**JAMES S. MCGRAW, M.A.**

Curriculum Vitae- June 2021

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**EDUCATION**

Bowling Green State University – 2018 – Present

**Doctoral Candidate in Clinical Psychology**

Concentration: Child & Family Psychology

Bowling Green State University – 2018-2020

**Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Master’s Thesis: Religious/spiritual struggles, one-upmanship, internalized homophobia and suicide risk among lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer/questioning and same-sex attracted Latter-day Saints

Utah Valley University – 2014-2018

**B.S. Behavioral Science, emphasis in Psychology – 3.75 Cumulative GPA, Cum Laude**

Minor in Religious Studies

**RESEARCH & CLINICAL INTERESTS**

My research and clinical interests revolve around four domains: (a) Suicide & Self Injury - examining distal and proximal predictors of suicidal thoughts and behaviors; (b) Sexual & Gender Minority Mental Health – examining protective and risk factors related to LGBTQ mental illness (e.g., internalized homophobia); (c) Religion & Spirituality – exploring ways in which religion and spirituality relate to psychopathology and psychotherapy; and (d) Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) – implementing EBP into psychotherapy and psychological assessment in order to best guide treatment (e.g., transdiagnostic approaches to psychopathology).

**RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS**

**Peer Reviewed Journals**

Rosik, C. H., Lefevor, T., **McGraw, J.S**., & Beckstead, A. L. (2021). Is conservative religiousness inherently associated with poorer health for sexual minorities? *Journal of Religion and Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-021-01289-4>

**McGraw, J. S.,** Angoff, H. D., Chinn, J., Barnhart, W. R., Lee, B. N., Diggins, E., Jordan, A. K., Branch, J., & Docherty, M. (2021). Stigma and negative health outcomes in sexual/gender minority youth in Utah. *Current Psychology.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-021-01919-w>

Lefevor, G.T., **McGraw, J. S**., & Skidmore, S. J. (2021). Suicidal ideation among active and nonactive/former Latter-day Saint sexual minorities. *Journal of Community Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22591>

**McGraw, J. S.,** McManimen, S., Chinn, J., Angoff, H. D., Docherty, M., & Mahoney, A. (2021). Adverse childhood experiences, suicidal/self-harming thoughts, and suicide attempts among LGB and Heterosexual Utahns. *Journal of Homosexuality.* https://doi.org/10.1080/00918369.2021.1909396

Harrison, D. Angoff, **McGraw, J.S**., Docherty, M. (2020). Intersecting identities and non-suicidal self-injury among Youth. *Identity*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15283488.2020.1863216>

**McGraw, J. S.,** Peer, S. O., McManimen, S., Chinn, J., & Mahoney, A. (2020). Comparison of lifetime suicide attempts and recent suicidal thoughts among sexual minority and heterosexual Utahns: Results from a population-based survey. *Archives of Suicide Research.* <https://doi.org/10.1080/13811118.2020.1806159>

**McGraw, J.S.,** Chinn, J., & Mahoney, A. (2020). Historical, doctrinal, and empirical insights into Latter-day Saint sexual minorities’ psychological and interpersonal functioning. *Journal of GLBT Family Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1550428X.2020.1800545>

**McGraw, J. S.**, Peer, S. O., & Draper, M. R. (2018)

Reactionary deconversion from Mormonism: Polarization of ideological and behavioral religiosity among active and former Mormons. *Review of Religious Research*, 1-19. doi:10.1007/s13644-018-0343-8

Peer, S. O. & **McGraw, J. S.** (2017).Mixed-method study of

perfectionism and religiosity among Mormons: Implications for cultural competence and clinical practice. *Issues in Religion and Psychotherapy*, *38*(1).

**Under Review**

**McGraw, J. S.,** Chinn, J., Docherty, M., & Mahoney, A. (*Under Review*). Religious/spiritual struggles and one-upmanship, internalized homophobia, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors among LGBTQ/SSA Latter-day Saints. *Journal of LGBT Issues in Counseling.*

Lefevor, G. T., Skidmore, S. J., **McGraw, J. S.,** Davis, E. B., & Mansfield, T. R. (*Under Review*). Religiousness and minority stress in conservatively religious sexual minorities: Lessons from Latter-day Saints. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*.

**McGraw, J. S.,** Docherty, M., S., Chinn, J., & Mahoney, A. (*Under Review*). Family, Faith, and Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors Among LGBTQ Youth in Utah. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation & Gender Diversity.*

**Book Chapters**

Mahoney, A., Flint, D., & **McGraw, J. S.** (2020). Spirituality, religion

& marital/family issues. In D. Rosmarin & H. Koenig (Eds.), *Handbook of spirituality, religion, and mental health, 2nd edition* (pp159-177). <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-816766-3.00009-4>

**RELEVANT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND PROJECTS**

*Principal Investigator of a 4-Month Longitudinal Study on Faith, Family, and Mental Health among Latter-day Saint LGBTQ Adults*

May 2020 – Present

* In my role as PI, I (a) designed, obtained IRB approval for, and conducted a four wave online longitudinal study, (b) recruited over 750 LDS LGBTQ research participants for the initial first wave, and maintained a substantial sample size across all four time points, (c) managed a budget of $4000 for study advertising and participant incentives, and (d) worked with community leaders and advertisement agencies to recruit from a hard to reach community sample. Additionally, I successfully defended my master’s thesis using data from the first wave of this study and have plans to use the longitudinal portion of the data for my dissertation.

