

Personal information

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Residence: Strasbourg, France (home address and phone number available on request)

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Education

Currently enrolled on the PhD programme in Health Psychology at the University Medical

Center, University of Groningen, The Netherlands. Supervisors: Dr. James C. Coyne and Dr. Adelita V. Ranchor. Expected completion date: July 2018.

Postgraduate Certificate in Existential Coaching, University of Middlesex, 2014.

Master of Science (distinction), Applied Positive Psychology, University of East London, 2013.

Master of Arts (honorary award), University of Cambridge, 2011.

Bachelor of Arts (first-class honours), Computer Science and Engineering, University of Cambridge, 1981.

Professional Experience

2014–present Independent existential coaching practice

2009–2012 Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France.
Head of Human Resources Development.

1990–2009 Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France.
Head of IT Customer Services.

1989–1990 National Computer Services, Bahrain, Arabian Gulf.
Manager, Software Business Development.

1984–1989 CIS Medusa BV, Rotterdam, Netherlands.
Pre- and post-sales support coordinator for Europe.

1981–1984 Logica BV, Rotterdam, Netherlands.
Analyst / Programmer.

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- Scheel, A. M., Ritchie, S. J., Brown, N. J. L., & Jacques, S. L. (in press). Methodological problems in a recent study of fetal visual perception. *Current Biology*.
- van der Zee, T., Anaya, J., & Brown, N. J. L. (2017). Statistical heartburn: An attempt to digest four pizza publications from the Cornell Food and Brand Lab. *BMC Nutrition*, 3(54), 1–22. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s40795-017-0167-x>
- Brown, N. J. L., Albers, C. A., & Ritchie, S. J. (2017). Contesting the evidence for limited human lifespan. *Nature*, 546, E6. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature22784>
- Brown, N. J. L., & Coyne, J. C. (2017). Emodiversity: Robust predictor of outcomes or statistical artifact? *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 146, 1372–1377. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/xge0000330>
- Brown, N. J. L., & Heathers, J. A. J. (2017). The GRIM test: A simple technique detects numerous anomalies in the reporting of results in psychology. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 8, 363–369. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1948550616673876>
- Holcombe, A. O., Brown, N. J. L., Goodbourn, P. T., Etz, A., & Geukes, S. (2016). Does sadness impair color perception? Flawed evidence and faulty methods. *F1000 Research*, 5, 1778. <http://dx.doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.9202.1>
- Lewandowsky, S., Mann, M. E., Brown, N. J. L., & Friedman, H. (2016). Science and the public: Debate, denial, and skepticism. *Journal of Social and Political Psychology*, 4, 537–553. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5964/jspp.v4i2.604>
- Brown, N. J. L., MacDonald, D. A., Samanta, M. P., Friedman, H. L., & Coyne, J. C. (2016). More questions than answers: Continued critical reanalysis of Fredrickson et al.'s studies of genomics and well-being. *PLoS ONE*, 11(6), e0156415. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0156415>
- Brown, N. J. L., & Nickerson, C. A. (2016). Reanalysis of Vedhara et al.'s (2015) study of personality and gene expression. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 91, 133–137. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2015.11.055>
- Nickerson, C. A., & Brown, N. J. L. (2015). Overstating the effect of mindfulness on motivated perception: Comment on Adair and Fredrickson (2015). *Personality and Individual Differences*, 88, 225–229. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2015.08.055>
- Brown, N. J. L., & Wong, P. T. P. (2015). Questionable measures are pretty meaningless: Comment on Heintzelman and King (2014). *American Psychologist*, 70, 571–573. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0039308>
- Heathers, J. A. J., Brown, N. J. L., Friedman, H. L., & Coyne, J. C. (2015). The elusory upward spiral: A reanalysis of Kok et al. (2013). *Psychological Science*, 26, 1140–1143. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0956797615572908>

