

Call for Papers

A Special Issue of the *International Journal of Behavioral Development (IJBD)* devoted to the topic of “Prosocial Development in Risky and Vulnerable Contexts”

The *International Journal of Behavioral Development (IJBD)* is seeking manuscript submissions for a Special Issue, to be co-edited by Gustavo Carlo, University of Missouri, and Laura K. Taylor, University College Dublin and Queen’s University Belfast. The title of the Special Issue is “**Prosocial Development in Risky and Vulnerable Contexts.**”

Background and aims of the Special Issue:

Prosocial development in childhood and adolescence has immediate and long-lasting benefits for individuals, families and communities. Despite the wide-reaching implications of acts that aim to benefit others, there is little research on how these prosocial orientations and behaviors manifest in the face of adversity. The aim of this Special Issue is to highlight the developmental processes through which prosocial outcomes are expressed by children and youth growing up in difficult contexts. These settings may include, but are not limited to, political conflict and ethnic divide; displaced, migrant, immigrant, undocumented and refugee; poverty and economic marginalization; living rough, on the street or homelessness; and family disruption such as living in orphanage, foster homes, or incarceration.

We are particularly keen to consider manuscripts that can identify key predictors of prosocial development, such as family, peer, school, neighborhood, cultural, as well as genetic and biological, factors. Moreover, studies that consider the developmental sequelae of prosocial behaviors (e.g., academic outcomes, improved intergroup relations, mental health) are also of interest. Manuscripts that can unpack and tease apart different types (e.g., altruism, helping, volunteerism), targets (e.g., family, friends or strangers, ethnic outgroups), and dimensions (e.g., anonymous, public) of prosocial outcomes are particularly welcomed. Papers that include related interpersonal (e.g., family, peers, social media) and dispositional constructs (e.g., empathy, sympathy, moral reasoning) or show the connections of prosocial outcomes across different levels of the social ecology (e.g., civic engagement, collective action) are appreciated. We encourage submissions that include a range of methods, including longitudinal or panel designs, diary studies, well-designed experiments (e.g., dictator-type games), social interventions, and innovative methods that go beyond self-report data (e.g., virtual reality, physiological, biological, hormonal, fMRI). However, all papers in the Special Issue should address the notion of development, either in the sense of research that measures change (ideally) or research with clear and articulated implications for developmental outcomes.

The Special Issue will bring together empirical research on prosocial development in risky and vulnerable contexts to shed light on the unique and universal areas underlying these processes for children and young people.

Deadlines and Procedures

By **Friday 15 February 2019**, potential contributors should submit a brief letter of intent that includes the following information:

- (1) Tentative title, names and affiliations of anticipated authors, and contact information for corresponding author;
- (2) Basic information about the proposed manuscript as follows (no more than 500 words):
 - a) Brief explanation of the main research question, theoretical background, and hypotheses;
 - b) Description of sample and study design (e.g., sample size, ages, demographic characteristics);
 - c) Description of the measures of primary dependent and independent measures.
 - d) Description of the *developmental focus* either in the sense of research that measures change (ideally) or research with clear and articulated implications for developmental trajectories;
 - e) Brief summary of manuscript content (e.g., key findings or conclusions).

By **Friday 3 May 2019**, authors will be informed of the outcome of the initial review by the guest editors. A subset of authors will be invited to submit full manuscripts for additional consideration.

By **Friday 4 October 2019**, potential contributors will submit completed manuscripts. Submissions will be made through IJBD's online submission portal, and manuscripts will be reviewed following the journal's usual process. As per *IJBD* guidelines, reports of straight-forward, single-study experiments should be no longer than 4,500 words, all inclusive; multiple-study empirical papers should be no longer than 8,500 words, all inclusive; reviews and theoretical papers should be no longer than 10,500 words, all inclusive. For other aspects in style, please consult guidelines of IJBD: <https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/journal/international-journal-behavioral-development#submission-guidelines>

By **Friday 31 January 2020** contributors will receive reviews of their manuscripts. Invited revisions will be due **Friday 3 April 2020**.

It is anticipated that the Special Issue will be published online in late 2020/early 2021. Inquiries regarding the Special Issue may be directed to carlog@missouri.edu or l.taylor@qub.ac.uk.