

Suzanne Vaccaro

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Education

- University of New Mexico *December 2019*
Master of Science, Psychology
- Stony Brook University *May 2016*
Master of Arts, Psychology
GPA: 3.87
- Berry College *May 2015*
Bachelors of Science, Psychology, magna cum laude
GPA: 3.71 Major GPA: 3.84

Achievements/Activities

- Member of PSI CHI *April 2014-Present*
- Vice President of Berry College's Chapter of PSI CHI *August 2014-May 2015*

Publications

Erickson, S., **Vaccaro, S.**, Kubinec, N., & Warner, T. (*Under Review*). Parental Mental Illness and Adult Children's Perceptions of Parent Relationships, Family Functioning, and Psychological Distress. *Manuscript Under Review*.

Erickson, S., **Vaccaro, S.**, Kubinec, N., Moss, N., Rieger, R., Lowe, P., & Tofighi, D. (*Under Review*). Longitudinal Stability of Maternal Behavior and Infant Stress Reactivity Among Infants Born Preterm at 4 and 9 Months During the Still Face Paradigm. *Manuscript Under Review*.

Erickson, S., Kubinec, N., **Vaccaro, S.**, Moss, N., Rieger, R., Rowland, A., & Lowe, J. (2021). The Role of Maternal Interactive Behavior and Gestational Age in Predicting Infant Affect During the Still-Face Paradigm. *Early Human Development, 163*(2/3).

Vaccaro, S., Tofighi, D., Moss, N., Rieger, R., Lowe, P., Phillips, & Erickson, S. (2021). The association of infant temperament and maternal sensitivity in preterm and full term infants. *Infant Mental Health Journal, 42*(1).

Perrone, L., Frost, A., Kuzava, S., Nissim, G., **Vaccaro, S.**, Rodriguez, M., Dash., A., & Bernard, K. (2021). Indicators of deprivation predict diurnal cortisol regulation during infancy. *Developmental Psychology, 57*(2), 200-210.

Erickson, S., Kubinec, N., **Vaccaro, S.**, Moss, N., Rieger, R., Rowland, A., & Lowe, J. (2019). The association between maternal interaction and infant cortisol stress reactivity among preterm and full term infants at 4 months adjusted age. *Infant Behavior & Development, 57*.

Bernard, K., Nissim, G.*, **Vaccaro, S.***, Harris, J., Lindhiem, O. (2018). Association between maternal depression and maternal sensitivity from birth to 12 months: A meta-analysis. *Attachment & Human Development, 20*(1), 1-22.

**These authors contributed equally to this work*

Presentations

Erickson, S., Hile, S., Kubinec, N., **Vaccaro, S.**, & Annett, R. (2020). *Self-reported and parent proxy reported functional impairment among pediatric cancer survivors and controls*. Virtual-Symposium at the Society for Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference, Dallas, TX.

Vaccaro, S., Lazzaro, A., Kubinec, N., Annett, R., Hile, S., & Erickson, S. (2019) *Functional Impairment Concordance Between Cancer Survivors, Controls, and Parent Report*. Poster accepted for the Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Nissim, G., **Vaccaro, S.**, Lazzaro, A., Mercorella, R., Facompre, C., Waters, T., & Bernard, K. (2019). *Mothers' Adverse Childhood Experiences and Sensitive Parenting: The Mediating Role of Secure Base Script Knowledge*. Poster accepted for the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Vaccaro, S., Kubinec, N., Ling, K., Olson, B., Moss, N., Rieger, R..., & Erickson, S. (2018). *Comparison of Maternal Interactive Behavior among Mothers of Infants Born Preterm versus Full-Term*. Poster accepted for the Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.

Kubinec, N., Erickson, S., Aragon, C., Moss, N., Rieger, R., **Vaccaro, S....**, & Lowe, J. (2018). *The Moderation of Infant Stress Response by Maternal Interaction for Preterm and Full Term Infants at 4 Months Adjusted Age*. Poster Accepted for the Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.

Vaccaro, S., Nissim, G., Kuzava, S., Mercorella, R., & Bernard, K. (2017, April). *Mothers' secure base script knowledge predicts ERP responses to infant crying expression*. Poster accepted for the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Nissim, G., **Vaccaro, S.**, Lindhiem, O., Harris, J., Bernard, K. (2017, April). *Maternal depression and maternal sensitivity during infancy: Results of a meta-analysis*. Poster accepted for the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Lazzaro, A., Mercorella, R., **Vaccaro, S.**, Nissim, G., & Bernard, K. (2017, April). *Maternal beliefs about infant crying mediate the association between secure base script knowledge and maternal nurturance*. Poster accepted for the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Mercorella, R., Lazzaro, A., Nissim, G., **Vaccaro, S.**, Frost, A., & Bernard, K. (2017, April). *Mothers' secure base script knowledge moderates the effect of adverse childhood experiences on maternal sensitivity*. Poster accepted for the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Rusia, R., Dexter, C., Doan, A., Hong, M., **Vaccaro, S.** (2015). *The effect of text variation on parent-child interactions during shared reading*. Presented at Berry College Student Symposium, April 2015

