

Matthew I. Billet

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Education

- 2021 - University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada
Ph.D. Social/Personality Psychology (*Minor in Quantitative Methods*)
- 2019 - 2021 University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada
M.A. Social/Personality Psychology
- 2015 - 2019 Queen's University
Kingston, Canada
B.Sc. Psychology

Current Appointment

- 2019 - *Ph.D. Candidate*, Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia
2021 - *Manager & Graduate Student Chair*, Human Subject Pool, UBC

Past Appointments

- 2023 Visiting Fellow, University of Melbourne (February - June)
2018 Research Assistant, Queen's University
2015 Research Assistant, University of Toronto

Peer-Reviewed Articles

10. **Billet, M. I.**, Baimel, A., Schaller, M., & Norenzayan, A. (In Press). Ecospirituality. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*.
9. **Billet, M. I.**, Baimel, A., Milfont, T. L., & Norenzayan, A. (In Press). Political common ground on preserving nature: Environmental motives across the political spectrum. *Environment & Behavior*. Preprint available: psyarxiv.com/de5qx
8. White, C. J. M., & **Billet, M. I.** (2024). The roles of anthropomorphism, spirituality, and gratitude in pro-environmental attitudes. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*, 1–19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2024.2363759>

7. **Billet, M. I.**, Baimel, A., Sahakari, S. S., Schaller, M., & Norenzayan, A. (2023). Ecospirituality: The psychology of moral concern for nature. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 87, 102001. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2023.102001>
6. Tanjitpiyanond, P., Jetten, J., Peters, K., Ashokkumar, A., Barry, O., **Billet, M.**, ... & Yeung, V. W. L. (2023). A 32-society investigation of the influence of perceived economic inequality on social class stereotyping. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 53(2), 367–382. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.2908>
5. Holden, R. R., Lambert, C. E., **Billet, M. I.**, La Rochelle, M., & Fekken, G. C. (2023). Factor structure and proposed scoring revision of the Invalidating Childhood Environment Scale: Getting more from less. *Current Psychology*. 42, 6022–6030. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-021-01952-9>
4. Hoogeveen, S., Sarafoglou, A., Aczel, B., Aditya, Y., Alayan, A. J., ... **Billet, M.I.**, ... Wagenmakers, E.-J. (2022). A many-analysts approach to the relation between religiosity and well-being. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*, 13(3), 237-283. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2022.2070255>
3. **Billet, M. I.**, McCall, H. C., & Schaller, M. (2022). What motives do people most want to know about when meeting another person? An investigation into prioritization of information about seven fundamental motives. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 49(4), 495–509. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01461672211069468>
2. Holden, R. R., Lambert, C. E., La Rochelle, M., **Billet, M. I.**, & Fekken, G. C. (2021). Invalidating childhood environments and nonsuicidal self-injury in university students: Depression and mental pain as potential mediators. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 77(3), 722–731. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jclp.23052>
1. **Billet, M. I.**, & Fekken, G. C. (2020). The influence of instrumentality in trusting Dark Triad members. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 154, 109690. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2019.109690>

Manuscripts Under Review

- Billet, M.I.**, McPherson, A.R., Norenzayan, A., & Schaller, M. Seeing nature through a spiritual lens: The effects of a novel photo-taking task on environmental concern and well-being. *Manuscript under review*. Preprint available: <https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/er9yv>
- Billet, M.I.**, Götz, F.M., Gvirts, A., & Norenzayan, A. The Many Faces of the Church: A Portrait of American Christianity in 20,624 Sermons. *Manuscript under review*. Preprint available: osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/jvyfz

Billet, M.I., Hohm, I., Dunn, R.M., Hofer, M.K., Sidloski, B., & Schaller, M. What Do People Want to Know About Another Person? The Answer Differs Depending on Whether That Person is an Adult or a Child. *Manuscript under review.*

Research Funding

2022 Toloka Student Grant for Cross-Cultural Research (\$1,500)
PI: Matthew I. Billet
How moral/religious beliefs about nature help and hinder success in managing natural resources across cultural contexts

Fellowships & Awards

2021 - 2025 Four Year Doctoral Fellowship
University of British Columbia

2024 Social/Personality Area Graduate Student Leadership Award
University of British Columbia

2024 Invited to ASREC Graduate Student Workshop (Chapman University, CA)
Association for the Study of Religion, Economics and Culture

