

Nathan N. Cheek

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2022-present **Assistant Professor of Psychological Sciences | Purdue University**
Faculty Affiliate, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Science Consortium

2021-2022 **Postdoctoral Research Associate | Princeton University**

EDUCATION

2021	Ph.D.	Psychology and Social Policy	Princeton University
2019	M.A.	Psychology	Princeton University
2015	B.A.	Psychology and Spanish	Swarthmore College (High Honors; Phi Beta Kappa)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

choice & judgment processes; social class & inequality; social perception & stereotypes; behavioral policy; thinking & decision styles; sexual harassment & gender-based violence

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

2023-2024 | IMPACT Teaching Faculty Fellowship, Purdue University
2023 | “Faculty Favorites” Honoree, HHS Success Mentors Program, Purdue University
2022 | Finalist, Society of Experimental Social Psychology Dissertation Award
2021 | Department of Psychology Graduate Teaching Award, Princeton University
2021 | Graduate Student Registration Award, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
2020-2021 | Prize Fellowship in the Social Sciences, Princeton University
2019 | Graduate Student Diversity Travel Award, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
2019 | Summer Institute for Personality and Social Psychology, Society for Personality and Social Psychology
2018 | Anne Anastasi General Psychology Graduate Student Research Award, APA (Division 1)
2018 | Diversity Fund Graduate Travel Award, SPSP
2018 | Best Graduate Student Paper, Annual Meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making
2017 | Best Graduate Student Paper, Annual Meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making
2017-2021 | National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
2016 | Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
2015 | Undergraduate Diversity Travel Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology
2015 | Lang Award, Swarthmore College (given to one senior for “outstanding academic accomplishment”)
2015 | Solomon Asch Award, Swarthmore College (“most outstanding independent work in psychology”)
2015 | Sigma Xi Conference Travel Grant, Swarthmore College
2014, 2015 | Howard Hughes Medical Institute Conference Travel Grant, Swarthmore College
2013, 2014, 2015 | Deans Office Conference Funding Grant, Swarthmore College
2014 | Hans Wallach Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Psychology, Swarthmore College

2014 | Winner, Eastern Psychological Association of Graduate Students Poster Competition

2013 | Natural Sciences Summer Research Fellowship, Swarthmore College

2011-2015 | Donald P. Babson College Scholarship, Wellesley Scholarship Foundation

RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2021-2024 “Evaluating the effects of a skills training program for incarcerated individuals.” Overdeck Family Foundation Educational Innovation Fund. (with C. S. Clark & E. L. Paluck). \$100,000
- 2019-2020 “Racial bias in reports and evaluations of potentially harmful speech.” Facebook. \$100,000
- 2019 “Examining mental representations of pain susceptibility.” Princeton Center for Health & Wellbeing. \$5,000.
- 2018-2019 “Perceptions and realities of the effects of negative life events on the subjective wellbeing of the rich and poor.” National Institutes of Health/Princeton Center for Translational Research on Aging. (with E. Shafir). \$71,000.
- 2018 “Beliefs about hardship and perceptions of suffering.” Princeton Center for Health & Wellbeing. \$4,580.
- 2017 “Exploring the role of motivated reasoning in judgments of lying.” Princeton Cognitive Science Program. \$5,000.

PUBLICATIONS

**equal contribution*

°student co-author

 *link to paper*

WORKING PAPERS (full draft completed)

Cheek, N. N. People may think individuals in poverty are less vulnerable to harm even when ascribing them full humanity. (under review).

Cheek, N. N., & Shafir, E. Consumer vulnerability in the context of poverty. (under review).

Shafir, E., & **Cheek, N. N.** Choosing, rejecting, and closely replicating, 30 years later: A reply to Chandrashekar et al. (under review).

Cheek, N. N., Bonini, N., & Shafir, E. Decisions under restricted versus aggregate frames. (under review).

*Wu, S. J., ***Cheek, N. N., & Shafir, E.** Scarcity undermines pleasurable thinking. (in prep).

*Bandt-Law, B., ***Cheek, N. N., & Sinclair, S.** Narrow victim prototypes and the neglect of Black women who experience sexual violence. (in prep).

Cheek, N. N. Making financial implications of negative events salient counteracts the belief that individuals in poverty are less vulnerable to harm. (in prep).

