

RENGIN BAHAR FIRAT

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EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Higher Education

- 2013 Ph.D., Sociology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.
Title: Apathetic Racism Theory: A Neurosociological Study of How Moral Emotions Perpetuate Inequality
Thesis Chair: Steven Hitlin; *Members:* Jennifer Glanville, Mary Campbell, Daniel Tranel (Neurology, Psychology), Vincent Magnotta (Radiology, Psychiatry)
- 2009 M.A., Sociology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.
- 2006 B.A., Sociology, Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey.

Research and Teaching Interests

Social Psychology, Social Stratification, Social Neuroscience, Sociology of Morality.

Professional and Academic Appointments

- 2013-present Post-doctoral Researcher, Evolution, Culture & Cognition Lab, Univ. of Lyon, France
- 2009-2012 Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Sociology, University of Iowa, U.S.A.
- 2003-2006 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Sociology, Koc University, Turkey

Fellowships and Awards

- 2014 Research Associate, Laboratory for Comparative Social Research, Higher School of Economics, Russia
- 2013 Emerging Diversity Scholar Citation, National Center for Institutional Diversity at the University of Michigan
- 2012-2013 Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship, Graduate College, U. of Iowa
- 2010 Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship, Social Science Research Council
- 2009 Nominated for L.B. Sims Outstanding Master's Thesis Award, U. of Iowa
- 2007-2009 Full Fellowship for M.A. by the Ministry of National Education, Turkey
- 2002 Vehbi Koc High Honor List, Koc University, Turkey
- 2002-2005 Dean's Honor List, Koc University, Turkey
- 2001-2006 Full Fellowship by Koc University, Turkey

External Grants

- 2012 "Moral Schemas, Cultural Conflict, and Socio-political Action." Department of Defense Minerva Research Initiative (Key Co-investigator, with Steven Hitlin (PI), \$581,793)

Internal Grants (University of Iowa)

- 2012 Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Students (ECGPS) Research Grant, University of Iowa (\$500)
- 2010 Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Students (ECGPS) Research Grant, University of Iowa (\$1,000)
- 2010 MRI Research Facility Pilot Study Support, University of Iowa (10 free functional MRI scans, worth approx. \$6,000)
- 2010 Research Grant, Dept. of Sociology, University of Iowa (\$300)

Travel Grants

- 2012 Travel Grant, Dept. of Sociology, University of Iowa (\$500)
- 2011 Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Travel Grant, University of Iowa (\$300)
- 2011 Travel Grant, Midwest Sociological Society (\$100)
- 2010 Travel Grant, Midwest Sociological Society (\$100)
- 2010 Travel Grant, Dept. of Sociology, University of Iowa (\$250)

SCHOLARSHIP¹**Refereed Articles and Chapters**

- Firat, Rengin. 2012. "Trust and Political Participation: A Multi-Dimensional Comparison of Four Nations." *Sosyoloji Arastirmalari Dergisi (Sociological Research Journal)*.
- Firat, Rengin and Steven Hitlin. 2012. (Invited paper). "Morally Bonded and Bounded: A Sociological Introduction to Neurology." In *Advances in Group Processes*, Vol. 29, Emerald (Eds. Kalkhoff, Will, Shane Thye, Edward Lawler), pg. 165-199.*
- Firat, Rengin and Chad M. McPherson. 2010. "Towards an Integrated Science of Morality: Linking Mind, Society and Culture." In *Handbook of the Sociology of Morality*, Springer (Eds. Hitlin, Steven and Stephen Vaisey), pg. 361-384.*

Non-Refereed Publications

- Firat, Rengin and Steven Hitlin. 2014. "Self." *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Theory in Psychology*.*
- Firat, Rengin and Steven Hitlin. 2012. (Invited Review Essay). "Neurosociology and the Difficult Art of Building Interdisciplinary Bridges." *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews*, Vol. 41, Issue 6, pg. 780-783.*
- McPherson, Chad M. and Rengin Firat. 2011. "Towards an Integrated Science of Morality" In *Newsletter of the Altruism, Morality & Social Solidarity Section of the American Sociological Association*, Vol. 2, Issue 2, pg. 38-57.**

Works In Progress

- Firat, Rengin. "Media Usage and Civic Life: The Role of Values." *Journal of Social and Political Psychology* (Revised and Resubmitted).

¹ Contribution: * Major. **Secondary. ***Equal.

- Firat, Rengin and Steve Hitlin. "From Antipathy to Apathy: Modern Racism, Neurosociology, and Morality." In preparation. (Under Review at American Journal of Sociology).*
- Firat, Rengin and Jennifer L. Glanville. "Voluntary Associations and Tolerance: The Role of Membership Composition." In preparation. (Draft Available).***
- Firat, Rengin and Pascal Boyer. "Coalitional Psychology: The Missing Link between Ethnic Polarization and Well-being." In preparation. (Draft Available).*
- Firat, Rengin. "From Symbolic to Somatic Markers: How the Human Brain Divides the Social World." In preparation. (Data Analysis Underway).
- Firat, Rengin, Steven Hitlin & Daniel Tranel. "Differential Effects of the Lesions of the Ventromedial Prefrontal Cortex, Amygdala and Insula on Race and Social Class Bias." In preparation.*

Refereed Conference Presentations

International

- 2014 Firat, Rengin. "Coalitional Psychology: The Missing Link between Ethnic Polarization and Well-being." Understanding Democracy and Polarization Session at the XV April International Academic Conference on Economic and Social Development, Moscow, Russia.

