

August Wei (he/him)

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EDUCATION

University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Expected Graduation: May 2029

Doctor of Philosophy in Human Development and Family Sciences

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Eric Layland

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

December 2021

Bachelor of Science in Psychology; with *Highest Distinction*

PUBLICATIONS

11. Layland, E. K., **Wei, A. X.**, Maurer, N. M., Brittingham, R., & Bachman, R. (2025). Mental health and substance use disparities by sexual orientation and gender identity among Delaware youth. *Delaware Journal of Public Health*, 11(2), 26-35.
<https://djph.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/djph-112-08.pdf>
10. **Wei, A.X.**, Mournet, A.M., Ryan, P.C., Bridge, J.A., Pao, M., Horowitz, L.M. (2025). Suicide Risk and Social Connectedness in Cisgender and Transgender Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Queer/Questioning Youth in the Emergency Department. *Journal of Adolescent Health*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2024.11.241>
9. Merai, R., Shi., T., **Wei, A.X.**, Ruch, D., Bridge, J.A., Pao, M., Horowitz, L.M. (2025). The Moderating Role of Race in Suicide Risk and Family Connectedness in Youth Presenting to the Emergency Department. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Open*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaacop.2024.10.009>
8. **Wei, A.**, Skolnik, A., Mulkern, P., Price, M. (2025). Gender Identity. *SAGE International Encyclopedia of Politics and Gender*. [Preprint](#)
7. **Wei, A.X.**, Mournet, A.M., Bridge, J.A., Pao, M., Horowitz, L.M. (2024). Recency of suicide attempt, ideation, and reattempt in the emergency department: Managing youth with a past attempt. *Psychiatric Research & Clinical Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.prcp.20240006>
6. Mulkern, P., **Wei, A.**, & Price, M. (2024). Best Practices For Supporting Transgender Youth In Schools. *Encyclopedia of Social Work*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199975839.013.1657>
5. Afzal, K. I., Cheema, A., Cheema, H., Mournet, A., **Wei, A.**, Khalid, A., Merai, R., Pao, M., & Horowitz, L. (2024). Urdu-Language Translation and Validation of the Ask Suicide-Screening Questions (ASQ) Tool: A Focus on Connotation and Context. *Cureus*, 16(7), e65763.
<https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.65763>
4. Glasner, S., **Wei, A. X.**, Ryan, P. C., Michero, D. N., Monico, L. B., Pielsticker, P. E., & Horowitz, L. M. (2023). Implementing suicide risk screening in a virtual addiction clinic. *Community Mental Health Journal*, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10597-023-01181-3>
3. Gorzkowski Hamilton, J., Horowitz, L. M., Standley, C. J., Ryan, P. C., **Wei, A. X.**, Lau, M., & Yu Moutier, C. (2023). Developing the Blueprint for Youth Suicide Prevention. *Journal of public health management and practice : JPHMP*, 29(5), E214–E222.
<https://doi.org/10.1097/PHH.0000000000001764>
2. Horowitz, L. M., Ryan, P. C., **Wei, A. X.**, Boudreaux, E. D., Ackerman, J. P., & Bridge, J. A. (2023). Screening and Assessing Suicide Risk in Medical Settings: Feasible Strategies for Early Detection. *Focus (American Psychiatric Publishing)*, 21(2), 145–151.
<https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.focus.20220086>
1. Li, Z., **Wei, A.**, Palanivel, V., & Jackson, J. C. (2021). A Data-Driven Analysis of Sociocultural, Ecological, and Economic Correlates of Depression Across Nations. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 52(8-9), 822-843. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00220221211040243>

Under Review

6. Rabayda, C., **Wei, A.**, Mulkern, P., Price, M., (Under review). A Model for Leveraging Behavior Change Techniques in Cultural Competency Training for Mental Health Providers. doi:10.17605/OSF.IO/H2GQN [Preprint](#).
5. Shi, T., Merai, R., Farmer, C., **Wei, A.X.**, Miller, I.W., Camargo, C.A., Pao, M., Bridge, J.A., Boudreaux, E., Horowitz L.M. (Under review). The Association Between Recency of Suicide Attempt and Reattempt in Adult Emergency Department Patients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*.
4. Layland, E. K., **Wei, A. X.**, & Seager van Dyk, I. (Under review). It takes more than a village: Involvement in positive LGBTQIA+ socialization from origin family, chosen family, community, and parasocial relationships. *LGBTQ+ Family*.
2. Layland, E. K., Barton, L., Curtiss, S. L., Barnes, T. N., **Wei, A. X.**, & Seager van Dyk, I. (Under review). Associations between LGBTQIA+ individual and collective identity dimensions and well-being in an international sample of Autistic adolescents and adults. *Autism in Adulthood*.
1. Siegelman, A.E., Brunstein-Klomen, A., Auerbach, E., **Wei, A.X.**, Snyder, D.J., Horowitz, L.M. (Under review). Beyond Linguistic Translation: Achieving Cultural, Conceptual, and Semantic Equivalence in the Hebrew ASQ Screener. [Preprint](#)