PUBLISHED ARTICLES *equal contribution °student co-author ↗ link to paper

Cheek, N. N., & °**Murray, J.** (in press). Why do people think individuals in poverty are less vulnerable to harm? Testing the role of intuitions about adaptation. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*. ↗

Cheek, N. N., & Shafir, E. (in press). The thick skin bias in judgments about people in poverty. *Behavioural Public Policy*. ↗

***Cheek, N. N.**, *Bandt-Law, B., & Sinclair, S. (2023). People believe sexual harassment and domestic violence are less harmful for women in poverty. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 107, 104472. ↗

Cheek, N. N. (2023). People think the everyday effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are not as bad for people in poverty. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, 29, 425-439. ↗

Selected as “APA Editor’s Choice” article (June 2023)

Cheek, N. N., Schwartz, B., & Shafir, E. (2023). Choice set size shapes self-expression. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 49, 267-281. ↗

Schwartz, B., & **Cheek, N. N.** (2022). The framing of decisions “leaks” into the experiencing of decisions. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 45, e239, 39-40. ↗

Röseler, L., Weber, L., Helgerth, K., Stich, E., Günther, M.,...**Cheek, N. N.**,...Schütz, A. (2022). The Open Anchoring Quest Dataset: Anchored estimates from 96 studies on anchoring effects. *Journal of Open Psychology Data*, 10, 1-12. ↗

Kaiser, C. R., Bandt-Law, B. **Cheek, N. N.**, & Schachtman, R. (2022). Gender prototypes shape perceptions of and responses to sexual harassment. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 31, 254-261. ↗

Reutskaja, E., **Cheek, N. N.**, Iyengar, S., & Schwartz, B. (2022). Choice deprivation, choice overload, and satisfaction with choices across six nations. *Journal of International Marketing*, 30, 18-34. ↗

Cheek, N. N., Reutskaja, E., & Schwartz, B. (2022). Balancing the freedom-security tradeoff during crises and disasters. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 17, 1024-1049. ↗

*Goh, J. X., *Bandt-Law, B., ***Cheek, N. N.**, Sinclair, S., & Kaiser, C. R. (2022). Narrow prototypes and neglected victims: Understanding perceptions of sexual harassment. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 122, 873-893. ↗

Cheek, N. N., & Norem, J. K. (2022). Individual differences in anchoring susceptibility: Verbal reasoning, autistic tendencies, and narcissism. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 184, 111212. ↗

- Cheek, N. N.**, Blackman, S., & Pronin, E. (2021). Seeing the subjective as objective: People perceive the taste of those they disagree with as biased and wrong. *Journal of Behavioral Decision Making*, *34*, 167-182. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.**, & **Goebel, J.** (2020). What does it mean to maximize? “Decision difficulty,” indecisiveness, and the jingle-jangle fallacies in the measurement of maximizing. *Judgment and Decision Making*, *15*, 7-24. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.**, & Norem, J. K. (2020). Are Big Five traits and facets associated with anchoring susceptibility? *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, *11*, 26-35. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.**, & Ward, A. (2019). When choice is a double-edged sword: Understanding maximizers’ paradoxical experiences with choice. *Personality and Individual Differences*, *143*, 55-61. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.**, & Norem, J. K. (2018). On moderator detection in anchoring research: Implications of ignoring estimate direction. *Collabra: Psychology*, *4*, 1-8. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.**, & Cheek, J. M. (2018). Aspects of identity: From the inner-outer metaphor to a tetrapartite model of the self. *Self and Identity*, *17*, 467-482. [↗](#)
- Reprinted in M. J. Bernstein & E. L. Haines (Eds.) (2020). *Emerging perspectives on self and identity*. Routledge.
- Cheek, N. N.** (2017). Scholarly merit in a global context: The nation gap in psychological science. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, *12*, 1133-1137. [↗](#)
- Schwartz, B., & **Cheek, N. N.** (2017). Choice, freedom, and well-being: Considerations for public policy. *Behavioural Public Policy*, *1*, 106-121. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.**, & Norem, J. K. (2017). Holistic thinkers anchor less: Exploring the roles of self-construal and thinking styles in anchoring susceptibility. *Personality and Individual Differences*, *115*, 174-176. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.**, & Schwartz, B. (2016). On the meaning and measurement of maximization. *Judgment and Decision Making*, *11*, 126-146. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.** (2016). Semantic versus numeric priming and the consider-the-opposite strategy: Comment on Adame (2016). *Learning and Motivation*, *53*, 49-51. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.** (2016). Face-ism and objectification in mainstream and LGBT magazines. *PLOS ONE*, *11*, e0153592. [↗](#)
- Cheek, N. N.** (2015). Taking perspective the next time around. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *6*, 434. [↗](#)

Cheek, N. N., Coe-Odess, S., & Schwartz, B. (2015). What have I just done? Anchoring, self-knowledge, and judgments of recent behavior. *Judgment and Decision Making*, *10*, 76-85. [↗](#)

BOOK CHAPTERS

Cheek, N. N. (invited). The tyranny of freedom: Choice overload and decision fatigue. In K. E. Vail, D. Van Tongeren, R. J. Schlegel, J. Greenberg, L. A. King, & R. M. Ryan (Eds.), *Handbook of the science of existential psychology*.

