

THOMAS H. COSTELLO

Curriculum Vitae

June 10, 2026

thcostello1@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2025 – Present	Carnegie Mellon University Assistant Professor, Department of Social and Decision Sciences Affiliated Faculty, Human-Computer Interaction Institute Core Faculty, Institute for Complex Social Dynamics Faculty Affiliate, Center for Collaboration Science ("CoLab")
2024 – 2025	American University Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology
2024 – Present	MIT Research Affiliate, Sloan School of Management
2022 – 2024	MIT Postdoctoral Fellow, Sloan School of Management Faculty Advisors: David Rand & Gordon Pennycook

EDUCATION

2022	Ph.D., Psychology, Emory University , Atlanta, Georgia Faculty Advisors: Scott O. Lilienfeld (2016-2020) & Arber Tasimi (2021-22)
2018	M.A., Psychology, Emory University , Atlanta, Georgia Faculty Advisor: Scott O. Lilienfeld
2016	B.A., Psychology & Philosophy, Binghamton University , NY Honors Thesis Advisor: Steven Jay Lynn

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2026	Under review	\$500,000	Internet Society Foundation (PI)
2026	Under review	\$250,000	Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (PI with Shixiang Zhu)
2026	Semifinalist		MIT Technology Review 35 Innovators Under 35
2026	Under review	\$250,000	Merck & Co., Inc. (Co-I)
2026	Awarded	\$1,500,000	John Templeton Foundation (Co-I, with \$150,000 to Costello Lab at CMU)

2026	Awarded	\$120,000	Research gift to Costello Lab at CMU, FAR.AI
2026	Awarded	\$25,000	Newcomb Cleveland Prize, <i>American Academy for the Advancement of Science</i>
2025	Rejected	\$800,000	Democracy, Ethics, & Public Trust, <i>Henry Luce Foundation</i>
2025	Rejected	\$200,000	Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program, <i>Carnegie Corporation of New York</i>
2025	Rejected	\$800,000	<i>Center for Security and Emerging Technology</i> (co-I)
2025	Awarded	\$150,000	<i>Physicians Foundation</i> (co-I)
2025	Awarded		<i>Association for Psychological Science</i> , Rising Star
2024 – 2025	Awarded	\$40,000	<i>Anti-Defamation League</i> , Research Gift
2025 – 2027	Awarded	\$329,485	<i>DARPA</i> , Research Grant (co-I)
2025 – 2027	Rejected	\$837,000	<i>Google</i> , Impact Challenge: Strengthening Democracy in Europe (co-PI)
2024 – 2025	Awarded	\$298,925	<i>Schmidt Sciences</i> , AI Safety Grant (co-PI)
2024 – 2025	Awarded	\$100,000	<i>Reset</i> , Research Grant (co-PI)
2024 – 2026	Awarded	\$115,000	<i>Effective Ventures</i> , Research Gift (PI)
2024 – 2027	Awarded but declined	\$270,000	Klarman Fellowship, Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences
2023	Awarded		J.S. Tanaka Dissertation Award, Association for Research in Personality
2023	Awarded	\$10,000	Nau Lab on the History & Principles of Democracy, University of Virginia (co-PI)
2021 - 2022	Awarded	\$32,000	Quantitative Theory and Methods Fellowship, Emory University
2021	Awarded	\$2,000 + Award	Heritage Dissertation Research Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology
2020	Awarded	\$3,000	Research Grant, Institute for Humane Studies
2015 - 2016	Awarded	\$3,000	Artists & Scholars Summer Fellowship, Binghamton University

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Costello, T.H., Pennycook, G., Rand, D. (2024). Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *Science*, 385, eadq1814.

[Cover](#) of *Science* Magazine, Vol. 385.

Winner of the 2026 [AAAS Newcomb Cleveland Prize](#)

Print: [New York Times](#) | [Financial Times](#) | [The Guardian](#) | [Wall Street Journal](#) | [The Economist](#) | [Los Angeles Times](#) | [MIT Technology Review](#) | [The Washington Post](#) | [Science](#) | [Nature](#) | [Der Spiegel](#) | [Bloomberg](#) | [Forbes](#) (and [more](#))

Audio Interviews: [CBC/Radio Canada](#) | [Scientific American](#) | [The Guardian](#) | [Term of Service \(CNN\)](#)

Television Interviews: [NBC Nightly News](#) | [BBC World News](#) | [CBS News](#)

Costello, T.H., Zmigrod, L., Tasimi, A. (2023). Thinking outside the ballot box. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 27, 605-615.