POSTERS, * indicates presenting author

4. Ngur, M.R., Ryan, P.C., Rybczynski, S., Lopez-Arvizu, C., Mattes-Ramdell, T., **Wei, A.X.**, Horowitz, L.M., Thurm, A., Lipkin, P.H. (2023, April). Comprehension of death and suicide in youth with autism, AD/HD, and other neurodevelopmental disorders. Poster presented at annual Pediatric Academic Societies conference, Washington, DC.
3. **Wei, A.***, Ryan, P., Michero, D., Pielsticker, P., Monico, L., Horowitz, L., Glasner, S. (2023, April). *Implementing suicide risk screening in a telemedicine addiction treatment clinic*. Poster presented at Suicide Research Symposium, Virtual. [Poster](#)
2. **Wei, A.***, Ryan, P., Pham, S., Das, T., Duncan, R., Carter, D., Horowitz, L., Thurm, A. (2022, September). *Creating a clinician training webinar on suicide risk screening and assessment for autistic youth*. Poster presented at National Institute of Mental Health Scientific Training Day, Bethesda, MD. [Poster](#)
1. **Wei, A.***, Li, Z., Palanivel, V., Jackson, J.C. (2021, April). *A data-driven study of global depression correlates*. Poster presented at annual Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology Diversifying Clinical Psychology Conference, Virtual. [Poster](#)

ORAL PRESENTATIONS, * indicates presenting author

7. Layland, E. K., **Wei, A. X.**, & Seager van Dyk, I. (2025, July). Positive LGBTQ+ Messages During Formative Years and their Impact on LGBTQ+ Adolescents and Adults in New Zealand and the United States. Accepted for presentation at the World Congress on Positive Psychology. Brisbane, Australia.
6. **Wei, A. X.***, Seager van Dyk, I., & Layland, E. K. (2025, May). Timing and pacing of gender identity self-affirmation milestones and associations with positive parental messaging. In E. K. Layland (Chair), *Promoting positive LGBTQ+ adolescent development: Understanding psychosocial correlates of sexual and gender identity developmental milestones*. Oral presentation at the Society for Research on Child Development 2025 Biennial Meeting. Minneapolis, MN.
5. **Wei, A. X.***, Seager van Dyk, I., & Layland, E. K. (2025, March). Queer Joy as Resistance: Reframing Transgender and Narratives. Oral presentation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality Graduate Student Conference. Boston, Massachusetts.
4. Mulkern, P. J., **Wei, A.W.**, Condon, M., & Price, M. (2024, November). Systematic Review: Best Practices for Supporting Transgender Students. Oral paper presentation at the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies annual convention. Philadelphia, PA.

3. Horowitz, L.M., Lowry, N.J., Ryan, P.C., **Wei, A.X.**, Carter, T., Sharma, A.,... (2023, October). Adapting Suicide Risk Screening for Global Pediatric Medical Settings: Do Questions About Suicide Translate? Symposium invited to International Academy of Suicide Research conference, Barcelona, Spain.
2. **Wei, A.X.***, Mournet, A.M., Bridge, J.A., Pao, M., Horowitz, L.M. (2023, April). *The association between recency of suicide attempt/ideation and reattempt in pediatric emergency department patients*. Oral abstract presented at annual Pediatric Academic Societies conference, Washington, DC. [Abstract Slides](#)
1. **Wei, A.X.***, Mournet, A.M., Ryan, P.C., Bridge, J.A., Pao, M., Horowitz, L.M. (2023, April). *Suicide risk and family and peer support levels among LGBTQ+ pediatric emergency department patients*. Oral abstract presented at annual Pediatric Academic Societies conference, Washington, DC. [Abstract Slides](#)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Queer Development Lab, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Graduate Research Assistant (August 2024-Present)

Principle Investigator: Eric Layland, PhD

Roles:

- Conduct individual, dyadic, and triadic semi-structured interviews with LGBTQ youth and their caregivers
- Facilitate discussions on systematic review article screening with undergraduate students
- Devise and organize qualitative themes from coding of open-text survey responses
- Recruit participants for research projects via texting, social media, and in-person community events

Affirm Lab, Boston College School of Social Work, Boston, MA

Research Assistant (June 2023-May 2024)

Principle Investigator: Maggi Price, PhD

Roles:

- Drafted stories from the perspectives of transgender and nonbinary students and school staff, guided by qualitative data from community advisory board meeting transcripts
- Utilized human-centered design approaches to create and revise training content for self-guided intervention
- Coded didactic content for behavior change techniques to aid in the iterative refinement of a self-guided intervention

Research Projects:

- Improving Methods of Providing Affirming Care to Transgender Students (IMPACTS): This community-based participatory research (CBPR) study aims to create and test an online school staff training intervention based on input from transgender students, their parents, and school staff.
- Gender-Affirming Psychotherapy Study (GAPS): This CBPR study aims to create and test an online mental health provider training intervention based on input from transgender youth, their caregivers, and mental health provider experts.