- Brown, N. J. L., MacDonald, D. A., Samanta, M. P., Friedman, H. L., & Coyne, J. C. (2014). A critical reanalysis of the relationship between genomics and well-being. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, *111*, 12705–12709. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1407057111>
- Brown, N. J. L., Sokal, A. D., & Friedman, H. L. (2013). Positive psychology and romantic scienticism. *American Psychologist*, *69*, 636–637. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0037390>
- Brown, N. J. L., Sokal, A. D., & Friedman, H. L. (2013). The persistence of wishful thinking: Response to “Updated thinking on positivity ratios”. *American Psychologist*, *69*, 629–632. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0037050>
- Brown, N. J. L., Sokal, A. D., & Friedman, H. L. (2013). The complex dynamics of wishful thinking: The critical positivity ratio. *American Psychologist*, *68*, 801–813. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0032850>

Books

- Brown, N. J. L., Lomas, T. & Eiroa-Orosa, F. J. (Eds.). (2018). *The Routledge handbook of critical positive psychology*. London, England: Routledge.
- Stapel, D. (2014). *Faking science: A true story of academic fraud* (N. J. L. Brown, Trans.). Originally published in Dutch as *Ontsporing* (2012). Available from <http://nick.brown.free.fr/stapel/>

Book chapters

- Brown, N. J. L. (2018). An introduction to criticality for students of positive psychology. In N. J. L. Brown, T. Lomas, & F. J. Eiroa-Orosa (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of critical positive psychology* (pp. 173–192). London, England: Routledge.
- Brown, N. J. L. (2018). Criticism of positive psychology. In N. J. L. Brown, T. Lomas, & F. J. Eiroa-Orosa (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of critical positive psychology* (pp. 11–13). London, England: Routledge.
- Brown, N. J. L., Lomas, T., & Eiroa-Orosa, F. J. (2018). Introduction. In N. J. L. Brown, T. Lomas, & F. J. Eiroa-Orosa (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of critical positive psychology* (pp. 1–2). London, England: Routledge.
- Shankland, R., Kotsou, I., Cuny, C., Strub, L., & Brown, N. J. L. (2017). Reducing current limitations in order to enhance the quality of subjective well-being research: The example of mindfulness. In G. Brulé & F. Maggino (Eds.), *Metrics of subjective well-being: Limits and improvements* (pp. 107–132). Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

Manuscripts in preparation or under review

- Nickerson, C. A., & Brown, N. J. L. (2018). *The relations between vagal tone, family income, and altruism are probably artifactual: Comment on Miller, Kahle, and Hastings (2015)*. Manuscript under review.
- Nickerson, C. A., & Brown, N. J. L. (2018). *Statistical suppression in regression: Elaboration of Tu, West, Ellison, and Gilthorpe (2005)*. Manuscript in preparation.
- Nickerson, C. A., & Brown, N. J. L. (2018). *Simpson's paradox is suppression, but Lord's paradox is neither: Correction and clarification of Tu, Gunnell, and Gilthorpe (2008)*. Manuscript under review.