Costello, T.H., Bowes, S.M., Malka, A., Baldwin, M., Tasimi, A. (2023). Revisiting the rigidity-of-the-right hypothesis: A meta-analytic review. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 124, 1025-1052.

Costello, T.H., Bowes, S.M., Stevens, S.T., Waldman, I.W., Tasimi, A., & Lilienfeld, S.O. (2022). Clarifying the structure and nature of left-wing authoritarianism. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 122, 135-170. [The Atlantic](#)

^Most cited JPSP paper published in 2022

SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

Costello, T. H., Pelrine, K., Kowal, M., Arechar, A. A., Godbout, J.-F., Gleave, A., Rand, D., & Pennycook, G. (2026). *Large language models can effectively convince people to believe conspiracies*. [WP](#). [under review at *Nature*]

Costello, T. H.*, Rabb, N.*, Stagnaro, M. N., Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. (2025). Reducing belief in conspiracy theories as they unfold using large language models. [WP](#).

* = shared first author

Kowal, M., Timm, J., Godbout, J. F., **Costello, T.H.**, Arechar, A. A., Pennycook, G., ... & Pelrine, K. (2025). It's the thought that counts: Evaluating the attempts of frontier LLMs to persuade on harmful topics. [WP](#).

Costello, T.H., Pennycook, G., Willer, R., & Rand, D. (2025). Deep canvassing using AI reduces prejudice toward undocumented immigrants. [WP](#).

Xu, H. G.*, **Costello, T. H.***, Schwartz, J. L., Niccolai, L. M., Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. (2025). Personalized dialogues with AI effectively address parents' concerns about HPV vaccination. [WP](#). [R&R *The Lancet Digital Health*]

* = shared first author

- Czarnek, G., Orchinik, R., Lin, H., Xu, H. G., **Costello, T.H.**, Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. G. (2025). Addressing climate change skepticism and inaction using human-AI dialogues. [WP](#). [R&R at *Nature Communications*]
- Costello, T. H.**, Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. (2025). Just the facts: How dialogues with AI reduce conspiracy beliefs. [WP](#). [R&R at *Psychological Science*]
- Costello, T.H.**, Waldman, I.W., Pennycook, G. Mapping the heterogeneity of political beliefs and rigidity. [Preprint](#).
- Costello, T.H.**, Newton, C., Lin, H. Pennycook, G. A metacognitive blind spot in intellectual humility measures. [Preprint](#).

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS (all)

43. Axt, J. R., Connor, P., Hoogeveen, S., Clark, C. J., Vianello, M., Lahey, J. N., Hahn, A., To, J., Petty, R. E., **Costello, T. H.**, Mitchell, G., Tetlock, P. E., & Uhlmann, E. L. (2026). On the relationship between indirect measures of Black versus White racial attitudes and discriminatory outcomes: An adversarial collaboration using a sample of White Americans. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.
42. Pennycook, G., **Costello, T.H.**, Rand, D.G. (2026). Using artificial intelligence to better understand human intelligence. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*.
41. Lin, H., Czarnek, G., Lewis, B., White, J. P., Berinsky, A. J., **Costello, T.H.**, Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. G. (2025). Persuading voters using human–AI dialogues. *Nature*.
40. Boissin, E., **Costello, T. H.**, Alonso, D. M., Rand, D., & Pennycook, G. (2025). Dialogues with large language models reduce conspiracy beliefs even when the AI is perceived as human. *PNAS Nexus*.
39. Malka, A., Federico, C.M., **Costello, T.H.**, Panish, A. (2025). Polarized attitudes and anti-democratic orientation: Robust evidence for paradoxical relationships among American partisans. *Political Studies*.
38. Lowman, K.L., **Costello, T.H.**, Patrick, C.J. (2025). Creating scale measures of latent factors: A genetic algorithmic approach. *Assessment*.
37. Bowes, S.M., Clark, C.J., Conway, L.G., **Costello, T.H.**, Osborne, D. Tetlock, P.E., van Prooijen, J.W. (2025). An adversarial collaboration on the rigidity-of-the-right, symmetry thesis, or rigidity-of-extremes: The answer depends on the question. *Political Psychology*.
36. **Costello, T.H.** (2025). Large language models as disrupters of misinformation. *Nature Medicine*.
35. Binnendyk, J., Li, S., **Costello, T.H.**, Hale, R., Moore, D.A., Pennycook, G. (2025). Is overconfidence a trait? An adversarial collaboration. *Psychological Science*.
34. **Costello, T. H.**, Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. G. (2025). The problem with AI dialogue at scale—Response. *Science*, 387, 1158-1158.