Office of the Clinical Director, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, MD

Intramural Research Training Award Fellow (June 2022 – June 2023)

Special Volunteer (June 2023-June 2024)

Principal Investigator: Lisa M. Horowitz, PhD, MPH

Roles:

- Oversaw domestic and international suicide risk screening protocols and quality improvement projects
- Conducted biweekly reviews of suicide risk screening policies across the NIH Clinical Center
- Created bimonthly presentations on feasible implementation of suicide risk screening programs
- Prepared manuscripts for publication and provided feedback on articles in the peer-review process
- Shadowed NIMH psychiatrists for four hours weekly, including attending weekly rounds discussions

Research Projects, * indicates independent project:

- Validate the Ask Suicide-Screening Questions (ASQ) tool for suicide risk screening of youth with neurodevelopmental disorders through a cross-sectional study.
- Collaborate with the American Academy of Pediatrics, Nepal Pediatric Society, Ethiopian Pediatric Society and other international research groups to validate the ASQ and implement universal suicide risk screening in medical settings in Nepal, Ethiopia, Argentina, Portugal, and Pakistan.
- Implement suicide risk screening in a digital addiction clinic serving adults with substance use disorders through a quality improvement project.
- *Assess the relationship between suicide risk, peer support, and family support among distinct subsamples of cisgender-LGBQ and transgender pediatric emergency department patients.
- *Assess the relationship between recency of suicide attempt/ideation reported at index ED visit and post-ED-discharge reattempt among pediatric patients.

UNC-CH Department of Psychology & Neuroscience, Chapel Hill, NC

Research Assistant (May 2021 - May 2022)

Emotions and Social Interactions in Relationships Lab

Principle Investigator: Sara Algoe, PhD

Roles:

- Conducted behavioral coding on qualitative video and written data
- Recruited and trained participants to follow survey timeline in longitudinal study in the lab
- Administered psychological and health behavior questionnaires in Qualtrics

Research Assistant (March 2020 - May 2022)

Deepest Beliefs Lab

Principle Investigator: Kurt Gray, PhD

Roles:

- Collected and coded ethnographic data for quantitative analysis
- Co-authored introduction and discussion of manuscript (Li et al., 2021) for publication
- Led an independent research proposal integrating perspectives from moral psychology and psychology of religion research

APPLIED EXPERIENCE

Bethesda Cares, Bethesda, MD

Housing Initiative Program Service Coordinator (June 2023 - June 2024)

Roles:

- Conducted home visits with clients and collaborate with other community providers to help them access housing placement resources, remain stably housed, and promote self-sufficiency

- Provided case management and care coordination through 1-on-1 relationships to provide support, engagement, and referral through Housing First principles
- Employed motivational interviewing techniques to help clients identify actionable items for maintaining housing
- Accessed and updated client records and resource information in various databases to comply with contractual billing requirements

Lepage Associates, Durham, NC

Evaluation Writer (December 2021 - February 2023)

[Karen M. Gil Clinical Psychology Intern](#) (August 2021 - December 2021)

Supervisor: Mina Ratkalkar, PhD, LCSW

Roles:

- Transcribed and summarized clinical interviews, legal and therapy records for psychological and forensic evaluations for family and criminal court
- Discussed multicultural cases to ensure patient-centered care with multidisciplinary team
- Proctored assessments for psychological evaluations (e.g., MMPI-2, MCMI-IV) for children and adults
- Conducted literature reviews on LGBTQ+ sex therapy resources, sexual education curricula in the U.S., sexual assault among college students, and mental health treatment modalities
- Participated in assessment interpretation for the MMPI-2, WAIS-IV, and WISC-V with mentors

Carolina Center for Public Service, Chapel Hill, NC

[APPLES Service-Learning](#) *Dementia Care Intern (January 2021 - May 2021)*

Roles:

- Facilitated group activities for 12 residents in nursing home memory care unit to build community
- Deescalated emotionally turbulent situations to ensure comfort and safety of residents
- Interviewed residents in Music and Memory program and tailored devices
- Collaborated with county Council of Aging to organize enrichment events for local elderly community

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- **Statistics:** Intermediate in RStudio
 - **Software:** Qualtrics, Zotero, EndNote, Google Suite, Microsoft Office, Dedoose
 - **Assisted Peer Reviews:** Archives of Disease in Childhood, Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Journal of Adolescent Health, Journal of Pediatrics, Pediatrics, Risk Management and Healthcare Policy, Translational Behavioral Medicine, JAMA Network Open, European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Pediatric Emergency Care, American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Children and Youth Services
 - **Invited Peer Reviews:** Journal of Homosexuality
 - **Hobbies:** Musician (instruments: piano, violin, guitar, drums, bass) and reader (preferences: queer memoir, investigative journalism).
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