

# Monica Lawson, Ph.D.

## Assistant Professor

Department of Psychology

**Research area:** Child Development

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## Degrees

- Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology (Child Development), 2016, University of Toledo
- M.A. in Experimental Psychology (Child Development), 2014, University of Toledo
- B.S. in Psychology (Minor: Mathematics), 2012, University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown

## Recent Courses

- 2503 *Developmental Psychology*
- 5303 *Developmental Psychology (MS level)*

## Research in Progress

Dr. Lawson's research focuses on the transactional nature through which interactions within families contribute to children's cognitive, socioemotional, and physiological development. Specifically, Dr. Lawson examines how parent-child interactions within at-risk contexts, such as chronic poverty and child maltreatment, contribute to children's developing autobiographical memory and self. Guided by a developmental psychopathology approach, Dr. Lawson's research contributes to the theoretical understanding of typical and atypical development and generates findings that advise professionals who work with children and families, including child welfare professionals, in identifying and supporting the healthy development of maltreated children. Dr. Lawson completed her doctorate degree at the University of Toledo and a Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Department of Psychology and at The William J. Shaw Center for Children and Families at the University of Notre Dame.

## Recent Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journals

- **Lawson, M.**, Valentino, K., Speidel, R. †, McDonnell, C. G. †, & Cummings, E. M. (2018) Reduced autobiographical memory specificity among maltreated preschoolers: The indirect effect of neglect through maternal reminiscing. *Child Development*. Advanced Online Publication. doi: 10.1111/cdev.13153
- **Lawson, M.**, Rodriguez-Steen, L.\*, & London, K. (2018). A systematic review of the reliability of children's event reports after discussing experiences with a naïve, knowledgeable, or misled parent. *Developmental Review*, 49, 62-79. doi: 10.1016/j.dr.2018.06.003
- **Lawson, M.**, Valentino, K., McDonnell, C. G. †, & Speidel, R. † (2018). Maternal attachment is differentially associated with mother-child reminiscing among maltreating and nonmaltreating families. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 169, 1-18. doi: 10.1016/j.jecp.2017.12.005
- **Lawson, M.**, & London, K. (2017). Children's memory for conversations after a 1-year delay. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 6, 328-336. doi: 10.1016/j.jarmac.2017.07.001
- **Lawson, M.**, & London, K. (2015). Tell me everything you discussed: Children's memory for a dyadic conversation after a 1-week or 3-week delay. *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 33, 429-445. doi: 10.1002/bsl.2184

#### Book Chapters

- **Rohrbaugh, M.**, London, K., & Hall, A. K. (2015). Preparing for the interview. In W. O'Donohue & M. Fanetti (Eds.), *Forensic interviews regarding child sexual abuse: A guide to evidence-based practice* (pp. 197-218). New York, NY: Springer.

† denotes graduate student author

\* denotes undergraduate student author