33. **Costello, T.H.**, Pennycook, G., Rand, D. (2024). Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *Science*, 385, eadq1814.
32. Lilly, Kieren, **Costello, T.H.**, Sibley, C., Osborne, D. (2024). Identifying “types” of authoritarians: A latent profile analysis of Left- and Right-wing Authoritarianism and Social Dominance Orientation. *European Journal of Personality*.
31. Halford, D., Fasce, A., **Costello, T.H.**, Lewandowski, S. (2023). Psychological profiles of anti-vaccination argument endorsement. *Scientific Reports*, 13, 11219.
30. Bowes, S.M., **Costello, T.H.**, Tasimi, A (2023). The conspiratorial mind: A meta-analytic review of motivational and personological correlates. *Psychological Bulletin*.
[10.1037/bul0000392](https://doi.org/10.1037/bul0000392) [\[APA Press Release\]](#) [\[Scientific American\]](#) [\[The Conversation\]](#)
29. **Costello, T.H.**, Zmigrod, L., Tasimi, A. (2023). Thinking outside the ballot box. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 27, 605-615. [10.1016/j.tics.2023.03.012](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tics.2023.03.012)
28. Malka, A., **Costello, T.H.** (2023). Professed democracy support and openness to flagrant authoritarian actions in the American public. *American Politics Research*, 51, 327-342.
[10.1177/1532673X221109532](https://doi.org/10.1177/1532673X221109532)
27. **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Malka, A., Baldwin, M., Tasimi, A. (2023). Revisiting the rigidity-of-the-right hypothesis: A meta-analytic review. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 124, 1025-1052. [10.1037/pspp0000446](https://doi.org/10.1037/pspp0000446)
26. Osborne, D., **Costello, T.H.**, Duckitt, J, Sibley, C. (2023). The causes and societal consequences of authoritarianism. *Nature Reviews Psychology*, 2, 220-232. [10.1038/s44159-023-00161-4](https://doi.org/10.1038/s44159-023-00161-4) [\[Washington Post\]](#)
25. **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M. (2023). Absolute certainty and political ideology: A systematic test of curvilinearity. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 14, 93-102.
[10.1177/19485506211070410](https://doi.org/10.1177/19485506211070410) [\[Psyche\]](#) [\[Markham Heid\]](#).
24. **Costello, T.H.**, Patrick, C.J. (2023). Development and initial validation of two brief measures of left-wing authoritarianism: A machine learning approach. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 105, 187-202. [10.1080/00223891.2022.2081809](https://doi.org/10.1080/00223891.2022.2081809)
23. Clark, C.J., **Costello, T.H.**, Mitchell, G., Tetlock, P. (2022). The road less travelled: Understanding adversaries is hard but smarter than ignoring them. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition* [reply to commentaries], 11, 50-53.
[10.1037/mac0000020](https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000020)
22. Lilienfeld, S.O., Bowes, S.M., Strother, A.N., Liu, C.J., **Costello, T.H.**, Norton, K.A., Latzman, R.D. (2022). On the association between grants and scholarly achievement among the world’s most eminent psychologists. *Current Psychology*, 42, 29325-29336.
[10.1007/s12144-022-03911-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-022-03911-4)
21. **Costello, T.H.**, Clark, C.J., Tetlock, P.E. (2022). Shoring up the shaky psychological foundations of a micro-economic model of ideology: Adversarial collaboration solutions. *Psychological Inquiry*, 33, 88-94. [10.1080/1047840X.2022.2065130](https://doi.org/10.1080/1047840X.2022.2065130)
20. Murphy, B.A., Casto, K.V., Watts, A.L, **Costello, T.H.**, Tatum, J.A., Verona, E.V., Algoe, S.B. (2022). “Feeling powerful” versus “desiring power”: A pervasive and problematic conflation