National

- 2014 Firat, Rengin and Steven Hitlin. "Moral Schemas, Cultural Conflict, and Socio-Political Action." Paper accepted for the regular session on Peace and Conflict at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), San Francisco, CA.
- 2012 Firat, Rengin. "A Theory of Prejudice in Everyday Life: From Symbolic Markers to Somatic Markers." Refereed Roundtables for the Section on Social Psychology at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), Denver, CO.
- 2011 Firat, Rengin. "Moral Emotions and Racial Prejudice: A Neurosociological Approach" New Directions in Social Psychology Session for the Section on Social Psychology at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), Las Vegas, NV.
- 2010 Firat, Rengin and Jennifer L. Glanville. "Voluntary Associations and Tolerance: The Role of Membership Composition." Voluntary and Non-Profit Organizations Session at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), Atlanta, GA.

Regional

- 2010 Firat, Rengin. "In People We Trust, In Politics We Don't: A Multifaceted Relationship Between Trust and Political Participation." Civic Society, Inclusion and Identity Session, Joint Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society/North Central Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2010 Firat, Rengin. "Moral Emotions." Social Psychology Session, Joint Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society/North Central Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2009 Civettini, Nicole H.W., stef shuster and Rengin Firat. "Effects of Same Sex Unions on Mental Well-Being" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Des Moines, IA.

University

2009 Firat, Rengin. "Human Values and Social Capital." Paper presented at the Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference, Iowa City, IA.

Selected Colloquia

2013 Firat, Rengin. "Sosyal Nörobilime Yeni Bir Bakış Açısı: Sosyo-Politik Davranışlar Üzerine Disiplinler ve Uluslar Arası Bir Proje." Dept. of Neurology, Istanbul University, Istanbul, Turkey.

2012 Firat, Rengin. "Evaluations of Race and Social Class in the Human Brain." Dept. of Psychiatry, University of Iowa.

2012 Firat, Rengin. "Symbolic Boundaries and the Human Brain." Neuroscience Graduate Program, University of Iowa.

2012 Firat, Rengin and Steven Hitlin. "Let's Talk About Brains." Theory Workshop, Dept. of Sociology, University of Iowa.

2010 Firat, Rengin. "Putting Race in Context: Exploring the Neural Correlates of Affective Racial Prejudice With fMRI." Neuroscience Graduate Program, University of Iowa.

TEACHING**Lecturer**

Fall 2011 Lecturer, *Social Inequality* (Undergraduate Course)

Spring 2011 Lecturer, *Social Inequality* (Online Undergraduate Course)

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2012 Teaching Assistant (T. A.), Dr. Layana Navarre-Jackson, *Introduction to Sociology Principles* (Undergraduate Course)

Spring 2011 T. A., Dr. Jae-On Kim, *Introduction to Sociology Principles* (Undergraduate Course)

Fall 2010 T. A., Dr. Mary Campbell, *Introduction to Sociology Principles* (Undergraduate Course)

Spring 2009 T. A., Dr. Steven Hitlin, *Gender and Society* (Undergraduate Course)

Fall 2009 T. A., Dr. Steven Hitlin, *Principles of Social Psychology* (Undergraduate Course)

SERVICE**University Service**

2010-2012 Council on the Status of Women, Diversity and Climate Committee

2010-2012 University of Iowa Unwelcomed Behavior Survey Committee

2008 - 2009 President, Turkish Student Association at the University of Iowa

2007-2008 Vice President, Turkish Student Association at the University of Iowa

Departmental Service

2010-2011 Committee Member, Diversity Committee

2009-2010 Committee Member, Graduate Studies

Service To The Profession

- 2012 Reviewer, *The Social Science Journal*
2012 Reviewer, *Current Sociology*
2011 Organizer & Discussant, Round-table Session on “Morality, Culture and Ideology” at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, St. Louis, MO
2011 Co-reviewer, *American Journal of Sociology*
2011 - 2013 Reviewer, *Psychological Reports*
2011 Reviewer, *Sociology Compass*
2011 Creator & Organizer, online collaborative wiki space for student projects on social inequality: <http://inequalityprojects.wikispaces.com/>
2010, 2011 Reviewer, *Current Research in Social Psychology*

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association

Section Memberships: Social Psychology, Evolution, Biology & Society

International Sociological Association

Section Memberships: Social Psychology, Social Stratification

Society for Neuroscience

OTHER

Programming & Statistical Skills

Stata (advanced), SPSS (advanced), Mplus (advanced), AFNI (Analysis of Functional Neuroimages, advanced), E-prime (advanced), Qualtrics (advanced).

Languages

Turkish (native), English (fluent), French (basic), German (basic).