

# JUSTIN A. LAVNER

**OFFICE** Department of Psychology  
University of Georgia  
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## EMPLOYMENT

2014–present Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Georgia (UGA)  
Affiliate Faculty: Center for Family Research; Institute for Women’s Studies

## EDUCATION

2014 Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)  
Minor: Social Psychology

2013–2014 Clinical Psychology Intern, San Diego VA / University of California, San Diego  
Track: San Diego VA Family Mental Health Program / Rady Children’s Hospital Child  
& Adolescent Psychiatry Services

2007 M.A., Clinical Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles

2006 B.A., with Highest Honors in Psychology, Williams College  
*Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa*

## EXTRAMURAL GRANTS

### Active

2017–2021 *Responsive Parenting, Sleep, and Rapid Weight Gain among African American Infants*. National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (R01DK112874).  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator (co-PI: L. L. Birch).  
Total direct costs: \$1,834,538

2016–2019 *UGA SBIRT Interprofessional Training Program*. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (1H79TI026457-01).  
Role: Co-Investigator (PI: A. Abraham)  
Total direct costs: \$826,570

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

2017	Fellow, Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia
2017	J. Hatten Howard III Honors Professor Award, UGA Honors Program
2016	Clinical Supervision Award, UGA Clinical Psychology Program
2012	Teaching Fellow, UCLA LGBT Studies Program
2012	Senior Scientist Practitioner Award, UCLA Clinical Psychology Program
2011	Student Poster Award, Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice, American Psychological Association
2010–2013	Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation (\$120,000)
2006–2009	National Science Foundation IGERT Traineeship, UCLA Interdisciplinary Relationship Science Program (\$120,000)

## PUBLICATIONS

(† indicates student co-author)

### Peer Reviewed Articles

1. Barton, A. W., Beach, S. R. H., Bryant, C. M., **Lavner, J. A.**, & Brody, G. H. (in press). Stress spillover, African Americans' couple and health outcomes, and the stress-buffering effect of family-centered prevention. *Journal of Family Psychology*.
2. †Hammett, J. F., **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (in press). Intimate partner aggression and marital satisfaction: A cross-lagged panel analysis. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
3. Karney, B. R., Bradbury, T. N., & **Lavner, J. A.** (in press). Supporting healthy relationships in low-income couples: Lessons learned and policy implications. *Policy Insights from Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.
4. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., Williamson, H. C., & Bradbury, T. N. (in press). Bidirectional associations between newlyweds' marital satisfaction and marital problems over time. *Family Process*. doi:10.1111/famp.12264
5. **Lavner, J. A.**, †Weiss, B., Miller, J. D., & Karney, B. R. (in press). Personality change among newlyweds: Patterns, predictors, and associations with marital satisfaction over time. *Developmental Psychology*. doi:10.1037/dev0000491
6. †Weiss, B., **Lavner, J. A.**, & Miller, J. D. (in press). Self- and partner-reported psychopathic traits' relations with communication, satisfaction, and divorce in a longitudinal sample of newlywed couples. *Personality Disorders: Theory, Research, and Treatment*. doi:10.1037/per0000233

