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EDUCATION

Ph.D.

expected March 2010

Advisor: Dr. Peter H. Kahn, Jr.
Doctoral Candidate, December 2007
Developmental Psychology
Department of Psychology
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

M.A.

June 2004

Advisors: Drs. Lisa Lynch & Gwendolyn Jones
Integrative Studies in Psychology
Antioch University, Seattle, WA

B.S.

June 1997

Advisor: Dr. Lynn Robbins
Environmental Policy & Assessment, minor Chemistry
Huxley College of the Environment
Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Severson, R. L., & Ruckert, J. H. (2009). The human relationship with nature and technological nature. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 18, 37-42.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Friedman, B., Gill, B. T., Hagman, J., Severson, R. L., Freier, N. G., Feldman, E. N., Carrère, S., & Stolyar, A. (2008). A plasma display window? – The shifting baseline problem in a technologically-mediated natural world. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 28, 192-199.

Kahn, P. H. Jr., Saunders, C. D., Severson, R. L., Myers, O. E., Jr., & Gill, B. T. (2008). Moral and fearful affiliations with the animal world: Children's conceptions of bats. *Anthrozoös*, 21, 375-386.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Ishiguro, H., Friedman, B., Kanda, T., Freier, N. G., Severson, R. L., & Miller, J. (2007). What is a human? – Toward psychological benchmarks in the field of human-

robot interaction. *Interaction Studies: Social Behavior and Communication in Biological and Artificial Systems*, 8, 363-390.

Friedman, B., Kahn, P. H., Jr., Hagman, J., Severson, R. L., & Gill, B. (2006). The watcher and the watched: Social judgments about privacy in a public place. *Human-Computer Interaction*, 21, 235-272.

Chapters in Edited Volumes

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Severson, R. L., & Ruckert, J. H. (2009). Experiencing technological nature – and the problem when good enough becomes good. In M. Korthals & P. B. Thompson (Series Eds.), M. Drenthen & J. Keulartz (Vol. Eds.), *New Visions of Nature* (pp. 145-176). Berlin: Springer.

Friedman, B., Kahn, P. H., Jr., Hagman, J., Severson, R. L., & Gill, B. (2009). The watcher and the watched: Social judgments about privacy in a public place. Reprinted in R. Harper (Series Ed.), S. Harrison (Vol. Ed.), *Media Space 20 + Years of Mediated Life*. London: Springer.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., & Severson, R. L. (2008). Environmental education. In F. C. Power, R. J. Nuzzi, D. Narvaez, D. K. Lapsley, & T. C. Hunt (Eds.), *Moral education: A handbook* (Vol. 1, pp. 166-167). Westport, CT: Praeger.

Conference Proceedings

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Freier, N. G., Kanda, T., Ishiguro, H., Ruckert, J. H., Severson, R. L., & Kane, S. K. (2008). *Design patterns for sociality in human-robot interaction*. Proceedings of the 3rd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI 2008) (Amsterdam, The Netherlands, March 12-15, 2008). Piscataway, NJ: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

Stanton, C. M., Kahn, P. H., Jr., Severson, R. L., Ruckert, J. H., & Gill, B. T. (2008). *Robotic animals might aid in the social development of children with autism*. Proceedings of the 3rd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI 2008) (Amsterdam, The Netherlands, March 12-15, 2008). Piscataway, NJ: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Freier, N. G., Friedman, B., Severson, R. L., & Feldman, E. (2004). *Social and moral relationships with robotic others?* Proceedings of the 13th International Workshop on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (pp. 545-550) (Kurashiki, Okayama, Japan, September 20-22, 2004). Piscataway, NJ: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

Technical Reports

Friedman, B., Kahn, P. H., Jr., Hagman, J., and Severson, R. L. (2005). *Coding manual for 'The Watcher and The Watched: Social Judgments about Privacy in a Public Place'* (Tech. Rep. No. IS-TR-2005-07-01). Seattle, WA: University of Washington, The Information School. Available online at: <http://hdl.handle.net/1773/2074>

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Friedman, B., Severson, R. L., & Feldman, E. N. (2005). *Creativity tasks and coding system – Used in the plasma display window study* (Tech. Rep. No. IS-TR-2005-04-01). Seattle, WA: University of Washington, The Information School. Available online at: <http://hdl.handle.net/1773/2050>

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Friedman, B., Freier, N. G., & Severson, R. (2003). *Coding manual for children's interactions with AIBO, the robotic dog - The preschool study* (Tech. Rep. No. UW CSE 03-04-03). Seattle, WA: University of Washington, Department of Computer Science and Engineering. Available online at: <ftp://ftp.cs.washington.edu/tr/2003/04/UW-CSE-03-04-03.pdf>

Manuscripts Under Review or In Preparation

Severson, R. L., & Kahn, P. H., Jr. (under review). In the orchard: Farm worker children's moral and environmental reasoning.

