

JULIE M. E. PEDERSEN

EDUCATION

- 2024-present **PhD Psychology**, *University of Edinburgh*, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2023-2024 **MSc Psychological Research** with Distinction, *University of Edinburgh*, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2019-2023 **BSc Psychology** with 1st Class Honours, *University of Edinburgh*, Edinburgh, UK.

Research Positions

- 2025-present **Lab Manager**, *The Human Decision-Making Lab*, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2025-present **Research Contractor** [part-time], *Survey Team, Rethink Priorities*, San Francisco, California, US.
- June-July 2025 **Research Contractor** [full-time], *Worldview Investigations Team, Rethink Priorities*, San Francisco, California, US.
- 2021-2023 **Research Assistant**, *The Human Decision-Making Lab*, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.
- June-Aug 2022 **Carnegie Trust Summer Vacation Scholar**, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2021 **Research Assistant**, *Syddansk Universitet*, Odense, Denmark

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles (* indicates joint first authorship)

Pedersen, J. M. E., Wilks, M., Doumas, A., & Moore, A. (In press). Moralization by Analogy: A Novel Perspective on Moral Change. *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/e2r3p_v2 [preprint].

Navarre, N.*, **Pedersen, J. M. E.***, & Moore, A. (2025). Political Polarization and Fractionalisation from Rational Values-Based Inference in an Agent-Based Graph Network.

Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6gv6j71v>

Pedersen, J. M. E., & Loughnan, S. (2024). Dissociation of dairy from its animal origin and the role of disgust to reduce dairy consumption. *Psychology of Human-Animal Inter-group Relations*, 3, Article e10387. <https://doi.org/10.5964/phair.10387>

Pedersen, J. M. E., & Moore, A. (2023). Simulating political polarisation as a function of uncertain signalling of moral values. *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0d143859>

Ithurburn, A., Moore, A., & **Pedersen, J. M. E.** (2025). Power motivations and risk preferences. *Sage Open*, 15(3), 21582440251363317. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21582440251363317>

Theses

Pedersen, J. M. E. (August 2024). “A formalised theory of political polarisation as uncertain identity inference and signalling supported by moral values”. MSc Thesis, University of Edinburgh.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (May 2023). “Dissociation of dairy from its animal origin and the role of disgust to reduce dairy consumption”. Undergraduate dissertation, University of Edinburgh.

Talks (* indicates joint first authorship)

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), Wilks, M., Dumas, A., & Moore, A. (November 2025). *Moralization by Analogy: Analogical Reasoning as a Mechanism for Moral Change*. Research talk presented at Social Psychology Seminar Series at the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), Wilks, M., Dumas, A., & Moore, A. (November 2025). *Moralization by Analogy: Analogical Reasoning as a Mechanism for Moral Change*. Research talk presented to the Human-Decision Making Lab, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), Wilks, M., Dumas, A., & Moore, A. (October 2025). *Moralization by Analogy: Analogical Reasoning as a Mechanism for Moral Change*. Research talk presented to the Cognition, Computation, and Development Lab, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), Wilks, M., Dumas, A., & Moore, A. (April 2025). *Moralization as Analogical Reasoning*. Research talk presented to the Altruistic Minds Lab, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (co-presenter)*, & Deligianni, A. (co-presenter)* (November 2024). *Introduction to Null Hypothesis Significance Testing: Uses and Misuses for Machine Learning*. Informatics Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Reading Group, University of Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Loughnan, S. (November 2024). *Udderly Disgusting! Investigating Disgust as a Dairy Consumption Reduction Pathway*. Online research talk presented at the monthly meeting of the Researchers for Ending Consumption of Animal Products (RECAP).

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Loughnan, S. (November 2024). *Udderly Disgusting! Investigating Disgust as a Dairy Consumption Reduction Pathway*. Research talk presented to the Altruistic Minds Lab, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (October 2024). *Moral Values as a Mediator of Political Identity Signalling. A Computational Modelling Approach*. Research talk presented at Social Psychology Seminar Series at the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (October 2024). *A formalised theory of political polarisation as uncertain identity inference and signalling supported by moral values*. Chalk talk presented to the Cognition, Computation, and Development Lab, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (September 2024). *Simulating Political polarization as a function of uncertain inference and signaling of moral values*. Research talk presented to the Human-Decision Making Lab, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (July 2023). *Simulating Political polarization as a function of uncertain inference and signaling of moral values*. Research talk presented at the 45th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Melbourne, Australia.