in personality assessment? *Journal of Research in Personality*, 101, 104305.
[10.1016/j.jrp.2022.104305](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrp.2022.104305)

19. **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Stevens, S.T., Waldman, I.W., Tasimi, A., & Lilienfeld, S.O. (2022). Clarifying the structure and nature of left-wing authoritarianism. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 122, 135-170. [10.1037/pspp0000341](https://doi.org/10.1037/pspp0000341) [\[The Atlantic\]](#)

^Most cited *JPSP* paper published in 2022

18. Clark, C.J., **Costello, T.H.**, Mitchell, G., Tetlock, P. (2022). Keep your enemies close: Adversarial collaborations will improve the validity of social science. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition* [target article], 11, 1-18. [10.1037/mac0000004](https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000004)
17. Bowes, S.M., **Costello, T.H.**, Lee, C., Davis, D.E., McElroy-Heltzel, S., & Lilienfeld, S.O. (2021). Stepping outside the echo chamber: Is intellectual humility associated with reduced partisan bias? *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 48, 150-164.
[10.1177/0146167221997619](https://doi.org/10.1177/0146167221997619)
16. **Costello, T.H.**, & Lilienfeld, S.O. (2021). Social and economic political ideology consistently operate as mutual suppressors: Implications for personality, social, and political psychology. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 12, 1425-1436.
[10.1177/1948550620964679](https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550620964679)
15. Avendaño, D., Fasce, A., **Costello, T.H.**, Adrián-Ventura, J. (2021). Spanish adaptation of the Left-wing Authoritarianism Index. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 104, 692- 669.
[10.1080/00223891.2021.1981345](https://doi.org/10.1080/00223891.2021.1981345)
14. Conway III, L. G., McFarland, J. D., **Costello, T. H.**, & Lilienfeld, S. O. (2021). The curious case of left-wing authoritarianism: When authoritarian persons meet anti-authoritarian norms. *Journal of Theoretical Social Psychology*, 5, 423-442. [10.1002/jts5.108](https://doi.org/10.1002/jts5.108)
13. **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Lilienfeld, S.O. (2020). “Escape from Freedom”: Authoritarianism-related traits, political ideology, personality, and belief in free will/determinism. *Journal of Research in Personality*, 86, 1-16. [10.1016/j.jrp.2020.103957](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrp.2020.103957)
12. **Costello, T.H.**, Watts, A.L., Murphy, B.A., Lilienfeld, S.O. (2020). Extending the nomological network of interpersonal sexual objectification to psychopathic and allied traits. *Personality Disorders: Theory, Research, and Treatment*, 11, 237-248. [10.1037/per0000377](https://doi.org/10.1037/per0000377)
11. Lilienfeld, S.O., **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Strother, A. (2020). Has psychology found its conscience? *European Journal of Personality*, 34, 529–530.
10. Bowes, S.M., **Costello, T.H.**, Ma, W., Lilienfeld, S.O. (2020). Looking under the tinfoil hat: Clarifying the personological and psychopathological correlates of conspiracy beliefs. *Journal of Personality*, 89, 422-436. [10.1111/jopy.12588](https://doi.org/10.1111/jopy.12588) [\[New York Times\]](#)
9. Bowes, S.M., Ammirati, R.J., **Costello, T.H.**, Basterfield, C., Lilienfeld, S.O. (2020). Cognitive biases, heuristics, and logical fallacies in clinical practice: A brief field guide for practicing clinicians and supervisors. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 51, 435–445.
[10.1037/pro0000309](https://doi.org/10.1037/pro0000309)

