

Lucía Macchia

Women and Public Policy Program
Harvard Kennedy School | Harvard University
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APPOINTMENTS

- 2020- **Postdoctoral Research Fellow** – Women and Public Policy Program (WAPPP)
Harvard Kennedy School | Harvard University
- 2020- **Research Associate** - Wellbeing Research Centre
University of Oxford
- 2019-2020 **Research Fellow** - Wellbeing Research Centre
University of Oxford
- 2017-2018 **Research Associate** - Wellbeing Programme, Centre for Economic Performance.
The London School of Economics and Political Science

EDUCATION

- 2016-2020 **PhD in Psychology (Behavioural Science)**
City, University of London
- Spring 2019 **Visiting scholar**
Harvard Business School
- 2014-2015 **MSc in Behavioural Economics**
City, University of London
- 2006-2010 **Bachelor of Business Administration**
School of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Subjective wellbeing, inequality, public policy.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

- 2018 ESRC South East Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) & Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) Business Boost Industry Engagement Fund. £5,000.
- 2018 Worshipful Company of Saddlers travel bursary. £1,000.
- 2016-2019 School of Arts and Social Sciences Doctoral Studentship/Teaching Fellowship. City, University of London. £48,000.

- 2014-2015 School of Arts and Social Sciences International Excellence Scholarship for the MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London. £5,000.
- 2014-2015 MSc Behavioural Economics bursary. City, University of London. £5,000.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**Shared first authorship.*

Macchia, L., Plagnol, A.C., & Powdthavee, N. (2020). Buying happiness in an unequal world: Rank of income more strongly predicts wellbeing in unequal countries. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 46(5), 769-780.

Whillans, A.V., & **Macchia, L.**, Dunn, E. (2019). Valuing time over money predicts happiness after a major life transition: A pre-registered longitudinal study of graduating students. *Science Advances*, 5, 9.

Macchia, L.*, & Whillans, A.V.* (2019). Leisure beliefs and the subjective well-being of nations. *Journal of Positive Psychology*.

Macchia, L., & Plagnol, A.C. (2019). Life satisfaction and confidence in national institutions: Evidence from South America. *Applied Research in Quality of Life*, 14(3), 721-736.

Macchia, L., Plagnol, A.C. & Reimers, S. (2018). Does experience with high inflation affect intertemporal decision making? Sensitivity to inflation rates in Argentine and British delay discounting choices. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, 75, 76–83.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Macchia, L., & Plagnol, A.C. (2019). The subjective well-being political paradox: Evidence from Latin America. Chapter in: Mariano Rojas (ed.). *The Economics of Happiness: How the Easterlin Paradox Transformed our Understanding of Wellbeing and Progress*. Oxford University Press.

Plagnol, A.C., & **Macchia, L.** (2018). Economics of subjective well-being: Evaluating the evidence for the Easterlin Paradox. Chapter in: Ayse K. Uskul and Shige Oishi (eds.). *Socioeconomic Environment and Human Psychology: Social, Ecological, and Cultural Perspectives*. Oxford University Press, ISBN: 9780190492908.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW OR REVISION

**Shared first authorship.*

Proulx, J.* , **Macchia, L.*** , Aknin, L.B., & Whillans, A.V. Can youth-focused prosociality interventions increase generosity? A pre-registered field experiment. Invited revision: *Comprehensive Results in Social Psychology*.

Macchia, L., & Whillans, A.V. Understanding whether and when income inequality is associated with happiness: The case of Latin America. Under review: *World Development*.

Giurge, L.*, **Macchia, L.***, Whillans, A. V.*, & Yemiscigil, A.* How COVID-19 shapes students' extrinsic and prosocial work values: The role of uncertainty, worry and reflection. Under review: *Journal of Vocational Behavior*.

Macchia, L. Educational opportunities, social mobility, and the happiness of the rich around the world. Under review: *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

Gonzalez, A., **Macchia, L.**, & Whillans, A.V. The perpetuation of inequality: Parental transmission and behavioral consequences of children's inequality attributions. Under review: *Psychological Science*.

Macchia, L., & Ariely, D. Sense of justice differs across domains: Implications for redistributive policy support. Under review: *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*.

SELECTED RESEARCH IN PROGRESS (*Write-up stage*)

Macchia, L.*, & Whillans, A.V.* Whether & when income & income inequality shape generosity around the world: A multiverse approach. Target journal: *Psychological Science*.

