



International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection



Applications of Parental Acceptance-Rejection Theory and Evidence to Forensic Psychology

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As a forensic psychologist I have recently become increasingly impressed with the potential value of parental acceptance-rejection theory (PARTheory) in the practice of forensic psychology. Both criminal and family courts require thorough psychological evaluations of clients to explore, understand, and document underlying variables that result in alleged behaviors, as well as to predict the possible effects of these behaviors on others. In my work as a consultant to the forensic unit of the Rockland County (New York) mental health unit that serves the family court, I have performed many custody and visitation evaluations in cases involving domestic violence, child abuse, and child neglect. I have had to evaluate both mothers and fathers in order to explore the way in which their own childhood affected their current mental health, their parental capacity, and their current psychological fitness.

In the process of evaluating children involved in custody or delinquency cases I have had to focus on the effects of parental care, explore youths' emotional attachment capabilities, and explore the possible effects of parental alienation caused by one parent alienating the child against the other. Furthermore, I have had to assess—in family court—how parental rejection in early childhood may have later affected criminal defendants or other clients. The process of conducting forensic evaluations is a tedious one. Clinicians must imagine themselves to be wearing a metaphorical “detective hat” as the exploration and discovery of clients' or defendants' early childhood and family of origin systems come into focus.

In the course of doing this work I have come to appreciate the relevance of the broad body of literature on issues of interpersonal acceptance-rejection. I have found PARTheory to be especially valuable in its capacity as an evidence-based theory of socialization and lifespan development that aims to understand and explain the causes, consequences, and other ramifications of interpersonal acceptance and rejection across diverse cultures and societies (Rohner, 1980, 1986; Rohner, Khaleque, & Cournoyer, 2009). PARTheory research has been conducted for over five decades. Hundreds of studies have confirmed the existence of the acceptance-rejection syndrome (Rohner, 2004). One of the strongest conclusions from PARTheory

research is the fact that children everywhere need unconditional love and acceptance from parents and other attachment figures. Rohner and others have confirmed that when this condition is not met, children across all cultures and races are likely to develop low self-esteem, a sense of negative self-adequacy, aggressive behavior, and strong dependency needs—or become defensively independent. Additionally, rejected children are likely to become emotionally unresponsive, emotionally unstable, and develop a mistrustful, negative worldview.

This body of research also finds that perceived rejection by an attachment figure at any point in life is likely to be associated with the same cluster of personality dispositions found among children and adults rejected by parents in childhood (Rohner & Khaleque, in press). As researchers continue to explore the far reaching implications of PARTheory, the benefits to forensic psychology have become abundantly clear. Research is currently expanding PARTheory into other kinds of interpersonal relationships, including intimate partner acceptance-rejection, and adult offspring's acceptance-rejection of their aging parents (Khaleque, 2008). Relevant to the case I discuss below is new research related to in-law acceptance-rejection (Erkman & Öztürk, 2009). Furthermore, related research has addressed the effects of classroom peer acceptance and rejection (Ladd, 2006) and social ostracism (Williams, 2007) as well as a variety of other topics.

A Case Study of Perceived Rejection and Homicide

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To illustrate the utility of PARTheory and associated evidence in forensic psychology I have selected a case from criminal court. (The demographics of this case have been changed.) In that case I was given the assignment of evaluating a defendant who allegedly committed a double homicide. Although she denied remembering what had happened during the crime, there were several witnesses who saw her kill the father and a female friend of her long-time boyfriend with whom she cohabited. As a result of my evaluation, I determined that no psychosis or insanity defense was plausible. The defendant had no history of violent behavior. However, she grew up in extreme poverty partly as a consequence of the fact that when she was seven years old her mother had been violently murdered in front of her. Her father was a severe alcoholic who was unable to keep a job. As a result both father and daughter lived together in homeless shelters for most of her childhood and adolescence. However, there were many times when the father would be too intoxicated to return to the shelter, and the young girl had to take care of herself. She often searched the neighborhood at night to find him and to bring him back to the shelter—if she could convince him to come. Eventually she was placed in foster and group homes because of his inability to care for her.