8. **Costello, T.H.**, Smith, S.F., Bowes, S., Riley, S., Berns, G., Lilienfeld, S.O. (2019). Risky business: Psychopathy, framing effects, and financial outcomes. *Journal of Research in Personality*, 78, 125-132. [10.1016/j.jrp.2018.11.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrp.2018.11.006)
7. Lilienfeld, S.O., Watts, A.L., Murphy, B., **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Smith, S.F., Latzman, R.D., Haslam, N., Tabb, K. (2019). Psychopathy as an Emergent Interpersonal Syndrome: Further reflections and future directions. *Journal of Personality Disorders* [reply to commentaries], 33, 645-652. [10.1521/pedi.2019.33.5.645](https://doi.org/10.1521/pedi.2019.33.5.645)
6. Lilienfeld, S.O., Watts, A.L., Murphy, B., **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Smith, S.F., Latzman, R.D., Haslam, N., Tabb, K. (2019). Personality disorders as Emergent Interpersonal Syndromes: Psychopathic personality as a case example. *Journal of Personality Disorders* [target article], 33, 577-622. [10.1521/pedi.2019.33.5.577](https://doi.org/10.1521/pedi.2019.33.5.577)
5. **Costello, T.H.**, Unterberger, A., Watts, A.L., & Lilienfeld, S.O. (2018). Psychopathy and pride: Testing Lykken's hypothesis regarding the implications of fearlessness for prosocial and antisocial behavior. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 185. [10.3389/fpsyg.2018.00185](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.00185)
4. Murphy, B.A., **Costello, T.H.**, Watts, A.L., Berg, J.M., & Lilienfeld, S.O. (2018). Strengths and weaknesses of two empathy measures: A comparison of the measurement precision, construct validity, and incremental validity of two multidimensional indices. *Assessment*, 27, 246-260. [10.1177/1073191118777636](https://doi.org/10.1177/1073191118777636)
3. Bowes, S., Watts, A.L., **Costello, T.H.**, Murphy, B.A., Lilienfeld, S.O. (2018). Psychopathy and entertainment preferences: Clarifying the role of abnormal and normal personality in music and movie interests. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 129, 33-37. [10.1016/j.paid.2018.03.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2018.03.009)
2. Murphy, B.A., **Costello, T.H.**, Lilienfeld, S.O. (2018). Is empathic contagion helpful or harmful: Overlooked heterogeneity in the Empathy Index. *Psychological Assessment*, 30, 1703-1708. [10.1037/pas0000641](https://doi.org/10.1037/pas0000641)
1. Lilienfeld, S. O., & **Costello, T. H.** (2017). From crisis to salvation. *Psyccritiques*, 62, 30- 34. [10.1037/a0041020](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0041020)

COMMENTARIES & REPLIES

- Costello, T. H.**, Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. G. (2025). The problem with AI dialogue at scale—Response. *Science*, 387, 1158-1158.
- Costello, T.H.**, Clark, C.J., Tetlock, P.E. (2022). Shoring up the shaky psychological foundations of a micro-economic model of ideology: Adversarial collaboration solutions. *Psychological Inquiry*, 33, 88-94. [10.1080/1047840X.2022.2065130](https://doi.org/10.1080/1047840X.2022.2065130)
- Clark, C.J., **Costello, T.H.**, Mitchell, G., Tetlock, P. (2022). The road less travelled: Understanding adversaries is hard but smarter than ignoring them. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition* [reply to commentaries], 11, 50-53. [10.1037/mac0000020](https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000020)
- Lilienfeld, S.O., **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Strother, A. (2020). Has psychology found its conscience? *European Journal of Personality*, 34, 529–530.