Other publications

- Brown, N. J. L., & Rohrer, J. M. (2018). Re-slicing the happiness pie: A re-examination of the determinants of well-being. *PsyArXiv Preprints*.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/QV85G>
- Friedman, H. L., & Brown, N. (Eds.). (2018). Implications of debunking the “critical positivity ratio” for humanistic psychology (Special Issue). *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, 58(3).
- Friedman, H. L., & Brown, N. J. L. (2018). Implications of debunking the “critical positivity ratio” for humanistic psychology: Introduction to special issue. *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, 58, 239–261. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0022167818762227>
- Brown, N. J. L., & Coyne, J. C. (2018). No evidence that Twitter language reliably predicts heart disease: A reanalysis of Eichstaedt et al. (2015). *PsyArXiv Preprints*.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/DURSW>
- Brown, N. (2017). The curious (and completely flawed) case of the positivity ratio. *Talent Quarterly*, 14, 26–28.
- Anaya, J., Brown, N. J. L., & van der Zee, T. (2017). Statistical infarction: A postmortem of the Cornell Food and Brand Lab pizza publications. *PeerJ Preprints*, 5, e3025v1.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.7287/peerj.preprints.3025v1>
- Brown, N. (2017). *Written evidence submitted to the UK House of Commons Science and Technology Committee inquiry into research integrity*. Retrieved from
<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/science-and-technology-committee/research-integrity/written/48478.pdf>
- Lewandowsky, S., Mann, M. E., Brown, N. J. L., & Friedman, H. (2017). Public debate, scientific skepticism, and science denial. *Skeptical Inquirer*, 41(1), 40–43. (This article was derived from the peer-reviewed article 10.5964/jspp.v4i2.604, mentioned earlier.)
- Brown, N. J. L. (2017). Out of left field: A qualitative take on happiness [Review of *The happiness riddle and the quest for a good life*]. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 62(38).
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0041036>
- Brown, N. J. L. (2016). Preaching to the choir: Self-help authors as stooges of global capitalism [Review of *Transnational popular psychology and the global self-help industry: The politics of contemporary social change*]. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 61(48).
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0040635>
- Friedman, H. L., & Brown, N. J. L. (2014). An accurate picture of the state of contemporary positive emotions research [Review of *Handbook of Positive Emotions*]. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 59(47). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0038188>

Brown, N. J. L. (2014). A critical examination of the U.S. Army's Comprehensive Soldier Fitness program. *The Winnower*, July 22 (archived July 21, 2015).
<http://dx.doi.org/10.15200/winn.143751.17496>

Blog posts cited in peer-reviewed articles

Brown, N. J. L. (2017, June 7). *Exploring John Carlisle's "bombshell" article about fabricated data in RCTs* [Weblog post]. Retrieved from
<http://steamtraen.blogspot.com/2017/06/exploring-john-carlises-bombshell.html>.
Cited in: Bauchner, H. (2017). The rush to publication: An editorial and scientific mistake. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 318, 1109–1110.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1001/jama.2017.11816>

Conference presentations

June 2018: "Checking yourself... and others" (with M. B. Nuijten; presentation to the 3rd Conference of the Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science, Grand Rapids, MI, United States).

May 2016: "An outsider's view of the incentive structure in psychology" (presentation to the British Psychological Society's conference on Replication and Reproducibility in Psychology, London, England). Available at
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynHLQwD-SRw>

September 2015: "Skepticism of published articles in empirical psychology: A case study for beginners" (9th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Tübingen, Germany; winner of the prize for most amusing talk).

June 2015: Royal Society workshop on "Science and Society" at Chicheley Hall, England (invited participant).

May 2015: Leader of a workshop on "Philotimo" (1st Greek Economic Forum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, United States).

August 2014: "Physical health outcomes in positive psychology: Weak evidence for strong claims" (13th International Congress of Behavioral Medicine, Groningen, Netherlands).

Invited talks and lectures

- May 2018: “<title TBD>” (invited talk with Tim van der Zee, Royal University of Leuven, Belgium).
- April 2018: “Some flaws in psychological research methodology” (invited talk, University of Bergamo, Italy).
- April 2018, April 2017, April 2016, April 2015: Guest workshop (via Skype) on Master’s of Applied Positive Psychology course, University of Buckingham, England.
- January 2018: “Detecting sloppy science” (invited talk, University of Geneva, Switzerland).
- January 2018, January 2017, October 2015: “Quelques perspectives critiques sur la psychologie positive” (guest lecture on Positive Psychology diploma course, Maison des Sciences de l’Homme-Alpes, Grenoble, France).
- January 2018: “Detecting sloppy science” (invited talk, Maison des Sciences de l’Homme-Alpes, Grenoble, France).
- April 2017: “Exploring empirical research without the dataset” (invited talk at the Department of Psychology, Tilburg University, The Netherlands).
- September 2016: “Bad psychological science” (invited talk at the Department of Psychology, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada).
- March 2016: “Physics envy: The strange case of the Losada line” (presentation at the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences, University of Groningen, Netherlands).
- November 2015: “Intellectual impostures within science: Sokal takes on physics envy” (presentation at “Crossing the Boundaries: Science, Philosophy, Pseudoscience: Conference in honor of Alan Sokal’s 60th birthday”, Paris, France).
- September 2015: “No science is an island: The limits of scientific psychology” (TEDx talk, Rhodes, Greece). Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPtWPBapyF0>
- June 2015: “The naive beginner's guide to publishing criticisms in psychology” (workshop for psychology students, University of Bielefeld, Germany).
- April 2014: “Being a critical practitioner” (guest lecture on Master’s of Applied Positive Psychology course, University of East London, England).