It became clear during my evaluation that although she did not feel her father actively rejected her, he did withdraw into a world of alcoholism that prevented him from nurturing and protecting her. I found that the defendant had a severe case of PTSD from watching her mother being violently killed in front of her. Throughout her life she blamed all her difficulties on this early loss. She often thought about the moment when she watched her mother being murdered. From this experience she developed a paranoid personality disorder. She saw the world in negative ways and often thought that others were going to cause her harm too. She lacked trust in others. She also developed a drug problem in that she smoked marijuana on a daily basis. Nonetheless, she survived childhood, and relocated as an adult to another small town where she supported herself for over a decade by working in low paying retail positions. She was never arrested, and she generally avoided the “street scene” of the violent crime, the drug trade, and underworld of illegal transactions with which she had become acquainted while in shelters and living as an unsupervised child. As an adult in her late twenties, she lived an existence that included promiscuity, drug abuse, and superficial interpersonal relationships. But she had no severe emotional or mental problems, no psychiatric hospitalizations, and she displayed no violence. She was able to maintain herself in a rented apartment and enjoyed dancing and being with various men who were, according to her, all unfaithful to her.

Several years ago the defendant started dating a young man who eventually invited her to live with him in his parents’ home. She became part of his family, and overcame much of her initial mistrust, which allowed her to emotionally attach herself to him and to his parents. She found herself in a relatively normal family situation where she experienced unconditional love and acceptance for an extended period

of time. However, after a year of cohabitation her relationship with her boyfriend became strained when she confronted him about her suspicion that he was being unfaithful. His father was very supportive of her, and told her that even if his son and she ended their relationship, she could still live in their home—but in the basement apartment. Although she had no definite proof that her boyfriend was unfaithful, she decided to end the relationship because of her jealousy and mistrust. She also began to sense that her boyfriend’s father was trying to placate her, which caused her to become angry at both parents. At this time she was also abusing marijuana on a daily basis. While her boyfriend was at work on the day prior to the planned separation, it was alleged that she stabbed to death her boyfriend’s father and the young woman whom she suspected of having an affair with her boyfriend. Although she denied any memory of the crime it was clear that she felt betrayed by her symbolic father-in-law as well as by her boyfriend. She did not show any sadness over the death of either the father or the woman.

PARTheory Helps to Understand These Homicides

Aside from suffering from PTSD and paranoid personality disorder, it was also clear that the defendant was a victim of early parental rejection who experienced severe rejection sensitivity (Ayduk, Downey, & Kim, 2001). Although she stayed in homeless shelters with her father she essentially felt abandoned by him because he became intoxicated every day. This psychological abandonment and rejection appeared to have been chronic throughout her childhood and adolescence, necessitating her placement in foster and group homes. Moreover, the tragic death of her mother was on some level perceived by her as abandonment. It was also perceived as early rejection. I believe that the defendant’s suppressed feelings of pain and abandonment were reawakened by the feelings of rejection by her new (symbolic) nuclear family. This experience appears to have been too much for her to cope with, and these factors seem to have triggered a rejection crisis. She believed that she was about to be rejected by a parental figure in adulthood (her potential father-in-law) as well as by her boyfriend (intimate partner rejection). These fears of potential rejection probably triggered early childhood memories of abandonment, shame, and loss—memories she could not bear. These feelings and memories resulted in rage for which she did not have the internal resources to cope. In this way, I believe that the rejection crisis ultimately culminated in the double homicide.

Research has shown a worldwide tendency for people who were rejected in childhood to later become substance abusers (Rohner and Britner, 2002). So, it is not surprising that this woman became a substance abuser. This addiction probably contributed to her loss of control and exaggerated paranoia and suspiciousness. In this case, her boyfriend’s father appears to have been a symbol of the paternal rejection she endured as a child. In fact, she even described the man as “a father figure,” and said “I loved him but

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never told him.” Furthermore, he said he cared about her too. But because of that statement she came to believe that he was using her in some way. Her feelings then changed from endearing love and attachment to mistrust and a feeling of being manipulated by him.