7. Barton, A. W., Beach, S. R. H., **Lavner, J. A.**, Bryant, C. M., Kogan, S. M., & Brody, G. H. (2017). Is communication a mechanism of relationship education effects among rural African Americans? *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *79*, 1450–1461. doi:10.1111/jomf.12416
8. Berger, P. K., **Lavner, J. A.**, Smith, J. J., & Birch, L.L. (2017). Differences in early risk factors for obesity between African American formula-fed infants and White breastfed controls. *Pilot and Feasibility Studies*, *3*, 58. doi:10.1186/s40814-017-0198-8
9. †Lamkin, J., **Lavner, J. A.**, & Shaffer, A. (2017). Narcissism and observed communication in couples. *Personality and Individual Differences*, *105*, 224–228. doi:10.1016/j.paid.2016.09.046
10. **Lavner, J. A.** (2017). Relationship satisfaction in lesbian couples: Review, methodological critique, and research agenda. *Journal of Lesbian Studies*, *21*, 7–29. doi:10.1080/10894160.2016.1142348
11. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (2017). Protecting relationships from stress. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, *13*, 11–14. doi:10.1016/j.copsy.2016.03.003
12. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Clark, M. A. (2017). Workload and marital satisfaction over time: Testing lagged spillover and crossover effects during the newlywed years. *Journal of Vocational Behavior*, *101*, 67–76. doi:10.1016/j.jvb.2017.05.002
13. **Lavner, J. A.**, †Lamkin, J., & Miller, J. D. (2017). Trait impulsivity and newlyweds' marital trajectories. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, *31*, 133–144. doi:10.1521/pedi\_2016\_30\_242
14. †Sleep, C. E., **Lavner, J. A.**, & Miller, J. D. (2017). Do individuals with maladaptive personality traits find these same traits desirable in potential romantic partners? *Personality and Individual Differences*, *119*, 317–322. doi:10.1016/j.paid.2017.08.010
15. Thomassin, K., Suveg, C., †Davis, M., **Lavner, J. A.**, & Beach, S. R. H. (2017). Coparental affect, children's emotion dysregulation, and parent and child depressive symptoms. *Family Process*, *56*, 126–140. doi:10.1111/famp.12184
16. Gabriel, B., Untas, A., **Lavner, J. A.**, Koleck, M., & Luminet, O. (2016). Gender typical patterns and the link between alexithymia, dyadic coping, and psychological symptoms. *Personality and Individual Differences*, *96*, 266–271. doi:10.1016/j.paid.2016.02.029
17. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2016). Does couples' communication predict marital satisfaction, or does marital satisfaction predict communication? *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *78*, 680–694. doi:10.1111/jomf.12301
18. **Lavner, J. A.**, †Lamkin, J., Miller, J. D., Campbell, W. K., & Karney, B. R. (2016). Narcissism and newlywed marriage: Partner characteristics and marital trajectories. *Personality Disorders: Theory, Research, and Treatment*, *7*, 169–179. doi:10.1037/per0000137

19. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2015). New directions for policies aimed at strengthening low-income couples. *Behavioral Science and Policy, 1*, 13–24.
20. **Lavner, J. A.**, †Lamkin, J., & Miller, J. D. (2015). Borderline personality disorder symptoms and newlyweds' observed communication, partner characteristics, and longitudinal marital outcomes. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 124*, 975–981. doi:10.1037/abn0000095
21. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2014). Relationship problems over the early years of marriage: Stability or change? *Journal of Family Psychology, 28*, 979–985. doi:10.1037/a0037752
22. **Lavner, J. A.**, Waterman, J., & Peplau, L. A. (2014). Parent adjustment over time in gay, lesbian, and heterosexual parent families adopting from foster care. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 84*, 46–53. doi:10.1037/h0098853
23. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2013). Newlyweds' optimistic forecasts of their marriage: For better or for worse? *Journal of Family Psychology, 27*, 531–540. doi:10.1037/a0033423
24. Waterman, J. M., Nadeem, E., Paczkowski, E., Foster, J. C., **Lavner, J. A.**, Belin, T., & Miranda, J. (2013). Pre-placement risk and longitudinal cognitive development for children adopted from foster care. *Child Welfare, 92*, 9–30.
25. Williamson, H. C., Hanna, M. A., **Lavner, J. A.**, Bradbury, T. N., & Karney, B. R. (2013). Discussion topic and observed behavior in couples' problem-solving conversations: Do problem severity and topic choice matter? *Journal of Family Psychology, 27*, 330–335. doi:10.1037/a0031534
26. Bradbury, T. N., & **Lavner, J. A.** (2012). How can we improve preventive and educational interventions for intimate relationships? *Behavior Therapy, 43*, 113–122. doi:10.1016/j.beth.2011.02.008
27. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (2012). Why do even satisfied newlyweds eventually go on to divorce? *Journal of Family Psychology, 26*, 1–10. doi:10.1037/a0025966
28. **Lavner, J. A.**, Bradbury, T. N., & Karney, B. R. (2012). Incremental change or initial differences? Testing two models of marital deterioration. *Journal of Family Psychology, 26*, 606–616. doi:10.1037/a0029052
29. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2012). Do cold feet warn of trouble ahead? Premarital uncertainty and four-year marital outcomes. *Journal of Family Psychology, 26*, 1012–1017. doi:10.1037/a0029912
30. **Lavner, J. A.**, Waterman, J., & Peplau, L. A. (2012). Can gay and lesbian parents promote healthy development in high-risk children adopted from foster care? *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 82*, 465–472. doi:10.1111/j.1939-0025.2012.01176.x

31. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (2010). Patterns of change in newlyweds' marital satisfaction. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 72, 1171–1187. doi:10.1111/j.1741-3737.2010.00757.x
32. Heatherington, L., & **Lavner, J. A.** (2008). Coming to terms with coming out: Review and recommendations for family-systems focused research. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 22, 329–343. doi:10.1037/0893-3200.22.3.329

#### Book Chapters, Encyclopedia Entries, and Other Invited Contributions

1. Beach, S. R. H., **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (in press). Biography of Francis (Frank) D. Fincham. In J. Lebow, A. Chambers, & D. Breunlin (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Couple and Family Therapy*. Springer.
2. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (in press). Marriage and committed partnerships. In B. Fiese (Ed.), *APA Handbook of Contemporary Family Psychology*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
3. **Lavner, J. A.** (2018). Behavioral couple therapy. In J. Lebow, A. Chambers, & D. Breunlin (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Couple and Family Therapy*. Springer. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-15877-8\_105-1
4. **Lavner, J. A.** (2017). Personality features of partner and romantic relationship satisfaction. In V. Zeigler-Hill & T. K. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Personality and Individual Differences*. Springer. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-28099-8\_838-1
5. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (2016). Effective interventions for optimal relationships (pp. 281–303). In C. R. Knee and H. T. Reis (Eds.), *Positive Approaches to Optimal Relationship Development*. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.
6. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (2014). Marital satisfaction change over newlywed years. In A. C. Michalos (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Quality of Life Research* (pp. 3811–3815). Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer.
7. **Lavner, J. A.** (2013). Adoptive children of gay and lesbian parents: Recent findings and implications for policy and practice. *The Child and Family Policy and Practice Advocate*, 36, 28–30.
8. **Lavner, J. A.** (2013). A critical lens on marriage promotion. [Review of One Marriage under God: The Campaign to Promote Marriage in America, by Melanie Heath]. *Sex Roles*, 68, 517–519.
9. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (2012). Communication. In W. T. O'Donohue & J. E. Fisher (Eds.), *Cognitive Behavior Therapy: Core Principles for Practice* (pp. 325–351). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Conference Presentations

1. **Lavner, J. A.**, Beach, S. R. H., Barton, A. W., & Bryant, C. W. (2018, March). Racial discrimination and relationship functioning among African American couples. In T. Nguyen (Chair), *Couples in context: Influence of social networks and socio-economic hardships*. Symposium accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
2. Berger, P. K., **Lavner, J. A.**, Smith, J. J., & Birch, L. L. (2017, November). *Correlations between reports of infant feeding cues and feeding practices by race and feeding mode*. Poster presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society, National Harbor, MD.
3. Berger, P. K., **Lavner, J. A.**, Smith, J. J., †Shealy, O. M., & Birch, L. L. (2017, November). *Differences in sleep duration among African American formula-feeding and White breastfeeding infants*. Poster presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society, National Harbor, MD.
4. †VanderBroek-Stice, L., Fontenot, L. G., Jackson, J. L., & **Lavner, J. A.** (2017, November). *Who breaks up and gets back together? Understanding relationship churn among young adults*. Paper presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood, Washington, DC.
5. †Petruzzella, A., Feinstein, B.A., Davila, J., & **Lavner, J. A.** (2017, April). *General and gay-related stressors predict gay men's negative affect and alcohol use over time*. Poster presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National LGBTQ Health Conference, Chicago, IL.
6. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., Williamson, H. C., & Bradbury, T. N. (2017, March). *Bidirectional associations between newlyweds' marital satisfaction and marital problems over time*. Poster presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Convention of Psychological Science, Vienna, Austria.
7. Berger, P. K., **Lavner, J. A.**, Smith, J. J., Beach, S. R. H., & Birch, L. L. (2016, November). *Change in body composition from 2 to 8 weeks postpartum differs for breastfed and formula-fed infants*. Poster presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society, New Orleans, LA.
8. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Clark, M. A. (2016, June). *How does workload affect marital satisfaction over time? Understanding bidirectional effects*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Work and Family Researchers Network, Washington, DC.
9. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2016, May). Bidirectional cross-lagged associations between couples' communication and marital satisfaction over the newlywed years. In K. M. Thomas (Chair), *Understanding how personality, psychopathology,*