Ad hoc journal reviews completed

Advances in Genomics and Genetics (1 manuscript)
Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science (1 manuscript)
Behavior Research Methods (1 manuscript)
Consciousness and Cognition (5 manuscripts)
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology (2 manuscripts)
Journal of Humanistic Psychology (4 manuscripts)
Journal of Open Psychology Data (1 manuscript)
Personality and Individual Differences (5 manuscripts)
PLOS ONE (1 manuscript)
Social Psychological and Personality Science (2 manuscripts)
Zeitschrift für Psychologie (1 manuscript)

Book proposal reviews completed

Oxford University Press (1 proposal)
Routledge (1 proposal)

Languages

English: Mother tongue
French: Fluent (speaking / listening / reading / writing)
Dutch: Fluent (speaking / listening / reading / writing)
German: Passable (speaking), good (listening / reading) , limited (writing)
Italian: Rudimentary
Spanish: Rudimentary

Software

Lifetime programming experience in around 25 languages, including 10+ assembly languages
Currently up-to-date programming skills: R, PHP, Javascript, MySQL
Advanced use of Microsoft Word (including a manuscript of 300,000 words) and Excel
Working knowledge of SPSS

Other Interests

Personal coaching, especially of adults in life transitions
Volunteer at “Restaurants du Cœur” food bank (France)
Geocaching (community volunteer in France)
Chess (Elo rating ~1950)

Appendix: Corrections obtained

This section lists articles and other publications that have been retracted, subjected to an expression of concern, or formally corrected, as a result of investigations or correspondence with which I was centrally involved.

Cuddy, A. J. C., Norton, M. I., & Fiske, S. T. (2005). This old stereotype: The pervasiveness and persistence of the elderly stereotype. *Journal of Social Issues, 61*, 267–285.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-4560.2005.00405.x> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/josi.12185>)

Fredrickson, B. L., & Losada, M. F. (2005). Positive affect and the complex dynamics of human flourishing. *American Psychologist, 60*, 678–686.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/0003-066X.60.7.678> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0034435>)

Fredrickson, B. L., Grewen, K. M., Algoe, S. B., Firestone, A. M., Arevalo, J. M. G., Ma, J., & Cole, S. W. (2015). Psychological well-being and the human conserved transcriptional response to adversity. *PLoS ONE, 10*(3), e0121839.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0121839> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0157116>)

Just, D. R., Sigirci, O., & Wansink, B. (2014). Lower buffet prices lead to less taste satisfaction. *Journal of Sensory Studies, 29*, 362–370.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/joss.12117> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/joss.12279>)

Just, D. R., Sigirci, O., & Wansink, B. (2015). Peak-end pizza: Prices delay evaluations of quality. *Journal of Product & Brand Management, 24*, 770–778.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/JPBM-01-2015-0802> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/JPBM-07-2017-999>)

Kaiser, C. R., Major, B., Jurcevic, I., Dover, T. L., Brady, L. M., & Shapiro, J. R. (2013). Presumed fair: ironic effects of organizational diversity structures. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 104*, 504–519.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0030838> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/pspi0000055>)