Lilienfeld, S.O., Watts, A.L., Murphy, B., **Costello, T.H.**, Bowes, S.M., Smith, S.F., Latzman, R.D., Haslam, N., Tabb, K. (2019). Psychopathy as an Emergent Interpersonal Syndrome: Further reflections and future directions. *Journal of Personality Disorders* [reply to commentaries], 33, 645-652. [10.1521/pedi.2019.33.5.645](https://doi.org/10.1521/pedi.2019.33.5.645)

Lilienfeld, S. O., & **Costello, T. H.** (2017). From crisis to salvation. *Psyccritiques*, 62, 30- 34. [10.1037/a0041020](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0041020)

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

Costello, T.H. (2023). *The Conundrum of Measuring Authoritarianism*. In Cobb, C., Lynn, S.J., & W. O'Donohue (Eds.), *Clinical psychological science: The seminal work of Scott Lilienfeld*. Springer: New York, NY. [10.1007/978-3-031-14332-8_20](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-14332-8_20)

Lilienfeld, S.O., Basterfield, C., Bowes, S.M. & **Costello, T.H.** (2020). *Nobelists Gone Wild: Case Studies in the Domain-specificity of Critical Thinking*. In B. Sternberg & D. Halpern (Eds.), *Critical thinking in psychology* (2nd Edition). Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press. [10.1017/9781108684354.003](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108684354.003)

POPULAR PRESS

Costello, T. H. , Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. (2025, November 20). Chatbots are surprisingly effective at debunking conspiracy theories. *MIT Technology Review*

Costello, T.H. (2023). Curated summary: “Current research overstates American support for political violence” by Westwood, Grimmer, Tyler, and Nall (2022). Library of Partisan Animosity. [\[Article\]](#)

Costello, T.H., Bowes, S.M. (2022, August). *Popper was right about the link between certainty and extremism*. *Psyche*. [\[Article\]](#)

Lilienfeld, S.O., Bowes, S.M., **Costello, T.H.**, Strother, A. (2020, March/April). *Intellectual Humility: A Guiding Principle for the Skeptical Movement*. *Skeptical Inquirer*.

Basterfield, C., Lilienfeld, S.O., Bowes, S & **Costello, T.H.** (2020, May/June). *The Nobel Disease: When Intelligence Fails to Protect Against Irrationality*. *Skeptical Inquirer*.

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

INVITED TALKS

2025 Seminar series, *Penn Institute for RNA Innovation, in collaboration with the Penn Medical Communication Research Institute (PMCRI), at the University of Pennsylvania*.

2025 Social Psychology Brownbag, *University of Pittsburgh, Department of Psychology*

2025 *9th Annual Psychology of Technology Institute: New Directions in Research on the Psychology of Technology Conference*.

- 2025 *Keynote at NLP4Democracy, Conference on Language Modeling.*
- 2025 *Humility in Inquiry Capstone Event*
- 2025 *The promise and peril of AI persuasion. Sante Fe Institute, CounterBalance series on Applied Belief Dynamics.*
- 2025 *Large language models are disrupters of misinformation. New York University, Van Bavel Laboratory.*
- 2025 *The promise and peril of AI persuasion. Keynote at the CHI Workshop on Human-AI Interaction for Augmented Reasoning.*
- 2025 *A new modality of behavioral science methods. Presentation during the symposium "Psychological science in the century of AI: Revolution, refutation, or reformation?" at the APS Annual Convention.*
- 2025 *The promise and peril of AI persuasion. Get Smart Series, Office of Policy, Planning and Resources, U.S. Department of State.*
- 2025 *The promise and peril of AI persuasion. Boston College, Young Laboratory.*
- 2025 *The promise and peril of AI persuasion. Social Psychology Speaker Series, Harvard University.*
- 2025 *Large language models & politics. Social Media & Democratic Practice, Center for Revitalizing American Institutions, Hoover Institution, Stanford University.*
- 2025 *The new behavioral science of belief change with AI? University of Maryland, Department of Psychology Seminar Series.*
- 2025 *The new behavioral science of belief change with AI? Brown University, Department of Cognitive and Psychological Sciences.*
- 2025 *The new behavioral science of belief change with AI? Yale University, Department of Psychology.*
- 2025 *The new behavioral science of belief change with AI? Carnegie Mellon, Human-Computer Interaction Institute.*
- 2025 *Digital Frontlines: Challenges and Solutions to Fighting Online Antisemitism. USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education.*
- 2024 *Persuasion via generative AI. Information Integrity R&D Interagency Working Group, the White House National Security Council and the Office of Science and Technology Policy.*
- 2024 *Featured speaker. No Coast SciComm.*
- 2024 *The Digital Deception Landscape: Academic Insights on Misinformation and Deepfakes. Academic Alliance for AI Policy, MAX-Autonomous Systems Policy Institute, Syracuse University.*
- 2024 *Meeting on Science Communication, American Academy of Arts and Sciences*
- 2024 *Human <-> AI experimentation: The new frontier in behavioral science. National Academies Workshop on Future Directions for Social and Behavioral Science*