Schwartz, B., & **Cheek, N. N.** (invited). Be careful what you wish for: The dark side of choice. In P. J. Carroll, K. Rios, & K. C. Oleson (Eds.), *Handbook of the uncertain self* (2nd ed.). Routledge.

Cheek, N. N., & Pronin, E. (2022). I'm right, you're biased: How we understand ourselves and others. In N. Ballantyne & D. Dunning (Eds.), *Reason, bias, and inquiry: The crossroads of epistemology and psychology* (pp. 35-60). Oxford University Press. [↗](#)

Cheek, N. N., & Cheek, J. M. (2020). Independent/interdependent self. In B. J. Carducci & C. Nave (Eds.), *The Wiley-Blackwell encyclopedia of personality and individual differences* (Vol. 1, pp. 257-261). John Wiley & Sons. [↗](#)

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Cheek, N. N., Bandt-Law, B., & Sinclair, S. (in press). Women in poverty experience more gender-based violence, but get less help. *SPSP Character & Context Blog*.

Cheek, N. N., Reutskaja, E., Schwartz, B., & Iyengar, S. (2022). Is having too many choices (versus too few) really the greatest problem for consumers? *Behavioral Scientist*. [↗](#)

Reutskaja, E., **Cheek, N. N.**, Iyengar, S., & Schwartz, B. (2022). Do global consumers have too many choices or not enough? *Forbes*. [↗](#)

Cheek, N. N., & Blue, C. (2022). Freedom versus security: Can we find the right balance? *APS Under the Cortex Podcast*. [↗](#)

Featured as one of five “best of” episodes by APS’s 100th episode retrospective (August, 2023).

Bandt-Law, B., **Cheek, N. N.**, Goh, J. X., Kaiser, C. R., & Sinclair, S. (2021). Why we neglect some sexual harassment victims more than others. *SPSP Character & Context Blog*. [↗](#)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

CHAIRED SYMPOSIA

Cheek, N. N., & Shelton, J. N. (2019, June). *Layers of inequality in education: Interpersonal, institutional, and ambient factors*. Symposium organized for the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, San Diego, CA.

Cheek, N. N. (2019, February). *Professional bias and prejudice: New insights into inequalities and injustices*. Symposium organized for the 20th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

Cheek, N. N., & Shiner, R. L. (2018, March). *New insights into maximizing, rationality, and decision making*. Symposium organized for the 19th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

CONFERENCE TALKS *equal contribution

Cheek, N. N., Bandt-Law, B., Sinclair, S., & Shafir, E. (under review). *Social class toughness stereotypes emerge from and reinforce socioeconomic hierarchies*. Submitted to the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

Wu, S. J., **Cheek, N. N., & Shafir, E.** (2022, October). *Scarcity undermines pleasurable thinking*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Experimental Social Psychology, Philadelphia, PA.

***Cheek, N. N., *Bandt-Law, B., Sinclair, S., Goh, J. X., & Kaiser, C. R.** (2022, February). *The neglect of non-prototypical sexual harassment victims*. Presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making, virtual.

*Bandt-Law, B., ***Cheek, N. N., Goh, J. X., Sinclair, S., & Kaiser, C. R.** (2021, August). *The social and legal neglect of non-prototypical sexual harassment victims*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, virtual.

*Bandt-Law, B., ***Cheek, N. N., Goh, J. X., Sinclair, S., & Kaiser, C. R.** (2021, February). *#WhatAboutUs: The neglect of non-prototypical sexual harassment victims*. Presented at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, virtual.

Cheek, N. N. (2020, February). *Variety creates voracity*. Presented at the 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

Cheek, N. N., & Shafir, E. (2019, November). *The thick skin bias in judgments about the poor*. Presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making, Montreal, Canada.

Cheek, N. N., Bandt-Law, B., Sinclair, S., & Shafir, E. (2019, June). *The “thick skin heuristic” in interpersonal interactions*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, San Diego, CA.

Cheek, N. N., Tierney, E. M., & Shafir, E. (2019, February). *Biased perceptions of the “thick-skinned poor.”* Presented at the 20th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

*Bandt-Law, B., ***Cheek, N. N., & Sinclair, S.** (2019, February). *#WhatAboutUs: People believe sexual harassment and domestic violence are less traumatic for low SES women*. Presented at the 20th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

Cheek, N. N., Schwartz, B., & Shafir, E. (2018, November). *How self-expression creates choice overload.* Presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making, New Orleans, LA.

