

# Margarita Svetlova

Psychology & Neuroscience  
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## Education and Employment

- 2016 – 2021 Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, Duke University
- 2013 – 2016 Postdoctoral Researcher  
Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany
- 2013 Ph.D. Developmental Psychology  
University of Pittsburgh
- 1998 - 2000 Instructor, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia
- 1998 B.A./M.A. Linguistics and Literature  
Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia
- 1997 Certificate of Advanced French Studies  
Sorbonne Paris IV, Paris, France

## Honors and Awards

- 2010 – 2011 Andrew Mellon Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh
- 2011 (nominee by students) E. Baranger Excellence in Teaching Award,  
University of Pittsburgh
- 2009; 2011 Society for Research in Child Development Student Travel Award
- 2008 – 2010 IGERT Fellowship (NSF), Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition,  
Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh
- 1998 Diploma with Distinction, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia
- 1997 Advanced French Studies Fellowship, Sorbonne Paris IV, France

## Publications

- Svetlova, M., & Carpenter, M. (in press). Social development. In B. Hopkins, E. Geangu, & S. Linkenauer (Eds.), *Cambridge Encyclopedia of Child Development* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition).
- Schmidt, M. F. H., Svetlova, M., Johe, J., & Tomasello, M. (2016). Children's developing understanding of legitimate reasons for allocating resources unequally. *Cognitive Development, 37*, 42-52.
- Gross, R. L., Drummond, J., Satlof-Bedrick, E., Waugh, W. E., Svetlova, M., & Brownell, C. A. (2015). Individual differences in toddlers' social understanding and prosocial behavior: Disposition or socialization? *Frontiers in psychology, 6*.
- Nichols, S. R., Svetlova, M., & Brownell, C. A. (2014). Toddlers' responses to infants' negative emotions. *Infancy, 20*, 70-97.
- Brownell, C. A., Svetlova, M., Anderson, R., Nichols, S. R., & Drummond, J. (2013). Socialization of early prosocial behavior: Parents' talk about emotions is associated with sharing and helping in toddlers. *Infancy, 18*, 91-119.
- Brownell, C. A., Nichols, S. R., & Svetlova, M. (2013). Converging developments in prosocial behavior and self-other understanding in the second year of life: The second social-cognitive revolution. In M. Banaji & S. Gelman (Eds.) *Navigating the social world: What infants, children, and other species can teach us* (pp. 385-390). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- Brownell, C. A., Iesue, S., Nichols, S. R., & Svetlova, M. (2013). Mine or yours? Development of sharing in toddlers in relation to ownership understanding. *Child Development, 84*, 906-920.
- Decety, J., & Svetlova, M. (2012). Putting together phylogenetic and ontogenetic perspectives on empathy. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 2*, 1-24.
- Brownell, C. A., Svetlova, M., & Nichols, S. R. (2012). Emergence and early development of the body image. In V. Slaughter & C. Brownell, (Eds.) *Early development of body representations* (pp. 37-58). Cambridge, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Svetlova, M., Nichols, S. R., & Brownell, C. A. (2010). Toddlers' prosocial behavior: From instrumental to empathic to altruistic helping. *Child Development, 81*, 1814-1827.
- Nichols, S. R., Svetlova, M., & Brownell, C. A. (2010). Toddlers' understanding of peers' emotions. *Journal of Genetic Psychology, 171*, 35-53.
- Brownell, C. A., Nichols, S. R., Svetlova, M., Zerwas, S., & Ramani, G. (2010). The head bone's connected to the neck bone: When do toddlers represent their own body topography? *Child Development, 18*, 797-810.

Nichols, S. R., Svetlova, M., & Brownell, C. A. (2009). The role of social understanding and empathic disposition in young children's responsiveness to distress in parents and peers. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 13, 449-478.

Brownell, C. A., Svetlova, M., & Nichols, S. R. (2009). To share or not to share: When do toddlers respond to another's needs? *Infancy*, 14, 117-130.

### Work in progress

(\* = First author is a student under my supervision)

\*Kachel, U., Svetlova, M., & Tomasello, M. (under review). Three-year-olds' reactions to a partner's failure to perform her role in a joint commitment.

Svetlova, M., & Brownell, C. A. (under review). Empathy vs. equality: Preschoolers consider others' needs when allocating resources.

Corbit, J., Svetlova, M., & Callaghan, T. (manuscript in preparation). Toddlers' altruistic helping in three cultures.

Svetlova, M., Brownell, C. A., & Tomasello, M. (manuscript in preparation). Fair or nice? Preschoolers prefer fair partners, but only when it does not affect their own interests.

Svetlova, M., Chokrai, P., Zeidler, H., & Tomasello, M. (manuscript in preparation). Three- and five-year-olds spontaneously form a line when accessing a limited resource.

Svetlova, M., Hamann, K., Brinch, S., & Tomasello, M. (manuscript in preparation). Three-year-olds share based on collaborative work in first-party but not third-party situations.

### Selected oral presentations

\*Johe, J., Schmidt, M., Svetlova, M., & Tomasello, M. (March, 2015). Children's developing understanding of legitimate departures from egalitarian distributions. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Philadelphia, PA.

Svetlova, M., Chokrai, P., Zeidler, H., & Tomasello, M. (March, 2015). "Let's all stand in line": Preschoolers' developing abilities to apply fairness norms in solving group coordination problems. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Philadelphia, PA.

Svetlova, M., Hamann, K., Brinch, S., & Tomasello, M. (March, 2015). Preschoolers distribute goods fairly, and prefer fair others, unless it conflicts with their own interests. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*,

Philadelphia, PA.