*Co-founder and co-facilitator of BGSU Psychology Department’s LGBTQ Mental Health Research Group*

January 2020 – Present

* As a co-founder/facilitator, I lead a team of 12 other graduate and undergraduate students in conducting a number of original qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, and secondary analysis research projects regarding the mental health and identity development of LGBTQ youth and adults, with the explicit goal of publishing and presenting our findings in peer reviewed journals and professional conferences. Presently, we have three concurrent projects being pursued: (a) the effects of being bullied due to LGBT status on psychopathology among a large representative sample of adolescents, (b) the effects of social media use on body image for LGB adults, and (c) the use of role-playing games (RPGs) in exploring gender identity among transgender and gender nonconforming adults.

*Graduate Student on the Relational Spirituality and Psychology Research Team: R-SPiRiT*

August 2018 – Present

* ***R-SP****i****R****i****T*** is an ecumenical research team dedicated to using psychological methods to examine ways religion/spirituality may impact interpersonal relationships (e.g., dating, sexuality, parenting, coupling and uncoupling), for better or worse, and also thereby affect individual adjustment.
* As a graduate student on the *R-SPiRiT* research team I examine ways in which religion/spirituality affects the interpersonal relationships of LGBTQ individuals, such as navigating religious conflict with God/Higher Power(s), parents or congregations, identifying when parents or family members may use religion against their children (e.g., triangulation/spiritual one-upmanship), or how LGBTQ individuals may use religion/spirituality to inform their own romantic relationships (e.g., sanctification).

*Presidential Intern for Dr. Kyle Reyes, Vice President of Student Affairs; Special Assistant to the President for Inclusion*

July 2017 – July 2018

* As a Presidential Intern for Dr. Reyes, I was in charge of designing and conducting original, mixed-methods research on inclusion and diversity at Utah Valley University (UVU), including creating and administering quantitative surveys and focus groups for underrepresented populations on campus (e.g., LGBT students, religious minorities, and faculty and students of color).

**RELEVANT PRESENTATIONS**

**McGraw, J. S.** (2020, September). *Examining suicide risk among LDS LGBTQ saints: What we know and still don’t know*. Presented at Affirmation International Conference. Salt Lake City, Utah.

**McGraw, J. S.** (2019, October). *Understanding the empirical research on religion, sexuality, and suicide*. Presented at Utah Valley University’s Suicide Prevention Conference. Orem, Utah.

**McGraw, J. S**., Engelman, J., James, A. S., & Grubbs, J. B. (2019, April). *Disaffiliation from high-cost religious groups and well-being*. Presented at the Annual Mid-Year Conference of APA Div 36, Bowling Green, Ohio.

**Relevant Professional Positions**

*Presidential Intern for Dr. Kyle Reyes, Special Assistant to the President on Inclusion*

July 2017 – Present

* In addition to my research projects with Dr. Reyes, I worked on various projects in regard to Inclusion at UVU, including meeting with University Vice Presidents, School Deans, Academic and Student affairs, and other faculty and staff to help the university meet its diversity and inclusion goals. I also helped publish the 2016-2017 Inclusion Annual Report. In addition, I serve on the following committees as a part of my role as Presidential Intern for Inclusion and Diversity:
  + UVU’s Inclusion Committee: I was one of two students on UVU’s Inclusion Committee, which had been charged by the University President to (a) Evaluate the 2014-2018 Inclusion Plan and (b) create the 2018-2022 Inclusion Plan.
  + UVU’s Transgender Task Force: I was the only student member of this task force, which was involved in making concrete changes to UVU policies to be more inclusive of transgender students and employees, such as creating more gender-neutral bathrooms or easier access to changing a person’s name on official records.
  + UVU’s MLK Commemoration Committee: As a member of this joint student, staff, and faculty committee I helped plan UVU’s MLK Commemoration week in January 2018.
  + Foundations of Inclusion Workshop Series: The Foundation of Inclusion Workshop series are classes that faculty and staff can volunteer for to learn about underrepresented student population issues on campus, including LGBT, interreligious, race and ethnicity, socioeconomic status, mental health, global and international, and gender. As a member of this committee I helped each group facilitator plan and carry out their various classes. In addition, I facilitated the class on interreligious engagement on campus.
  + UVU’s Women in Leadership Taskforce: As the only student member of this taskforce I researched and prepared a report on barriers women face in higher education leadership and presented recommendations. My report was presented to the university President, Vice Presidents, and other university leaders for consideration.

**GRANTS AWARDED**

$ 1,500- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship. May, 2015.

$ 2,500- Undergraduate Research Scholarly and Creative Activities (URSCA). November, 2016.

1. https://www.parchment.com/u/award/6283c1fa708ae0e713fb7b2bcd02132c [↑](#footnote-ref-1)