Macchia, L., Easterlin, R.A., & Plagnol, A.C. Trends and fluctuations in subjective well-being in Latin America since the 1990s. Target journal: *World Development*.

Plagnol, A., Kanji, S., Chung, H., & **Macchia, L.** The gendered division of the mental load among couples: Development and validation of a quantitative measure. Target journal: *Gender, Work and Organization*.

Macchia, L., & Oswald, A. Physical pain, gender, and the business cycle in 146 nations. Target journal: *Psychological Science*.

PRESS ARTICLES

Gómez, M., & **Macchia, L.** (2020). The importance of trust in government. *Contribution to Dispatches from the Behavioral Scientists Fighting Coronavirus in the Global South. Behavioral Scientist*.

Soto Mota, P. I., **Macchia, L.**, & Gómez, M. (2020). Building trust to face the COVID-19 pandemic in developing countries. *Behavioral Scientist*.

Whillans, A., Giurge, L.M., **Macchia, L.**, & Yemiscigil, A. (2020). Why a Covid-19 world feels both tiring and hopeful for college students. *Harvard Business Review Ascend*.

Macchia, L., Plagnol, A.C., & Powdthavee, N. (2019). Why do people tolerate income inequality? *Harvard Business Review*.

Macchia, L. & Whillans, A.W. (2019). Happiness after graduation. *Thrive Global*.

Macchia, L., & Plagnol, A.C. (2018). Life ratings and trust in institutions in South America. *Gallup*.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Forbes (2019). The 10 happiest countries in the world, and how they got there (2019).

The Telegraph (2019). You don't need a lot of money to be happy, as long as you're richer than your friends, study finds.

Tech Round (2019). Earning more than your peers buys more happiness in countries with a larger rich-poor divide.

Financial advisor (2019). It's not how much you make, it's how you rank among peers.

Finanzwelt (2019). Einkommensungleichheit fördert Zufriedenheit.

ANSA Latina (2018). La desconfianza ciudadana reina en Sudamérica.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Behavioral Insights Group Doctoral Workshop.
Harvard Kennedy School, United States. 2020.

MSc in Behavioural Economics Seminar.
City, University of London; London, United Kingdom. 2019.

Common Cents Lab - Centre for Advanced Hindsight.
Duke University, North Carolina, United States. 2018.

USC Happiness Conference in honour of Richard A. Easterlin.
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, United States. 2018.

15th Conference of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS).
University of Innsbruck School of Management, Innsbruck, Austria. 2017.

TEACHING

Postgraduate teaching:

2020/2021	Teaching assistant. MLD304 Science of Behavior Change Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University
2019/2020	Lecturer PEM102 Cognitive and Economic Science of Rational Choice MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London
2016-2020	Teaching assistant PEM104 Behavioural Research Methods: Design and Analysis MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London
2016-2018	Teaching assistant PEM107 Applied Econometric and Psychological Research Methods MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London

2016-2018 Teaching assistant PEM101 Principles of Economics
MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London

Undergraduate teaching:

Summer 2019 Lecturer MG101 - Marketing Summer School.
The London School of Economics and Political Science

2018/2019 Guest lecturer Introduction to Quantitative Inference.
City, University of London

2016/2017 Guest lecturer Topics in Behavioural Economics.
BSc Psychology. City, University of London

Summer 2016 Lecturer Decision making: rationality or intuition? Bachelor of Business
Administration.
School of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Buenos Aires,
Argentina

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-2017 IPSOS Mori – Behavioural Science Consultant.
London, United Kingdom.

2012-2014 Petrobras Argentina S.A. – Strategic Planning Analyst.
City of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2011-2012 Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu – Enterprise Risk Services Consultant.
City of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

STATISTICS SOFTWARE

R, Stata.

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native), English (fluent), French and Italian (intermediate).

REFERENCES

Anke C. Plagnol, Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology, City, University of London.
anke.plagnol.1@city.ac.uk

Ashley V. Whillans, Assistant Professor, Negotiations, Organizations and Markets Unit.
Harvard Business School. awhillans@hbs.edu

Andrew J. Oswald, Professor of Economics and Behavioural Science. University of
Warwick. andrew.oswald@warwick.ac.uk

Dan Ariely, James B. Duke Professor of Psychology and Behavioral Economics, The Fuqua
School of Business, Duke University. dan@danariely.com