

Jonathan F. Kominsky

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Academic Positions

NIH NRSA Postdoctoral fellow **2016-present**
Harvard University
Mentor: Dr. Susan Carey

Education

Yale University **2011-2016**
Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology, 2016
M.S. in Psychology, 2014
Advisor: Dr. Frank C. Keil

Reed College **2005-2009**
B.A. in Psychology
Commendation for Academic Excellence: 2006-2007, 2008-2009

Grants and Awards

**Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Research Service Award F32HD089595**
Three-year postdoctoral fellowship
Project title: *Causal Event Categories in Infancy: The Origins and Consequences of Causal Perception*

Previous Work Experience

Yale University Cognition & Development Lab **2009-2011**
Lab manager/research assistant
Supervisor: Dr. Frank C. Keil

Publications

Kominsky, J. F. (in press). Pyhab: Open-source real time infant gaze coding and stimulus presentation software. *Infant Behavior and Development*. **[Repository: <https://github.com/jfkominsky/PyHab>].**

Kominsky, J. F., Zamm, A. P., & Keil, F. C. (2018). Knowing when help is needed: A developing sense of causal complexity. *Cognitive Science*, *42*(2), 491–523.

Iceard, T. F., **Kominsky, J. F.**, & Knobe, J. (2017). Normality and actual causal strength. *Cognition*, *161*, 80–93.

Kominsky, J. F., Strickland, B., Wertz, A. E., Elsner, C., Wynn, K., & Keil, F. C. (2017). Categories and constraints in causal perception. *Psychological Science*, *28*(11), 1649–1662.

- Kominsky, J. F.**, Langthorne, P., & Keil, F. C. (2016). The better part of not knowing: Virtuous ignorance. *Developmental Psychology*, *52*(1), 31–45.
- Banerjee, K., **Kominsky, J. F.**, Fernando, M., & Keil, F. (2015). Figuring out function: Children’s and adults’ use of ownership information in judgments of artifact function. *Developmental Psychology*, *51*(12), 1791–1801.
- Kominsky, J. F.**, Phillips, J., Gerstenberg, T., Lagnado, D., & Knobe, J. (2015). Causal superseding. *Cognition*, *137*, 196–209.
- Kominsky, J. F.**, & Keil, F. C. (2014). Overestimation of knowledge about word meanings: The “misplaced meaning” effect. *Cognitive Science*, *38*(8), 1604–1633.
- Rottman, B. M., **Kominsky, J. F.**, & Keil, F. C. (2014). Children use temporal cues to learn causal directionality. *Cognitive Science*, *38*(3), 489–513.
- Brand, R. J., Hollenbeck, E., & **Kominsky, J. F.** (2013). Mothers’ infant-directed gaze during object demonstration highlights action boundaries and goals. *IEEE Transactions on Autonomous Mental Development*, *5*(3), 192–201.
- Keil, F. C., & **Kominsky, J. F.** (2013). Missing links in middle school: Developing use of disciplinary relatedness in evaluating internet search results. *PLoS One*, *8*(6), e67777.
- Kominsky, J. F.**, & Casasanto, D. (2013). Specific to whose body? Perspective-taking and the spatial mapping of valence. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *4*, 266.
- Brand, R. J., McGee, A., **Kominsky, J. F.**, Briggs, K., Gruneisen, A., & Orbach, T. (2009). Repetition in infant-directed action depends on the goal structure of the object: Evidence for statistical regularities. *Gesture*, *9*(3), 337–353.

Manuscripts

- Kominsky, J. F.**, & Phillips, J. (under review) Immoral professors and malfunctioning tools: Counterfactual relevance accounts explain the effect of norm violations on causal selection. [Preprint: <https://osf.io/cp2d5/>]
- Kominsky, J. F.**, & Scholl, B. J. (in preparation) Retinotopic adaptation reveals multiple distinct categories of causal perception [working title].

Presentations

- Kominsky, J. F.**, & Carey, S. *Early-developing causal perception is sensitive to multiple physical constraints*. Conference proceeding and oral presentation, Cognitive Science Society annual meeting, July 25-28, 2018.
- Kominsky, J. F.**, & Scholl, B. J. *Retinotopically specific visual adaptation reveals the structure of causal events in perception*. Conference abstract and oral presentation, Cognitive Science Society annual meeting, July 25-28, 2018.
- Kominsky, J. F.**, & Scholl, B. J. *Retinotopically specific adaptation reveals different categories of causal events: Launching vs. Entraining*. Poster presentation, Vision Sciences Society annual meeting, May 18-23, 2018.
- Kominsky, J. F.**, Strickland, B., Wertz, A. E., Elsner, C., Wynn, K., Keil, F. C., & Carey, S. *Early-developing causal perception is sensitive to physical constraints on collision events*. Poster presentation, Cognitive Development Society biennial meeting, October 12-14, 2017.

