

Brown Bag Lunchtime Seminar (Via Zoom) **(Theme: Social and Health Psychology)**

Polluted Humanness: Air Pollution Leads to Dehumanization of Oneself and Others

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | January 29, 2021 (Friday)



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Abstract

Air pollution is a major global environmental issue, yet its psychological consequences have only started to receive attention from scholars. We examined whether and how air pollution would lead to self- and other-dehumanization. Across one field study and five preregistered experimental studies (Studies 2a-4), we showed that air pollution increased people's dehumanization of themselves (Studies 1–2c and 4) and others (Studies 3-4). Furthermore, we found that people's perceived vulnerability to disease accounted for the effect of air pollution on dehumanization. These findings suggest that dehumanization may function as part of the behavioral immune system to protect people from perceived vulnerability to disease. Therefore, air pollution not only impairs our physical health but also influences our humanness.

About the speaker

Bill is currently a fourth-year PhD student, working with Dr. Chen Zhansheng. He is primarily interested in objectification and dehumanization in different contexts.

Zoom Meeting

<https://hku.zoom.us/j/97471624461>

Meeting ID: 974 7162 4461



~All are Welcome~