In summary, research has shown that perceived rejection by an attachment figure at any point in life is likely to be associated with the same cluster of personality dispositions found among children and adults rejected by parents in childhood (Rohner & Khaleque, in press). In the criminal case just described I have tried to show how growing research in interpersonal acceptance and rejection can contribute to forensic psychology. I believe that a convergence of early parental rejection coupled with adult interpersonal rejection may result in a rejection crisis that can lead to violent crime. In the years since I completed my doctoral research in criminal behavior (Heller, 1979) I have become aware that many incarcerated people have experienced severe rejection in their backgrounds, both as children and throughout their adult lives. I now utilize this new perspective in forensic work. Aside from criminal cases, PARTheory can also be used in the family court system. I could have easily described custody, neglect, and domestic violence cases where knowledge of PARTheory and associated research would have been helpful.

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Rob Veneziano Resigns as President Elect; Tiia Tulviste Accepts Appointment as Interim President-Elect

With regrets, ISIPAR’s Executive Council accepted Rob Veneziano’s resignation as President-Elect of the Society. However, the Council thanks him for his willingness to continue helping develop the Scientific Program for the forthcoming International Congress on Interpersonal



Acceptance and Rejection to be held next summer from July 28-31 in Padua, Italy. The Executive Council also thanks Tiia Tulviste of the University of Tartu in Estonia for her willingness to step-in as ISIPAR’s interim President-Elect. She is Professor of Developmental Psychology. Tiia holds Ph.D. degrees in psychology both from the University of Moscow, Russia, 1985 and Stockholm, Sweden, 2002. Presently, her main research interest is family and peer socialization in comparative perspective. She leads a cross-cultural research project dealing with family and peer interactions in Estonia, Germany, and Sweden. Tiia will hold Office until the new duly-elected President-Elect assumes office at the end of the Padua conference. She too will help make sure that the conference is a great success.



NOMINATIONS FOR FORTHCOMING ELECTION

Soon members of ISIPAR will be asked to vote for a new President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Regional Representatives from six areas of the world. These include Central & South Africa, East Asia, Europe, North America, South America, and South Asia. The Nominations Committee, composed of Past-President and Chair, Ronald P. Rohner, President Fatos Erkman, and former President-Elect Rob Veneziano, is pleased to nominate the following members for office:

PRESIDENT-ELECT



Abdul Khaleque Ph.D., earned his B. A. Honors in Philosophy from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh; M. Sc. in Applied Psychology from University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan; M. A. in Family Studies from University of Connecticut, USA; and Doctorate in Psychology from Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. Currently he is a Senior Scientist in the Ronald and Nancy Rohner Center for the Study of Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, University of Connecticut. He is also a Professor in Residence in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at the University of Connecticut. Formerly he was a Professor of Psychology at the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh. He was also a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Psychology at the University of Delhi, India; and a Visiting Faculty at the University of Otago in New Zealand. Finally, he is a past President of the Bangladesh Psychological Association, a former Vice President and General Secretary of the South Asian Association of Psychologists, a life member of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of the USA, and a member of the American Psychological Association. His current research interests include interpersonal acceptance-rejection and lifespan human development, specifically parental acceptance-rejection, intimate partner acceptance-rejection, and teachers' acceptance-rejection. He has published nearly 100 research articles, approximately 25 book chapters, and 12 books in psychology and related areas.

SECRETARY-TREASURER



Shaila Khan, Ph.D., is Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychology in Tougaloo College, Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Khan received her Doctorate in Social Psychology from the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada in 1997. Her academic career spans twenty-three years of university teaching in different parts of the world, including at Tougaloo College (United States), University of Manitoba, University of Brandon, (Canada), University of Dhaka, North South University, Independent University of Bangladesh and East-West University (Bangladesh). In the Spring of 2007 she received the Tougaloo College "Distinguished Professor Award," and in Spring, 2006 she received the Tougaloo College "National Alumni Association Teaching Award." In the last five years she has conducted cross-cultural research

with Bangladeshi college students as well as with African American college students on parental acceptance and rejection, intimate adult relationships, corporal punishment, and psychological well-being. Additionally, she has done NIH funded evaluative research on "Student achievement and its relationship with perceived parental and teacher acceptance/rejection in the Mississippi Delta". Since the summer of 2005 she has regularly taught in Bangladesh as a Visiting Professor. In 2008-2009 she served as ISIPAR's Regional Representative for North America.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES



Central & South Africa Almon Shumba, Ph.D., is Associate Professor in the School of Post Graduate Studies at the University of Fort Hare, Main Campus, South Africa. Dr. Shumba received his Doctorate in Education from the University of the Western Cape, South Africa in 2001. Dr. Shumba also holds the following qualifications: M.Ed. (Educational Psychology) & Dip. Ed. (University of Zimbabwe), and a B.Sc. Ed. (University of Sierra Leone). Dr. Shumba is an Educational Psychologist by profession. His Academic career spans twelve years teaching at Morgenster Teachers' College in Zimbabwe and thirteen years of university teaching in different parts of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) including Bindura University of Science Education (Zimbabwe), University of Botswana (Botswana), University of Limpopo (South Africa), University of the Western Cape (South Africa) and University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa). He is currently the Central and Southern Africa Representative of the International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection. He is the author of the article entitled: Emotional Abuse in the Classroom: A Cultural Dilemma? *Journal of Emotional Abuse*, 2004, 4 (3), 139-149. Dr. Shumba has published a book with colleagues; 6 book chapters and more than 40 articles in accredited Journals. Dr. Shumba is a member of several international associations including the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), the International Association for Cognitive Education in Southern Africa (IACESA), the International Association for Cognitive Education and Psychology (IACEP), the International Association for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders (IATSO), the Southern African Society for Education, and the International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection.



East Asia Yun-Joo Chyung, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor in the Department of Consumer and Child Studies at the University of Incheon, Incheon, Korea. Dr. Chyung received her undergraduate and Master's degrees from Seoul National University, Korea. She received her Doctorate in Human Development and Family Studies from the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, in the USA. Her research

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REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES CONTINUED

interests include parental influences on children's and adolescents' psychological adjustment, as well as on the influence of parents' own childhood experiences on their parenting behaviors. She has contributed to several books on education and care in daycare service for young children.



Europe *Tiia Tulviste, Ph.D.*, is Professor of Developmental Psychology at the University of Tartu. Her main research interest is family and peer socialization in a comparative perspective. She is leading a cross-cultural research project dealing with family and peer interactions in Estonia, Germany, and Sweden. She is serving as ISIPAR's Interim-President Elect.



North America *William Divale, Ph.D.*, received his Doctorate from SUNY Buffalo in 1974. He is now professor of Anthropology at York College and the CUNY Online Baccalaureate Program. He is also the current President of the Society for Cross-Cultural Research. Formerly, he was publisher of the journal *World Cultures*,

and has held several NIH grants. His previous cross-cultural survey research has been on warfare, population control, and matrilineal residence. He and his students have conducted research on parental acceptance-rejection for the past 15 years in countries such as Finland, Romania, Colombia, Spain, and currently in Moldova among both the mentally ill and the general population.



South America *Karen Ripoll-Núñez, Ph.D.*, is Assistant Professor at the University of the Andes, Bogota, Colombia, South America. She received her Doctorate at the University of Connecticut in Human Development and Family Studies. She has co-authored articles and book chapters on interpersonal relationships from an acceptance-rejection perspective. Her research interests include intimate adult relationships and corporal punishment in cross-cultural perspective.



