empirical tests of the effects of inchoate police stops on popular legitimacy.” w/ Tyler, T.R., Meares T.L., & Fagan, J., Conference of Empirical Legal Studies. Ann Arbor, November 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2018        “Reconciliation between authorities and communities.” w/ Tyler, T.R. International Meeting of Law and Society. Toronto, June 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2017        “Reconciliation and participation: Expanding to a community-level model of authority.” w/Tyler, T.R., Conference of Empirical Legal Studies, Ithaca, October 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2015        “Are they for us or against us: How intergroup metaperceptions shape foreign policy attitudes.” w/Tyler, T.R., Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology. San Diego. July 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2013        “The role of school norms promoting positive intergroup relations among adolescents.” w/ Tropp, L.R., International Society for Political Psychology. Herzliya, July 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2012        “Intergroup contact and the potential for post-conflict reconciliation: Studies in South Africa and Northern Ireland.” w/ Tropp, L.R. & Hawi, D., Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology. Chicago, July 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>.

### Data Blitzes (Short Talks)

- 2019        “Reconciliation between Authorities and Communities.” w/ Tyler, T.R., Psychology & Law Preconference, Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Portland, February 7<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2018        “Evidence for a community-level model of authority: Broadening the relational approach to building popular legitimacy through community-level elements.” w/ Tyler, T.R., Psychology & Law Preconference, Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, March 1<sup>st</sup>.
  
- 2016        “Not the ‘We’ I wanted: How images of ingroup moral hypocrisy reduce ingroup attachment and support for intergroup helping.” w/ Leidner, B., Political Psychology Preconference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego. January 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **Posters Presented**

- 2015 “Are they for us or against us: How intergroup metaperceptions shape foreign policy attitudes.” w/ Leidner, B, & Tropp, L.R. Scientific Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Long Beach, CA. February 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.

## **Presentations for Policy Audiences**

- 2016 “From harm reduction to community engagement.” New York City Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice. December 16<sup>th</sup>

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Instructor**

Social Communication in the Age of Digital Media (Spring 2021)

### **Yale Law School, co-Instructor**

Theoretical Frameworks of Governance and Criminal Justice Reform (Spring 2019)

Social Science and Criminal Justice Reform (Fall 2018)

### **University of Massachusetts Amherst, Instructor**

Junior Writing (Fall 2016/2014)

### **University of Massachusetts Amherst, Teaching Assistant**

Water, Oil, and Blood: The Middle East in Global Policy (Spring 2015)

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Peer Review**

*Nature Human Behavior*

*Psychological Bulletin*

*Social Personality and Psychological Science*

*Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*

*Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*

*Basic and Applied Social Psychology*

*Political Psychology*

*Law and Social Inquiry*

*Psycho-Oncology*

*International Journal of Intercultural Relations*

### **To University**

Graduate Studies Committee, UMass Amherst, 2013-2016

Diversity Committee, UMass Amherst, 2014-2015

Brown Bag Committee, UMass Amherst, 2012-2014

Survey Pre-screening Committee, UMass Amherst, 2012-2013

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

2020-Present Association for Psychological Science (APS)

2015-Present Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

2016-2019 Law and Society Association (LSA)

2017-2018 Society for Empirical Legal Studies (SELS)

### **LANGUAGES**

Modern Standard Arabic: Conversational speaking, can read and write with dictionary  
R

SAS

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2011-2011 Web Metrics Analyst, General Dynamics Information Technology

2009-2010 Junior Web Editor, General Dynamics Information Technology

2009 Intern, International Center for Journalists

### **REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**