2023 Michael J. Quinn Graduate Exchange Fellowship
University of British Columbia

2021 - 2024 Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS-D Scholarship
Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada

2021 - 2024 President's Academic Excellence Initiative PhD Award
University of British Columbia

2021 Graduate Travel Award
Society for Personality and Social Psychology

2021 Business for Social Good Grant
The Dhillon Centre for Business Ethics at UBC, Sauder

2020 - 2024 Student Travel Award
University of British Columbia

2020 Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS-M Scholarship
Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada

2019 - 2024 Faculty of Arts Graduate Award
University of British Columbia

Updated: Nov 13, 2024

- 2019 British Columbia Graduate Scholarship
University of British Columbia
- 2018 Dean's Special Award
Queen's University
- 2015 - 2019 Dean's Honour List
Queen's University
- 2015 Academic Excellence Scholarship
Queen's University

Chaired Symposia

1. **Billet, M.I.** & Norenzayan, A. (2024). *A culturally enriched environmental psychology*. Speakers: Matthew I. Billet, Suyi Leong, Kim-Pong Tam, Taciano L. Milfont. Symposium presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, United States.

Science Outreach & Popular Press

Research covered by popular outlets, like *Global News Television*, [CBC Radio One](#), [CBC ici BC \(french\)](#), [News 9 \(India\)](#).

- Billet, M.I.** & Norenzayan, A. (2023). Global supernatural beliefs. *News & Views: Nature Human Behavior*. 7, 670–671. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-023-01568-y>

- Billet, M.I.** & Schaller, M. (2022). What motives do people most want to know about when meeting another person? *Character & Context: Society for Personality and Social Psychology*. <https://spsp.org/news-center/character-context-blog/billet-schaller-meeting-new-people-motives>

Conference Talks

8. **Billet, M.I.**, Götz, F., Gvartz, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2024, September). *The content and geo-cultural correlates of American religious sermon content*. Talk given at the Cultural Evolution Society Conference, Durham, UK.
7. Penner, M.A., Nichols, A., & **Billet, M.I.** (2024, May). *Science and value: An empirical analysis*. Paper presentation at the Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice Biennial Conference, Columbia, SC, United States.
6. **Billet, M.I.**, Götz, F., Gvartz, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2024, February). *The content and geo-cultural correlates of religious sermon content*. Talk given at the Psychology

of Religion and Spirituality preconference at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, United States.

5. **Billet, M.I.**, Baimel, A., Sahakari, S.S., Schaller, M., & Norenzayan, A. (2024, February). *Ecospiritual beliefs predict moral concern for nature across religious backgrounds*. Talk given at the *A culturally enriched environmental psychology* symposium at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, United States.
4. **Billet, M.I.** & Norenzayan, A. (2024, January). *Political common ground on the preservation of nature: Using bottom-up text analysis and top-down self-report methods to investigate environmental motives across the political divide*. Talk given at the Political Ecologies of the Far Right Conference, Uppsala, Sweden.
3. **Billet, M.I.**, Baimel, A., Milfont, T. L., & Norenzayan, A. (2023, October). *Political common ground on the preservation of nature: A multi-method investigation of the political divide on environmental motives*. Talk given at the Polarized Audiences session at the APA Division 34 Society for Environmental, Population, & Conservation Psychology Conference, Virtual Conference.
2. Schaller, M., **Billet, M.I.**, Hohm, I., & Dunn, R. (2022, June). *Kin Care, Cognition, and the Different Kinds of Information that Adults Want to Know about Adults and Children*. Talk given at The Psychology of Kinship symposium at The Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Virtual Conference.
1. **Billet, M.I.** & Norenzayan, A. (2020, November). *The psychological consequences of viewing nature as sacred*. Talk given at the 46th Annual Conference of the Association of Moral Education, Virtual Conference.