Severson, R. L., & Carlson, S. M. (in preparation). The robot's alive! Or are we just pretending? (working title)

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

Severson, R. L. (2009, June). Animism in a technological world: Children's conceptions of a personified robot. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Park City, UT.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Severson, R. L., Ruckert, J. H., & Reichert, A. (2009, April). *Robots in the lives of children*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Kanda, T., Ishiguro, H., Freier, N. G., Severson, R. L., Ruckert, J. H., & Gill, B. T. (2009, April). *Children's Social and Moral Relationship with a Humanoid Robot: Behavior and Reasoning*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO.

Friedman, B., Hook, K., Gill, B., Eidmar, L., Sallmander-Prien C., & Severson, R. L. (2008, October). *Personlig integritet: A comparative study of perceptions of privacy in public places in Sweden and the United States*. Paper presented at the 5th ACM/IEEE Nordic Conference on Human Computer Interaction (NordiCHI 2008), Lund, Sweden.

Severson, R. L. (2008, September). *Relations with wildness in nature*. Discussant remarks at the XVI International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology, Bellingham, WA.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Ruckert, J. H., & Severson, R. L. (2007, June). *Nature goes digital – Does it matter?* Paper presented at the conference on Psychology-Ecology-Sustainability, Portland, OR.

Severson, R. L. (2007, June). *In the orchard: Farm worker children's moral and environmental reasoning*. Paper presented at the conference on Psychology-Ecology-Sustainability, Portland, OR.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Friedman, B., Gill, B., Hagman, J., Severson, R. L., Freier, N. G., et al. (2007, March). *Does it matter that nature's "real"? – A plasma window's effects on looking behavior and heart rate recovery from low-level stress*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Boston, MA.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Severson, R. L., & Freier, N. F. (2007, March). *Towards a new comparative paradigm in developmental psychology: Human-robot interaction*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Boston, MA.

Kahn, P. H., Jr. & Severson, R. L. (2006, October). *Biocentrism in a technological world*. Paper presented at the XIV International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology, Bar Harbor, ME.

Saunders, C. D., Kahn, P. H., Jr., Severson, R. L., Gill, B., & Myers, O. E. (2006, October). *Fear and caring: Children's conceptions of bats*. Paper presented at the XIV International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology, Bar Harbor, ME.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Friedman, B., Gill, B., Hagman, J., Severson, R. L., Freier, N. G., et al. (2006, June). *Does it matter that nature's "real"? – A plasma window's effects on looking behavior and heart rate recovery from low-level stress*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Baltimore, MD.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., & Severson, R. L. (2005, October). *Social and moral relationships with robotic pets?* Paper presented at the XIII International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology, Salt Lake City, UT.

Severson, R. L. & Kahn, P. H., Jr. (2005, October). *Social and moral judgments about pesticides and the natural environment: A developmental study with farm worker children*. Paper presented at the Society for Human Ecology, Salt Lake City, UT.

Severson, R. L. & Kahn, P. H., Jr. (2005, June). *Social and moral judgments about pesticides and the natural environment: A developmental study with farm worker children*. Paper presented at the Jean Piaget Society Conference, Vancouver, BC.

Feldman, E. N., Kahn, P. H., Jr., & Severson, R. L. (2005, April). *A developmental approach to investigating creativity in children: New methods for analyzing the unusual uses test*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA.

Severson, R. L. & Kahn, P. H., Jr. (2005, April). *Social and moral judgments about pesticides and the natural environment: A developmental study with farm worker children*. Paper

presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA.

Tutorial and Workshop Presentations

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Kanda, T., Freier, N. G., Severson, R. L., & Ishiguro, H. (2008, March). *Coding Behavioral Video Data and Reasoning Data in Human-Robot Interaction*. Workshop presented at 3rd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human Robot Interaction (HRI 2008), Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Freier, N. G., Severson, R. L., & Stanton, C. (2006, September). *Coding video data in human-robot social interaction: Behavior and reasoning*. Tutorial presented at the 15th IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN '06), University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, UK.