Best graduate student paper, recognized by appointment to the Executive Board

Cheek, N. N., & Shafir, E. (2018, March). *(Mis)perceiving the pain of the “thick-skinned poor.”* Presented at the Psychology of Social Class and Inequality Preference to the 19th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

Cheek, N. N., & Schwartz, B. (2018, March). *More choice, more problems: Self-expression, maximizing, and choice overload.* Presented at the 19th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

Cheek, N. N., & Shafir, E. (2017, November). *Perceiving the pain of the “thick skinned” poor.* Presented at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making, Vancouver, BC.

Best graduate student paper, recognized by appointment to the Executive Board

SELECTED RECENT CONFERENCE POSTERS °student co-author

°Murray, J., & Cheek, N. N. (under review). *Intuitions about adaptation drive the belief that people in poverty are less vulnerable to harm.* Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.

°McMahon, C., & Cheek, N. N. (2022, February). *Variety increases maximizing by making choices feel more self-expressive.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making, virtual.

°Said, M., °Escalante, V., °Marans, Y., Cheek, N. N., Bandt-Law, B., & Sinclair, S. (2021, August). *Where do people think sexual harassment occurs? Investigating prototypical harassment contexts.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, virtual.

Cheek, N. N., Bandt-Law, B., °Weber, I., °Marans, Y., °Jamison, K., & Sinclair, S. (2021, August). *The invisibility of non-prototypical sexual harassment victims in #MeToo news coverage.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, virtual.

°Aladesuru, B., Cheek, N. N., & Sinclair, S. (2021, May). *Investigating the intersectional prototype of sexual harassment perpetrators.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, virtual.

°Goebel, J., & Cheek, N. N. (2020, May). *The “decision difficulty” component of maximizing scales is indecisiveness by another name.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, virtual.

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE POSTERS

People mentally represent sexual harassment victims as high socioeconomic status. SPSP, 2020.

Beliefs about the emotional experiences of the rich and poor. SAS, 2019.

How self-expression causes choice overload. SPSP (JDM Preconference), 2019.

Individual differences in anchoring. SPSP, 2019.
Big Five traits are not related to anchoring. ARP, 2017.
Gender, citations, and participation in 21st century psychological science. SPSP, 2017.
On the measurement of dispositional greed. SPSP, 2017.
Longer processing time is correlated with higher bullshit detection and sensitivity. SJDM, 2016.
Exploring moderators of anchoring effects. SJDM, 2016.
Revisiting the role of the comparative question in the standard anchoring paradigm. SPSP, 2016.
Face-ism in mainstream and LGBT magazines. SPSP, 2015.
Factor structure of the Hypersensitive Narcissism Scale. SPSP, 2015.
Explaining the effect of numerical anchors on physical judgments. EPA, 2015.
Numerical anchors and judgments of recent behavior: Does knowledge matter? EPA, 2015.
Numerical anchors and judgments of recent behavior. EPA, 2014.
A tetrapartite model of the self-concept. SPSP, 2015.
Public displays of self. SPSP, 2014.
The relation between introversion and measures of subclinical expressions of clinical conditions. SPSP, 2013.
The distinction between social and collective identity orientations. SPSP, 2013.

INVITED TALKS

2022 Villanova University | University of Wisconsin-Madison | Harvard University (Jachimowicz Lab)
 2021 University of Richmond | Purdue University | University of Iowa | Davidson College
 2020 University of Denver
 2019 Bryn Mawr College

TEACHING

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Courses Taught

Undergraduate

Introduction to Social Psychology	Fall '22, Spring '23, Spring '24
Research Experience in Psychology	Spring '23, Fall '23, Spring '24
Readings in Psychology	Fall '23
Honors Thesis Research	Fall '23, Spring '24

Graduate

Current Readings in Social Psychology	Spring '23
Professional Issues and Trends in Social Psychology	Spring '24

Graduate Advisees

Anna Li (secondary advisee)

Graduate Committees

Junming Zhang (M.A. Thesis Committee '23-'24)

Undergraduate Research Advisees

Tyzhae Romer, Michelle Zhao, Sierra Norris, Patrick Pannier, Sydney Ludwig, Sophia Vargas, Jackson Murray

Behavioural Public Policy
Decision
Journal of Personality
Violence Against Women
Law and Human Behavior
Journal of Marketing Research
Self & Identity
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied
Journal of Social and Personal Relationships

Personality and Individual Differences
Journal of Applied Research in Memory and
Cognition
PLOS ONE
International Journal of Psychology
American Journal of Psychology
Frontiers in Psychology
European Journal of Operational Research

Grants

National Science Foundation

Academic Societies

Society for Judgment and Decision Making Annual Conference
Association for Psychological Science Student Research Award

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Judgment and Decision Making
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Association for Psychological Science
Behavioral Science & Policy Association
Midwestern Psychological Association