Conference Posters

9. **Billet, M.I.**, Götz, F., Gvirts, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2025, February). *The Many Faces of the Church: A Portrait of American Christianity in 20,624 Sermons*. Poster presented at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Denver, CO, United States.
8. Sahakari, S.S., **Billet, M.I.**, & Norenzayan, A. (2023, February). *People who have a spiritual view of nature show greater moral concern for nature, irrespective of their need to appear socially desirable*. Poster presented at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA, United States.
7. **Billet, M.I.**, Jettinghoff, W.M., Götz, F., Shariff, A., & Norenzayan, A. (2022, September). *How religious sermon content is associated with—and affected by—socio-ecological context: Analyzing 50,000 American sermon transcripts*

from 2019-2020. Poster presented at Cultural Evolution Society Annual Meeting, Aarhus, Denmark.

6. **Billet, M.I.**, Hohm, I., Dunn, R., & Schaller, M. (2022, February). *What Do People Want to Know About Another Person? The Answer Differs Depending on Whether That Other Person is an Adult or a Child*. Poster presented at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
5. Holden, R. R., Lambert, C. E., **Billet, M. I.**, & Fekken, G. C. (2021, July). *Depression and mental pain mediate childhood environments and young adult non-suicidal self-injury*. Poster presented at the International Congress of Psychology, Prague, Czech Republic. Abstract in *International Journal of Psychology*, 58:sup 1,803. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ijop.13052>
4. **Billet, M.I.** & Norenzayan, A. (2021, June). *Ecospirituality (and why it matters)*. Poster presented at Mind & Life Summer Research Institute, Virtual Conference.
3. **Billet, M.I.** & Norenzayan, A. (2021, February). *When nature is sacred, distant harm to the environment is not discounted*. Poster presented at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Virtual Conference.
2. **Billet, M.I.** & Fekken, G.C. (2020, February). *The influence of instrumentality in trusting Dark Triad members*. Poster presented at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.
1. Holden, R. R., Lambert, C. E., **Billet, M. I.**, La Rochelle, M., & Fekken, G. C. (2019, July). *The invalidating childhood environment scale: Factor structure and associations with negative outcomes*. Poster presented at International Society for the Study of Individual Differences Conference, Florence, Italy.

Invited Talks

Moral Cultures Conference, University of British Columbia (August, 2024)
Social Action Lab, University of Melbourne (March, 2023)
Computational Cognitive Science Lab, University of Melbourne (March, 2023)
Green College, University of British Columbia (November, 2020 & January, 2022)

Teaching

2020 - 2021 *Seminar in the Psychology of Religion*
Instructor: Ara Norenzayan
Guest Lectures: Socio-Ecology & Religious Belief; The Psychology of Believing Nature is Sacred

2020 - 2021 *Cultural Psychology*
Instructor: Steven Heine

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Guest Lectures: Morality & Religion in Cultural Psychology; How to Write a Research Essay

2019 *Social Psychology*
Instructor: Ara Norenzayan
Guest Lecture: The Psychological Basis for Conformity

2019 Graduate Instructional Skills Workshop (ISW) Certificate

Professional Service

2022 – 2023 *Co-President*, Psychology Graduate Student Council, UBC

2020 – 2021 *Committee Member*, Green College Outreach Committee

Ad Hoc Reviewer: *Nature Sustainability; Religion, Brain, and Behavior; Ecopsychology; Personality and Individual Differences*

Professional Memberships

2023 - American Psychology Association (Division 34)

2022 - Cultural Evolution Society

2019 - Society for Personality and Social Psychology

Contractor Work

2022 *Research Consultant*, Human and Nature Youth Club, Vancouver

Volunteer Activities

2024 *Panel Member*, Careers in Health Outreach Event, Project Pulse Vancouver

2023 *Guest Lecturer*, Religion in Debate, Fostering Debate Talent Academy

2022 *Volunteer*, Business for Social Good Conference, Sauder School of Business

2021 – 2025 *Mentor*, Diversity Mentorship Program, University of British Columbia

2020 – 2021 *Mentor & Supervisor*, Undergraduate Research Experience Program, UBC

2018 – 2019 *Peer Mentor*, Q Success Mentorship Program, Queen's University

2016 – 2019 *Executive & First Aid Official*, Queen's University Taekwondo Club

2017 *Committee Member*, Neugeneration Conference for Neuroscience

2016 Orientation Leader for Incoming Students, Queen's University

References

1. Ara Norenzayan
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2. Mark Schaller
University of British Columbia
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