Roundtable Presentations

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Severson, R. L., Ruckert, J. H., & Reichert, A. (2008, September). *Technological nature*. Roundtable at the XVI International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology, Bellingham, WA.

Kahn, P. H., Jr., Rupp, A., Severson, R. L., McClintock, K., Ruckert, J. H., Stromdahl, P. (2008, September). *Designing for the Biodiversity of Human Experience: A Conversation Between (and with) a Research Lab and Professional Design Firm*. Roundtable at the XVI International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology, Bellingham, WA.

Invited Presentations

Severson, R. L. (2008, September). *Robotic Others: The Emergence of a New Technological Genre?* Seattle Robotics Society (Seattle, WA).

Kahn, P. H., Jr., & Severson, R. L. (2008, March). *Designing for the human relation with nature and technological nature*. The Portico Group: Architects, Landscape Architects, Interpretive Planners, & Exhibit Designers (Seattle, WA).

TEACHING

Teaching Assistantships

- PSYCH 101: Introduction to Psychology (Dr. Michael Passer)
- PSYCH 206: Human Development (Dr. Dana Nelson)
- PSYCH 306: Developmental Psychology (Dr. Jessica Sommerville)
- PSYCH 315: Understanding Statistics in Psychology (Dr. Dana Nelson)

Guest Lecturer

- Lecture on “Children’s Relations with Nature and Technological Nature” in PSYCH 306: Developmental Psychology
- Lecture on “Cognitive Development in Early Childhood” in PSYCH 206: Human Development

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Affiliations

- Association for Psychological Science
- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
- Society for Research in Child Development
- Jean Piaget Society
- Society for Human Ecology

Reviewer

- APA 2009 (Division 9): 117th American Psychological Association Annual Convention—
Division 9: Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)
- HRI 2009: 4th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction
- HRI 2008: 3rd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction
- HRI 2007: 2nd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction
- RO-MAN 2006: 15th IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive
Communication

Service

- Student Host for Jean Decety's Endowed Edward's Lectureship (May, 2009)
- Student Representative, Society for Human Ecology Board (2008-2009)
- Symposium Organizer, XVI International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology,
Bellingham, WA (September, 2008).
- Student Host for Melanie Killen's Endowed Edward's Lectureship (February, 2007)
- Co-organized Developmental Area Recruitment Weekend (February, 2006)
- Student Volunteer – Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Atlanta,
GA (April, 2005)
- Mentor – Seattle Girls' School (2003-2006)

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Alcor Graduate Student Fellowship, Department of Psychology, University of Washington
(2008-2009)
- Bolles Fellowship, Department of Psychology, University of Washington (2009)
- Graduate School Fund for Excellence and Innovation (GSFEI) Travel Award, University of
Washington (2005, 2009)

MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH

Radio Interviews

- BBC Science in Action (2009)
Stewart, J. (2009, July 10). Real nature versus technological nature. *BBC Science in Action*
(World Service). Podcast available at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p003jkk2>

- KJR 95.7 FM (2008)
Ebi, K. (2008, June 22). A window to nature. *Connected KJR 95.7 FM*.
Podcast available at <http://www.957kjr.com/cc-common/podcast.html>

Magazine Interviews

- Azer, B. (2009, January). Natural views for healthy hearts. *APA gradPsych Magazine: Research Roundup*, 7.
- Davis, B. (2008, June). Ones to Watch: Rachel Severson. *AUVSI*, 26, 53-54.

Newspaper Interviews

- The Oregonian (2009)
Rojas-Burke, J. (2009, May 27). The best natural healer turns out to be nature. *The Oregonian*. Retrieved online at:
http://www.oregonlive.com/health/index.ssf/2009/05/the_best_natural_healer_turns.html
- Seattle Times (2008)
Song, K. M. (2008, June 11). UW study reaffirms nature's stress relieving powers. *The Seattle Times*. Retrieved online at:
http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2004470165_nature11m.html

Online News Coverage

- ABC News Online
Dye, L. (2008, April 8). Technological nature takes over. *ABCNews.com*.
<http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/DyeHard/story?id=7282121&page=1>