South Asia *Mah Nazir Riaz, Ph.D.*, is Professor of Psychology and Dean of Social Sciences, Frontier Women University Peshawar, Pakistan. Dr. Riaz received her Doctorate in Psychometrics from University of Peshawar, NWFP, Pakistan (1979). Her academic career spans 40 years of University teaching. Among her many achievements

are: University Gold Medal (1966) and President of Pakistan's Award (1966), Professor of Psychology for her outstanding academic achievements (2003), Star Women International Award (1996), Distinguished Professor Award for meritorious

services from Ministry of Education Govt. of NWFP (2003), and President of Pakistan's Award "Izaz-e-Kamal" (Gold Medal & cash Prize) for her lifetime achievements. She was nominated as Eminent Educationist and Researcher by Higher Education Commission, Islamabad (2006). She has published more than 60 articles in national and international journals, is author of three textbooks, and has contributed chapters to edited books published in Pakistan and the USA. Dr. Riaz has conducted several studies on parental acceptance-rejection. Currently she is working as a team member of the International Father Acceptance-Rejection Project. She translated the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire in Urdu (2001) and determined the psychometric properties of the scales for Pakistani samples. Recently, she has updated Urdu translation of all the PARQ scales (2008).

Information about Procedures for Nominating a Candidate for Elected Office

As specified by the Society's Bylaws, any five paid-up members of the Society may nominate an additional candidate for the office of President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, or Regional Representative, provided that their nomination is submitted to the Chairperson of the Nominations Committee (Ronald P. Rohner, rohner.isipar@gmail.com) by November 2, 2009. Ballots will be sent electronically to paid-up members on December 1, 2009. Results will be posted in the January 2010 issue of *Interpersonal Acceptance*. Additional information about the elections process, duties of Officers and Regional Representatives, and other such matters may be found in the Society's Constitution and Bylaws at www.isipar.org.

PLEASE SUBMIT PAPERS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT ROHNER CENTER AWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THEORY, RESEARCH, AND PRACTICE ON INTERPERSONAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION

Members of the Society are urged to submit papers for either of the two Awards of \$1,000 each that expect to be given at the biennial meetings of the *International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection* (ISIPAR). These cash awards are intended to both acknowledge outstanding contributions to the field of interpersonal acceptance-rejection and to help cover expenses associated with attending and giving an Awards Address at the international meeting. Awards are expected to be given for the *Outstanding Paper of the Biennium* and for the *Outstanding Paper by an Early Career Professional*. Eligibility, evaluation criteria, submission process, and deadline information are available online at http://isipar.org/Rohner_Center_Awards.html

Check out the ISIPAR Group on Facebook



Ronald P. Rohner has become the administrator of a Facebook Group for ISIPAR. If you are a member of the Facebook community you can search for "ISIPAR" to find up-to-date information about the Society. An announcement about the 3rd ICIAR event is also posted there. For more information visit <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/profile.php?id=1608070256&ref=profile>.

www.isipar.org has a new look

The ISIPAR website was recently redesigned. The new look incorporates pictures from the first two international Congresses, and an online membership application for new or renewing members. Please visit www.isipar.org to see what's new!

Call for Collaborative Research

Editor's Note. Readers of Interpersonal Acceptance who are interested in exploring the possibility of undertaking international, collaborative research on the following topic should communicate directly with the author:

ADHD Children's Executive Functioning and Their Self-Perceived Adult-Child Relationships

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This study examines the connection between children's executive functioning and adult-child relationships in the family and school. Investigating executive function deficits of ADHD children and their self-perceived adult-child relationships is crucial to understanding the etiology that leads to problem behaviors. Findings of this study will increase understanding of the link between the cognitive deficits of ADHD children and their adult-child relationships. The findings will also provide additional insight into the management of these children's problem behaviors. Sixty school children diagnosed with ADHD in Hong Kong will be compared to a matched group who are without ADHD (the healthy control group). Data will be gathered on an individual basis, using paper-pencil scales (including the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire) and performance-based tasks. Only children's perspectives will be studied in this research.



THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON INTERPERSONAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION

The third International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection will be held July 28-31, 2010 in Padua, Italy at the University of Padua. For more information, please visit <http://isipar2010.psy.unipd.it>. **Deadline for receipt of Abstracts for the 3rd ICIAR is February 22, 2010. Submit proposals to Ronald P. Rohner at rohner.isipar@gmail.com.**

Welcome Friends

The Rohner Center hosted several visitors from around the world recently. In July, **Dr. Miriam Schiff**, Senior Lecturer at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, School of Social Work, traveled from Israel to Storrs, Connecticut, USA. As a licensed school psychologist and social worker, she has extensive clinical experience with children and adolescents. Dr. Schiff's research interests include consequences of trauma on children's mental health and substance use. In August, **Dr. Elias Kourkoutas**, and his



wife Lousi, arrived from Crete, Greece. They spent several days in Storrs before visiting Dr. Parminder Parmar at the Pennsylvania State University, Worthington-Scranton. Dr. Kourkoutas is an Assistant Professor in School of Primary Education at the University of Crete and served as the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee for the 2nd International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection in 2008. The Center also welcomed **Dr. Charles Heller**. Dr. Heller is a forensic psychologist who uses parental acceptance-rejection theory and measures in his professional practice working with the court system in the state of New York. He is also the contributor of the feature article in this issue of



Interpersonal Acceptance.

WISDOM QUOTES

Quotations to inspire and challenge

<http://www.wisdomquotes.com>

Consider the following. We humans are social beings. We come into the world as the result of others' actions. We survive here in dependence on others. Whether we like it or not, there is hardly a moment of our lives when we do not benefit from others' activities. For this reason it is hardly surprising that most of our happiness arises in the context of our relationships with others. -His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama

UPCOMING CONFERENCES



Albuquerque, New Mexico

Society for Cross-Cultural Research

The annual conference will be held

February 17-20, 2010 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.

www.sccr.org/



Melbourne, Australia

International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP) The Congress will be held July 7-10, 2010 at the University of Melbourne, Australia. www.iaccp2010.com/



Lusaka, Zambia

International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD) The

21st Biennial Meeting will be held July 18-22, 2010 in Lusaka, Zambia, Africa. www.issbd2010.com/



Padua, Italy

International Council of Psychologists

The Regional Meeting will be held July 26-27, 2010, immediately preceding

the 3rd ICIAR (see below), in Padua, Italy. For more

information on ICP visit the website <http://web.mac.com/rvelayo/icpweb/convention.html>



Padua, Italy

Third International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection will be held July 28-31, 2010 in Padua, Italy (approximately 30 kilometers from Venice) immediately following the ICP meeting (see above). For information visit <http://isipar2010.psy.unipd.it>.



India

Fourth International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection

The 4th International Congress on Acceptance and Rejection in 2012 will be held in India. The specific location and dates will be announced at a later time. Parminder Parmar (prp104@psu.edu), ISIPAR's Secretary-Treasurer, will be Chairperson of the Local Arrangements Committee.

SOURCES OF POSSIBLE FUNDING TO ATTEND 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON INTERPERSONAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION

The following links provide information about possible sources of funding:

- The American Psychological Foundation's Frances. M. Culbertson Travel Grant <http://www.apa.org/apf/culbertson.html>
- APA Committee on International Relations in Psychology <http://www.apa.org/international/awardscimtg.html>
- Institute of International Education, Scholar Rescue Fund, Iraq Scholar Rescue Project, <http://www.scholarrescuefund.org/iraq/pages/grantee-resources/special-conference-opportunities.php>
- Early Graduate Student Researcher Awards <http://www.apa.org/science/era.html>
- The Royal Society <http://royalsociety.org/funding.asp?id=2348>

In the past, the Rohner Center has received requests for financial support from researchers from around the world for the purpose of attending the ISIPAR's biennial meeting. Unfortunately, the Center's limited funds make it impossible to provide financial aid to delegates. However, individuals are encouraged to apply for one of two possible University of Connecticut Rohner Center Awards of \$1,000 USD each (see details on www.isipar.org). Requests may also be considered by ISIPAR's Finance Committee. Parminder Parmar (prp104@psu.edu) is Chair.



Deadline for submission of material for publication in the January 2010 issue of *Interpersonal Acceptance* is December 4, 2009. Please direct correspondence to Ron Rohner, Editor rohner@uconn.edu

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Editorial Assistant: Lori Kalinowski