*parenting, and communication influence marital satisfaction over time: From moments to years.* Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.

10. **Lavner, J. A.**, †Lamkin, J., Miller, J. D., Campbell, W. K., & Karney, B. R. (2016, April). *Narcissism and newlywed marriage: Partner characteristics and marital trajectories.* Paper presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Conference on Personality, Búzios, Brazil.
11. Waterman, J., **Lavner, J. A.**, & †Blake, A. (2016, January). *Long-term follow-up of children adopted from foster care in the United States.* Paper presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Adoption Research, Auckland, New Zealand.
12. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2015, March). *Relationship problems over the early years of marriage.* Poster presented at the inaugural conference of the International Convention of Psychological Science, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
13. **Lavner, J. A.**, Waterman, J., & Peplau, L. A. (2013, August). Same-sex parents of children adopted from foster care: Functioning over time. In E. Rothblum (Chair), *Embracing equality: Current research on same-sex relationships.* Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.
14. **Lavner, J. A.**, Karney, B. R., & Bradbury, T. N. (2013, May). Newlyweds' optimistic forecasts of their marriage: For better or for worse? In E. Finkel (Chair), *The power of longitudinal methods to unearth novel truths about intimate relationships.* Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, DC.
15. **Lavner, J. A.**, Bradbury, T. N., & Karney, B. R. (2012, November). *Behavior change in newlywed marriage: Verbal aggression, marital satisfaction, and relationship problems over time.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, National Harbor, MD.
16. **Lavner, J. A.**, Bradbury, T. N., & Karney, B. R. (2012, July). *Are marital outcomes a consequence of a gradual incremental process or a manifestation of initial risk factors?* Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.
17. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Waterman, J. (2012, June). Gay and lesbian parents and their adopted children: Basic findings to inform practice and policy. In L. Heatherington (Chair), *Basic research with implications for child and family therapy.* Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research, Virginia Beach, VA.
18. **Lavner, J. A.**, & Bradbury, T. N. (2011, November). *Negative communication foreshadows divorce among satisfied newlyweds.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

19. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Waterman, J. (2011, November). Risk and resilience in gay and lesbian families adopting from foster care. In A. Langley (Chair), *Addressing the unique needs of diverse families adopting children from foster care*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
20. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Waterman, J. (2011, August). *Child and parent adjustment over time in gay and straight families adopting from foster care*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.
21. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Bradbury, T. N. (2011, July). *Why do stably satisfied newlyweds go on to divorce?* Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the European Congress of Psychology, Istanbul, Turkey.
22. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Bradbury, T. N. (2011, January). Pathways and antecedents to divorce in newlywed couples: Findings from a 10-year study. In M. Kamashiro & N. Bolger (Chairs), *Integrating laboratory and longitudinal research on relationships*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.
23. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Bradbury, T. N. (2010, May). *“His” and “her” marriage: Within-couple differences in newlyweds’ four-year marital satisfaction trajectories*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Boston, MA.
24. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Bradbury, T. N. (2008, November). *Predicting newlyweds’ marital satisfaction trajectories over the first four years of marriage*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Orlando, FL.
25. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Bradbury, T. N. (2008, July). *Diverse trajectories of newlyweds’ marital satisfaction*. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Providence, RI.
26. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Bradbury, T. N. (2008, February). *Diverse trajectories of marital satisfaction over four years of marriage*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.
27. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Bradbury, T. N. (2007, July). *Developmental trajectories of newlyweds’ marital satisfaction*. Poster presented at the International Association for Relationship Research New Scholars Workshop, Boston, MA.
28. **Lavner, J. A.,** & Heatherington, L. (2007, June). *Couple therapy preferences: Gender matters (and interacts with sexual orientation)*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research, Madison, WI.



## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Undergraduate

General Psychology Honors  
Psychology of Love (First Year Odyssey)

### Graduate

Clinical Practicum  
Psychology of Sexual Orientation

## SERVICE

### Editorial Board Member

*Family Process* (2015–present)  
*Journal of Family Psychology* (2016–present)  
*Journal of Marriage and Family* (2015–present)

### Ad Hoc Reviewer

*Adoption Quarterly; American Journal of Orthopsychiatry; Appetite; BMC Women's Health; Child Development; Child Development Perspectives; Children and Youth Services Review; Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review; European Journal of Social Psychology; European Sociological Review; Family Process; Family Science; Journal of Adolescence; Journal of Counseling Psychology; Journal of Family Issues; Journal of Family Psychology; Journal of Family Studies; Journal of Gay & Lesbian Social Services; Journal of Lesbian Studies; Journal of Marriage and Family; Journal of Personality; Journal of Research in Childhood Education; Journal of Research in Personality; Journal of Social and Personal Relationships; Marriage and Family Review; Personal Relationships; Personality and Individual Differences; Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin; Personality Disorders: Theory, Research, and Treatment; Perspectives on Psychological Science; Psychology and Sexuality; SAGE Open; Sex Roles; Sexual and Relationship Therapy; Social Forces*

### Book Reviewing

American Psychological Association  
Routledge (Taylor & Francis)  
Wiley

### Grant Reviewing

Israel Science Foundation

## **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2014–present Therapist and Supervisor, UGA Psychology Clinic  
Provide couple therapy. Supervise graduate students in evidence-based approaches to child, couple, and adult therapy, and in psychoeducational assessments for children. Provide weekly group and individual supervision.
- 2013–2014 Psychology Intern, Rady Children’s Hospital Child & Adolescent Psychiatry  
Conducted behaviorally-based individual and family therapy and neuropsychological testing with children and adolescents with mood, anxiety, psychotic, autism spectrum, and disruptive behavior disorders in an inpatient psychiatric center.
- 2013–2014 Psychology Intern, San Diego VA Family Mental Health Program  
Provided Integrative Behavioral Couple Therapy (IBCT), Behavioral Couple Therapy (BCT), and Emotion-Focused Couple Therapy (EFT) for military veteran couples presenting with relationship distress, typically in combination with PTSD, mood, or other disorders in one or both partners.
- 2011–2012 Therapy Supervisor, UCLA Psychology Clinic  
Supervised beginning graduate student in psychodynamic therapy.
- 2011–2012 Advanced Therapist, UCLA Psychology Clinic  
Provided cognitive-behavioral therapy and family therapy.
- 2011 Assessment Supervisor, UCLA Psychology Clinic  
Supervised beginning graduate student completing her first intelligence, achievement, and neuropsychological testing with adults and children.
- 2008–2013 Psychology Extern, TIES for Families, UCLA Department of Pediatrics  
Provided psychotherapy to adopted children age birth through 16 and their parents; specific modalities included behavioral parent training, cognitive-behavioral therapy, family therapy, group therapy, and psychodynamic therapy. Administered comprehensive neuropsychological and social-emotional testing to infants, toddlers, and school-aged children.
- 2007–2008 Therapist and Psychological Assessor, UCLA Psychology Clinic  
Conducted Integrative Behavioral Couple Therapy (IBCT), family therapy, and individual adult therapy. Administered intelligence, achievement, and neuropsychological testing for adults and children. Led monthly intakes for new clients.

## **LICENSURE**

- 2016–present Psychologist, State of Georgia (PSY004024)

*Revised: November 2017*