Phillips, J., & **Kominsky, J. F.** *Causation and norms of proper functioning: Counterfactuals are (still) relevant.* Conference proceeding and oral presentation, Cognitive Science Society annual meeting, July 26-29, 2017.

Kominsky, J. F., & Phillips, J. *What's in a cause? Counterfactual relevance and hierarchical event structure in causal judgment.* Poster presentation, Society for Philosophy and Psychology annual meeting, June 28 - July 1, 2017.

Kominsky, J. F., Strickland, B., Wertz, A., Elsner, C., Wynn, K., & Keil, F. C. *Causal perception is constrained by principles of Newtonian mechanics.* Poster presentation, Cognitive Science Society annual meeting, August 11-13, 2016.

Kominsky, J. F., & Scholl, B. J. *Retinotopic adaptation reveals multiple distinct categories of causal perception.* Poster presentation, Vision Sciences Society annual meeting, May 13-18, 2016.

Kominsky, J. F., Phillips, J., Knobe, J., & Keil, F. C. *Norm violations affect children's causal judgments.* Poster presentation, Cognitive Development Society biennial meeting, October 8-10, 2015.

Kominsky, J. F., Langthorne, P., & Keil, F. C. *The better part of not knowing: Virtuous ignorance.* Conference proceeding and oral presentation, Cognitive Science Society annual meeting, July 23-25, 2015.

Wertz, A., **Kominsky, J. F.**, Strickland, B., Keil, F. C., & Wynn, K. *9-Month-Olds, But Not 7-Month-Olds, Show Sensitivity to Principles of Newtonian Physics in Causal Launching Events.* Poster presentation, Society for Research in Child Development biennial meeting, March 20-22, 2015.

Kominsky, J. F., Zamm, A. P., & Keil, F. C. *A developing understanding of causal complexity.* Poster presentation, Society for Research in Child Development biennial meeting, March 20-22, 2015.

Kominsky, J. F., Phillips, J., Gerstenberg, T., Lagnado, D., & Knobe, J. *Causal Supersession.* Conference paper and oral presentation, Cognitive Science Society annual meeting, July 24-26, 2014.

Kominsky, J. F., Strickland, B., & Keil, F. C. *Sensitivity to Newtonian regularities in causal perception: Evidence from attention.* Poster presentation, Vision Sciences Society annual meeting, May 16-21, 2014.

Kominsky, J. F., Zamm, A., & Keil, F. C. *Intuitive causal complexity in the absence of causal understanding.* Poster presentation, Cognitive Development Society biennial meeting, October 18-19, 2013.

Kominsky, J. F., Banerjee, K., Fernando, M., & Keil, F. C. *The impact of agent information on judgments of artifact function.* Poster presentation, Society for Research in Child Development biennial meeting, April 18-20, 2013.

Kominsky, J. F., & Scholl, B. J. *The window of 'postdiction' in visual perception is flexible: Evidence from causal perception.* Poster presentation, Vision Sciences Society annual meeting, May 11-16, 2012.

Kominsky, J. F., Gaughen, K., & Keil, F. C. *Coming to see explanations with diverse reasons as more compelling than those with similar reasons.* Poster presentation, Society for Research in Child Development biennial meeting, March 31 - April 2, 2011.

Orbach, T., Gruneisen, A., Briggs, K., **Kominsky, J. F.**, McGee, A., & Brand, R. J. *Structure in mothers' demonstrations to infants of objects with and without a salient end-goal.* Poster presentation, Society for Research in Child Development biennial meeting, April 2-4, 2009.

Professional service

Meta-reviewer: Cognitive Science Society Annual Meeting (2016)

Ad-hoc grant proposal review: *National Science Foundation*

Journal peer review: *Child Development; Cognition; Cognitive Development; Cognitive Science; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance; JEP: General; JEP: Learning, Memory, & Cognition; PLoS ONE; Psychological Science; Review of Philosophy & Psychology; Visual Cognition*

Conference peer review: *Cognitive Development Society (2017); Cognitive Science Society (2015, 2016, 2018); Society for Philosophy and Psychology (2016)*

References

Dr. Susan Carey, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Psychology Department, Harvard University. (617)-460-1461 (scarey@wjh.harvard.edu)

Dr. Frank Keil, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Linguistics, Psychology Department, Yale University. (203)-432-2389 (frank.keil@yale.edu)

Dr. Brian Scholl, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Psychology Department, Yale University. (203)-432-4629 (brian.scholl@yale.edu)

Dr. Joshua Knobe, Ph.D., Professor of Philosophy, Psychology, and Linguistics, Psychology Department, Yale University. (203)-432-1694 (joshua.knobe@yale.edu)