Svetlova, M. (October, 2014). The early ontogeny of empathy and fairness. Invited talk, *Department of Psychology, Duke University, Durham, NC.*

Svetlova, M., Brownell, C., & Tomasello, M. (April, 2013). Fair or nice? Preschoolers prefer fair partners, but only when it does not affect their own interests. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.

Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., & Brownell, C. (April, 2013). Equality vs. empathy: How understanding others' needs influences children's resource allocation. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.

Svetlova, M. (November, 2012). The ontogeny of morality: Empathy and fairness in young children. Invited talk, *Department of Psychology, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany.*

Svetlova, M., Anderson, R., Khatami, M., Nichols, S. & Brownell, C. (March, 2011). Parental emotion talk and children's prosocial responding: What matters at what age? Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Montreal, Canada.

Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., & Brownell, C. (April, 2009). When my loss is your gain: Do toddlers help at a cost to themselves? Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Denver, CO.

Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., & Brownell, C. (March, 2008). Prosocial behavior in toddlers: Developments in empathic responsiveness, sharing, and helping. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Vancouver, Canada.

### **Selected poster presentations**

\*Kachel, U., Svetlova, M., & Tomasello, M. (May, 2016). Children's tendencies to resist bribes to pursue a joint goal with peers. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, New Orleans, LA.

\*Haberl, K., Svetlova, M., & Tomasello, M. (January, 2016). The emergence of leadership in young children. Poster presented at the annual *Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development*, Budapest, Hungary.

\*Kachel, U., Svetlova, M., & Tomasello, M. (June, 2015). Young children's second-personal protest against a partner's defection in a cooperative task. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, Durham, NC.

- Svetlova, M., Haberl, K., Chokrai, P., Zeidler, H., & Tomasello, M. (January, 2015). Preschoolers spontaneously form a line when accessing a limited resource. Poster presented at the annual *Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development*, Budapest, Hungary.
- Svetlova, M., Schmidt, M., Johe, J., & Tomasello, M. (January, 2014). Is equal always fair? Children's developing understanding of distributive justice principles. Poster presented at the annual *Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development*, Budapest, Hungary.
- Svetlova, M., Brownell, C., Sivers, S., & Nichols, S. (March, 2011). How do parents socialize prosocial behavior in toddlers? Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Montreal, Canada.
- Svetlova, M., Siegle, G., Brownell, C., & Pelphrey, K. (May, 2009). From empathy to sympathy: Brain mechanisms underlying emotion processing in children and adults. Poster presented at the annual *IGERT Principal Investigators' Meeting*, Washington, DC.
- Svetlova, M., Anderson, R., Nichols, S., & Brownell, C. (April, 2009). "What does she need to make her happy?": Relations between parental mental state language and prosocial responsiveness in toddlers. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Denver, CO.
- Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., Anderson, R., Khatami, M. & Brownell, C. (March, 2008). Helping behavior in the second year: Actions versus emotions. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Vancouver, Canada.
- Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., Brownell, C., Stern, H., Sivers, S., & Yarrison, E. (June, 2007). Development of empathy toward peers in the second year of life. Poster presented at the annual meeting of *The Jean Piaget Society*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., Volper, A., & Brownell, C. (March, 2007). "Cry, baby, cry": Do toddlers respond to infants' distress? Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Boston, MA.
- Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., Shuck, L., & Brownell, C. (March, 2007). "What's mine is mine and what's yours is...": Development of sharing in toddlers. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Boston, MA.
- Svetlova, M., Nichols, S., Brownell, C., Zerwas, S., & Ramani, G.B. (May, 2006). My body's not just anybody: Development of bodily self-awareness in toddlers. Poster presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the *Association for Psychological Science*, New York, NY.

## Teaching Experience

- 2016                    Instructor, Child Observation, Duke University
- 2014                    Lecturer (with Dr. Hepach and Dr. Tomasello)  
IMPRS course ‘Ontogeny of Human Morality’  
MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig
- 2010                    Instructor, Introduction to Psychology, University of Pittsburgh
- 2005 - 2009            Teaching assistant, Introduction to Psychology (2 semesters),  
Developmental Psychology (2), Experimental Child Psychology (2),  
Abnormal Psychology (2), Biopsychology (2), Research Methods (1),  
Sensation and Perception (1), Introduction to Cognitive Science (1),  
University of Pittsburgh
- 1998 - 2000            Instructor, French I (2 semesters), French II (2 semesters), Lomonosov  
Moscow State University, Russia

## Student Supervision

### University of Pittsburgh (co-supervision with Dr. Brownell):

- Bachelor’s theses:    Ranita Anderson (2008)  
                              Maryam Khatami (2008)  
                              Sudipta Devanath (2010)

### MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig (co-supervision with Dr. Tomasello):

- Bachelor’s theses:    Selina Brinch (2013)  
                              Parissa Chokrai (2014)
- Master’s theses:      Jana Johe (2014)  
                              Laura Huber (2015)
- Ph.D. thesis:          Ulrike Kachel (in progress)

## Professional Service

- 2010 – present        Reviewer, *Child Development*, *Child Development Perspectives*, *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, *Developmental Psychology*, *European Journal of Developmental Psychology*, *Infancy*, *Infant and Child Development*, *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*

- 2014 – 2016 Social Cognition Seminar (weekly meetings) Organizer, MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig
- 2009 – 2010 “Brown Bags” (biweekly talks) Coordinator, Psychology Department, University of Pittsburgh
- 2008 – 2009 Graduate Education Committee Representative, Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition, Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh
- 2007 – 2008 “Brain bags” (weekly talks) Coordinator, Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition, Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh