

Psychology

Research Seminar Programme



UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES



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15 March 2012

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Host: Elena Hoicka

Belonging and social exclusion: developmental and cross-cultural perspectives

Abstract

Throughout human evolutionary history, group living has been critical to our survival. We are born relatively helpless and yet are able to survive in extraordinarily diverse and hostile environments. We are able to do so because we learn the skills to survive from those around and cooperate with them in order to find food and shelter. One result of our reliance on our group members is that we have a fundamental and pervasive need to belong. In this talk, I will present data suggesting that the need to belong emerges early in development. From at least the age of five, children are sensitive to cues that indicate exclusion from the group and respond to the threat of social exclusion with affiliative behaviours such as imitation and modified gaze. Following this, I will present preliminary data (from both adults and children) suggesting that sensitivity and responses to ostracism vary across cultures.

Seminars are free of charge and held on

Thursdays @ 4:00 pm Room 3A94

Refreshments are served upon arrival * All are welcome

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