Pedersen, J. M. E., & Moore, A. (presenter) (October 2022). *Modelling political polarisation with uncertain signalling of moral values*. Presented at Social Psychology Seminar Series at the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Posters (* indicates joint first authorship)

Navarre, N.* (presenter), **Pedersen**, J. M. E.*, & Moore, A. (July 2025). *Political Polarization and Fractionalisation from Rational Values-Based Inference in an Agent-Based Graph Network*. Poster presented at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, San Francisco, USA.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (April 2025). *Moral values as uncertain identity inference and signaling supported by moral values*. Poster presented at the Symposium on Opinion Shift, Social Influence, and External Manipulation, Edinburgh, UK.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (February 2025). *Moral values as uncertain identity inference and signaling supported by moral values*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Denver, Colorado, US.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (February 2025). *Moral values as a mechanism for political polarization: an agent-based modeling approach*. Poster presented at the Political Psychology Pre-Conference at the Annual Convention of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Denver, Colorado, US.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (July 2024). *Uncertain identity inference in a biased media landscape: an agent-based model of identity signalling, moral values, and political polarisation*. Poster presented at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Pedersen, J. M. E. (presenter), & Moore, A. (February 2024). *Moral values as signals of political identity under uncertainty: an agent-based model approach*. Poster presented at the Moral Psychology Pre-Conference at the Annual Convention of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, California, US.

Pedersen, J. M. E., & Moore, A. (September 2022). *Modelling political polarisation with uncertain signalling of moral values*. Poster presented at the Carnegie Trust Vacation Scholar Poster Competition, Edinburgh, UK.

Blog Posts

Rethink Priorities, **Pedersen**, J. M. E., & Moss, D. (2025, December 4). EA Survey 2024: Cause prioritization. *Effective Altruism Forum*. <https://forum.effectivealtruism.org/posts/CKwDgZGLipchAoxN/ea-survey-2024-cause-prioritization>

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2023-2027 Scottish Graduate School of Social Sciences, 1+ 3-year PhD Studentship (~ £98,550).

- 2022 The Carnegie Trust – Universities of Scotland, Summer Vacation Scholarship Programme (£4,158).
- 2024 Drever Prize for the best overall student on a Psychology degree programme, for the academic year 2022/23 (£200).
- 2023 Margaret Donaldson Prize for best Undergraduate Psychology Dissertation poster (£40).
- 2022 Year 3 Psychology Achievement Prize for best overall marks in Psychology year 3 (£50).
- 2021 J M Brunskill Prize for best overall mark in Data Analysis for Psychology in R 2 (£100).
- 2020 Certificate of Merit for best overall mark in Psychology 1A.

TEACHING

University of Edinburgh 2025/26

- PSYL10102 Critical Analysis, *course tutor and marker*.
- PSYL11098 Multivariate Statistics and Methodology using R, *lab demonstrator and marker*.

University of Edinburgh 2024/25

- INFR10054 Computational Cognitive Science, *course tutor*.
- PSYL11098 Multivariate Statistics and Methodology using R, *lab demonstrator and marker*.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2024-present **Ad hoc reviewer**
Cognition, Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.
- March 2026 **Panel member**, How to write an abstract
Undergraduate Psychology Association (UPA)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2025-present **Co-organizer**, *Social Psychology Seminar Series*, University of Edinburgh.
- 2025-present **Co-organizer**, *PhD CommuniTea*, University of Edinburgh.
- 2023-2024 **PG Representative**, *Psychology Community and Research Association*, University of Edinburgh.

- 2021-2023 **Reading and Discussion Group Coordinator**, *University of Edinburgh Psychology Society*.
- 2020-2023 **Department Head of Social Sciences**, *Edinburgh Scientific Researchers Association (ESRA)*.
- 2022 **Co-founder and Head of Psychology Community and Research Association**, *Subcommittee in the University of Edinburgh Psychology Society*.
- 2020-2021 **President**, *University of Edinburgh Psychology Society*.
- 2020-2021 **Peer Support Leader**, *PPLS Student Community Council*, University of Edinburgh.
- 2020-2021 **Session Leader**, *Economics Peer-Assisted Learning Scheme*, University of Edinburgh.