Research Experience

- **Graduate Research Assistant, Pediatric Psychology Lab** August 2017-Present
Supervisor: Dr. Sarah Erickson, University of New Mexico
 - Processed and analyzed data from prior studies, including coding of parent child interaction videos
 - Trained lab members in maternal sensitivity coding
 - Development and implementation of a research study examining Outcomes Related to College Student's Attachment (ORCA)

- **Fidelity Assurance Assistant, *Power of Two*** *November 2016-Present*
 Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Bernard, Stony Brook University

[*Power of Two is a non-profit organization in New York City that is disseminating Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-up (ABC), a parent-coaching program, for infants and toddlers who experience early adversity, such as poverty, maltreatment, and disruptions in care.*]

 - Coded parent-child interaction videos for evaluation of intervention effectiveness
 - Assessed reliability of own and others' coding
 - Maintained accurate records of assessment videos and provided ready access to assessment data for lead researcher and/or supervisor
 - Summarized project/program results and prepared progress reports and presentations for the lead researcher

- **Graduate Research Assistant, *Developmental Stress and Prevention Lab*** *August 2015- 2017*
 Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Bernard, Stony Brook University

[*The Developmental Stress and Prevention Lab is a research group that examines how early experiences influence children's behavioral, socioemotional, and neurobiological development, as well as the buffering role of sensitive parenting in protecting children in the face of stress.*]

 - Proctored home and lab visits, involving observational mother-infant interaction assessments (e.g., Strange Situation Procedure, distress tasks, play interaction), EEG/ERP tasks, and cognitive tests
 - Administered clinical questionnaires and interviews, including the Adult Attachment Interview (AAI) and Attachment Script Assessment (ASA)
 - Processed and analyzed data, including coding of Attachment Script Assessment stories for secure base knowledge, coding of Adult Attachment Interviews for secure base content, coding of mothers' sensitivity to non-distress during play interactions using the NICHD Observational Record of Caregiving Environment (ORCE)
 - Trained undergraduates in maternal sensitivity coding

- **Undergraduate Research Assistant** *August 2014-May 2015*
 Supervisor: Dr. Julie Pynn, Berry College

 - Managed and analyzed survey data assessing positive youth development in Tanzanian orphans, using Excel and SPSS
 - Facilitated grant writing for World Wildlife Fund Education for Nature grant on Youth Environmental Education in Zanzibar, East Africa

Clinical Experience

- Intern, *Programs for Children and Adolescents* *August 2020-Present*

 - Individual psychotherapy with children and adolescents
 - Neuropsychological testing and feedback with children and adolescents
 - Group psychotherapy with children and parents

- Albuquerque Public Schools Practicum *August 2017-2021*
 Supervisor: Sarah Erickson, Ph.D.

 - Peer supervision of other graduate students running DBT based groups with high school students
 - Brief mindfulness exposures for high school students during their lunch period
 - DBT based afterschool groups for high school students

- DBT based lessons matched with American Indian Life Skills for Native American Community Academy
 - Mindfulness and DBT based activities for Title 1 Middle School students during their lunch periods
- Intern, *Krasner Psychological Center* *August 2015-August 2016*
 Supervisor: Dina Vivian, Ph.D.
 Located at Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY
 - Screened potential clients for therapy, including suicide and risk assessments
 - Clinic office experience, including greeting clients, taking payment, scheduling appointments, obtaining consent forms, answering the phone and speaking to clients, setting up clients on treatment outcome surveys, use of Titanium system for scheduling and billing clients
 - Intern, *Open Door Children's Home* *January 2014-May 2015*
 Supervisor: Linda Burks
 Located in Rome, GA –Provides care to dependent, neglected, and abused children
 - Worked in girl's home mentoring youth
 - Helped girls with schoolwork and post high school graduation planning
 - Organized files and file system for all residents
 - Intern, *Brentwood Youth Development Corporation* *May 2014-August 2014*
 Supervisor: Barbara Simon
 Located in Brentwood, NY –Provides referrals, youth advocacy, workshops and individual and group counseling to the residents of the town of Islip.
 - Developed Youth Interpersonal Skills and Work Readiness Program (Including: self reflection on personality, goal setting, leadership, conflict resolution, assertiveness, decision making, social media responsibility, and resume building)
 - Administered and evaluated Program for Summer Enrichment Groups (10-12 year old group and 7th-9th grade group)
 - Program evaluation and modification for future use by the Brentwood Corporation
 - Observed telephone counseling intakes and in-person counseling intakes
 - Conducted counseling intake session with youth
 - Received training in drug overdose first aid
 - Certified to administer Naloxone for drug overdose

Relevant Classroom Activities

- Field Experience (50 hours) in 3rd-5th grade Autism Classroom *January 2013-April 2013*
 - Assisted in classroom with 6 children with moderate-severe Autism Spectrum Disorder
 - Worked with students on classroom activities and sensory and motor skills tasks
 - Assisted students in lunchroom and at recess