*Methodologies in the Next Decade, Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS)
Program of the National Science Foundation.*

- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. Technology, Data, and Policy Conference at MIT.
- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *8th Annual Center for Human-Compatible AI (CHAI) Workshop at UC Berkeley.*
- 2024 *Humility in Inquiry Workshop.*
- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *Behavioral and Social Science Work Group at the Center for Disease Control (CDC).*
- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *Global Priorities Institute at Oxford University.*
- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *MIT Initiative for the Digital Economy Annual Conference.*
- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *MIT Behavioral Research Lab.*
- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. *Human Cooperation Laboratory, MIT Sloan.*
- 2023 The heterogeneity of political psychology. *Invited Speaker, Kent State University, Department of Psychological Science.*
- 2023 The metacognitive blind spot in intellectual humility measurement. *Choice Symposium, INSEAD, Fontainebleau, France.*
- 2023 The psychology of generalized authoritarianism. *Speaker Series, More in Common.*
- 2023 The psychology of generalized authoritarianism. *Primals Project, University of Pennsylvania.*
- 2023 Mapping the heterogeneity of (rigid) political cognition. *Individual Differences Laboratory, University of Barcelona.*
- 2023 Mapping the heterogeneity of (rigid) political cognition. *Human Cooperation Laboratory, MIT Sloan.*
- 2022 The divergent psychological roots of social and economic political ideology. *Human Cooperation Laboratory, MIT Sloan.*
- 2022 The divergent psychological roots of social and economic political ideology. *Butler Group, Northeastern University.*
- 2021 Development and initial validation of two brief measures of left-wing authoritarianism: A machine learning approach. *Patrick Laboratory, Florida State University.*

CONFERENCE TALKS & ORGANIZATIONS

- 2025 Comparing AI's ability to spread versus debunk false claims. Symposium talk at the *Society for Judgement and Decision Making Annual Conference*.
- 2025 Spotlight talk at *NSF AI-SDM Workshop on Human-AI Complementarity for Decision Making*
- 2025 *A new modality of behavioral science methods*. Presentation during the symposium "Psychological science in the century of AI: Revolution, refutation, or reformation?" at the APS Annual Convention.
- 2025 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. Symposium talk, in "New Directions in Conspiracy Belief Research" *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*.
- 2025 Human <-> AI experimentation: The new frontier in behavioral science. *Intervention Science Preconference, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference*.
- 2024 Durably reducing conspiracy beliefs through dialogues with AI. Symposium talk, in "New Perspectives on Artificial Intelligence in Social Psychology: From Cross-Cultural Attitudes to Applications." *Society for Experimental Social Psychology*.
- 2023 The psychology of authoritarianism. Symposium talk, *International Society of Political Psychology*, Montreal, Canada.
- 2023 The psychology of authoritarianism. Workshop topic, *Polarization Research Lab Annual Meeting, Stanford University*. Palo Alto, CA.
- 2023 The cognitive topography of authoritarianism. Research spotlight, *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention*. Atlanta, GA.
- 2021 Authoritarianism across the political spectrum. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Political Psychology Preconference*. Virtual.
- 2020 Clarifying the structure and nature of left-wing authoritarianism. Symposium presentation delivered at the 43rd *Annual Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists Conference*. Virtual.
- 2020 A meta-analytic review of ideological symmetries and asymmetries in need for certainty Single paper presentation delivered at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention*. New Orleans, LA. [\[Slides\]](#)
- 2015 The phenomenological bunker. *Oneonta Annual Undergraduate Philosophy Conference*. Oneonta, NY.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 Newton, C, **Costello, T.H.**, & Pennycook, G. (2023). Analytic thinking is a better predictor of both knowledge and metacognitive calibration than intellectual humility. Poster presented at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention*. Atlanta, GA.