Kniffin, K., Sigirci, O., & Wansink, B. (2016). Eating heavily: Men eat more in the company of women. *Evolutionary Psychological Science, 2*, 38–46.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s40806-015-0035-3> (editorial note:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s40806-017-0099-3>)

Losada, M., & Heaphy, E. (2004). The role of positivity and connectivity in the performance of business teams: A nonlinear dynamics model. *American Behavioral Scientist, 47*, 740–765. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0002764203260208> (expression of concern:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0002764214537204>)

- Shariff, A. F., Greene, J. D., Karremans, J. C., Luguri, J. B., Clark, C. J., Schooler, J. W. . . .
Vohs, K. D. (2014). Free will and punishment: A mechanistic view of human nature
reduces retribution. *Psychological Science*, *25*, 1563–1570.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0956797614534693> (correction: in press)
- Shaw, J., & Porter, S. (2015). Constructing rich false memories of committing crime.
Psychological Science, *26*, 291–301. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0956797614562862>
(correction: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0956797614562862>)
- Sigirci, O., Rockmore, M., & Wansink, B. (2016). How traumatic violence permanently
changes shopping behavior. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *7*, 1298.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2016.01298> (retraction notice:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2017.02140>)
- Siğirci, O., & Wansink, B. (2015). Low prices and high regret: How pricing influences regret
at all-you-can-eat buffets. *BMC Nutrition*, *1*, 36. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s40795-015-0030-x> (retraction notice: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s40795-017-0195-6>)
- Thorstenson, C. A., Pazda, A. D., & Elliot, A. J. (2015). Sadness impairs color perception.
Psychological Science. Advance online publication.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0956797615597672> (retraction notice:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0956797615597672> [sic; the retraction notice has the same
DOI as the original article])
- Wansink, B. (2003). Profiling nutritional gatekeepers: Three methods for differentiating
influential cooks. *Food Quality and Preference*, *14*, 289–297.
[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0950-3293\(02\)00088-5](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0950-3293(02)00088-5) (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foodqual.2017.11.003>)
- Wansink, B. (2015). Change their choice! Changing behavior using the CAN approach and
activism research. *Psychology & Marketing*, *32*, 486–500.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/mar.20794> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/mar.21054>)
- Wansink, B., Just, D. R., & Payne, C. R. (2012). Can branding improve school lunches?
Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine, *166*, 967–968.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1001/archpediatrics.2012.999> (notice of retraction and
replacement: [10.1001/jamapediatrics.2017.3136](http://dx.doi.org/10.1001/jamapediatrics.2017.3136); retraction:
[10.1001/jamapediatrics.2017.4603](http://dx.doi.org/10.1001/jamapediatrics.2017.4603))
- Wansink, B., Just, D. R., Payne, C. R., & Klinger, M. Z. (2012). Attractive names sustain
increased vegetable intake in schools. *Preventive Medicine*, *55*, 330–332.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2012.07.012> (correction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2017.11.032>; retraction:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2012.07.012>)

- Wansink, B., & Park, S.-B. (2002). Sensory suggestiveness and labeling: Do soy labels bias taste? *Journal of Sensory Studies*, *17*, 483–491. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1745-459X.2002.tb00360.x> (retraction notice: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/joss.12259>)
- Wansink, B., & Payne, C. R. (2012). Eating behavior and obesity at Chinese buffets. *Obesity*, *16*, 1957–1960. . <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/oby.2008.286> (correction: . <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/oby.21906>)
- Wansink, B., van Ittersum, K., & Painter, J. E. (2005). How descriptive food names bias sensory perceptions in restaurants. *Food Quality and Preference*, *16*, 393–400. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foodqual.2004.06.005> (correction: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foodqual.2017.05.017>)
- Wansink, B., & Westgren, R. (2003). Profiling taste-motivated segments. *Appetite*, *41*, 323–327. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0195-6663\(03\)00120-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0195-6663(03)00120-X) (retraction: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0195-6663\(03\)00120-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0195-6663(03)00120-X))