- 2020 Bowes, S.M., **Costello, T.H.**, & Lilienfeld, S.O. Dogmatic but inaccurate: Examining the associations among intelligence, cognitive styles, and conspiracist ideation. Virtual poster presented at the *Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention*. New Orleans, LA
- 2020 **Costello, T.H.**, Lilienfeld, S.O. Development and preliminary validation of the Left-wing Authoritarianism Index. Poster presented at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Political Psychology Preconference*. New Orleans, LA. [\[PDF\]](#)
- 2020 Bowes, S.M., Blanchard, M., **Costello, T.H.**, & Lilienfeld, S.O. Intellectual humility and between-party animus: Is intellectual humility associated with reduced affective polarization? Poster presented at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Political Psychology Preconference*. New Orleans, LA.
- 2020 Bowes, S.M., Blanchard, M., **Costello, T.H.**, Lilienfeld, S.O. Stepping outside the echo chamber: Is intellectual humility associated with reduced political bias? Poster presented at the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention*. New Orleans, LA.
- 2019 **Costello, T.H.**, Lilienfeld, S.O. Development, evaluation, and validation of the Left-wing Authoritarianism Index. Poster presented at the *31st Association for Psychological Science Annual Conference*. Washington, D.C.
- 2018 Bowes, S. M., Watts, A. L., **Costello, T. H.**, Murphy, B. A., & Lilienfeld, S. O. Psychopathy and entertainment preferences: Clarifying the role of abnormal and normal personality in music and movie interests. Poster presented at the *30th Association for Psychological Science Annual Conference*. San Francisco, CA.
- 2018 **Costello, T.H.**, Watts, A.L., Lilienfeld, S.O. Sexual solipsists: Implications of psychopathic personality features for interpersonal sexual objectification perpetration. Poster presented at the *30th Association for Psychological Science Annual Conference*. San Francisco, CA.
- 2017 **Costello, T.H.**, Aghjayan, A.G., Watts, A.L., Lilienfeld, S.O. Examining the role of psychopathy-related traits in predicting sexual objectification perpetration. Poster presented at the *29th Association for Psychological Science Annual Conference*. Boston, MA.
- 2016 **Costello, T.H.**, & Lynn, S.J. Where there's a will: Encouraging belief in determinism fosters hopelessness. Poster presented at *Binghamton University Research Days*.

TEACHING

- 2026 Thinking in Person vs. Thinking Online, Department of Social and Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2025 Psychology of Politics (PSYC 490 & 660), Department of Psychology, American University

2024 Research Methods (PSYCH 301), Department of Psychology, American University
2021 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Psychology
2019 Teaching Assistant, Psychology of Scientific and Unscientific Thinking
2018 Graduate Instructor, Research Methods
2018 Teaching Assistant, Psychobiology and Cognition
2017 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Psychology
2016 Emory University Teaching Assistant Training Opportunity

MENTORING & ADVISING

Doctoral Advisees

Kenneth Diao (Ph.D., Social & Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University), Primary Advisor, 2025–present.

Postdoctoral Researchers

[Hiring process underway]

Dissertation Committees

Patrick Muller (Ph.D., University College London), Committee Member.

Samantha Phillips (Ph.D., Societal Computing, Carnegie Mellon University), Committee Member.

Jose Arellano (Ph.D., Social & Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University), Committee Member.

Post-Baccalaureate Research Mentees

Alexander Levontin, 2024–2026. Now Ph.D. student, Social & Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University / Yale University.

Henry Xu, 2024–2025. Now Ph.D. student, MIT Sloan School of Management.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2025	Editorial Board, <i>Political Psychology</i> (with EiC's Mark Brandt & Elizabeth Suhay)
2024	American University, Department of Psychology, Hiring Committee

- 2024 American University, Department of Psychology, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- 2024 Association for Research in Personality, JS Tanaka Dissertation Award Committee

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING

- 2018 - 2019 Grady Hospital, Adult Outpatient
- 2016 – 2019 Emory University Psychological Clinic