


Karin M. Fikkers, PhD

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Jan 2019 – Present **Assistant professor**
Department of Languages, Literature, and Communication
Utrecht Institute of Linguistics OTS
Utrecht University
- Sept 2015 – Dec 2018 **Postdoctoral researcher**
Center for research on Children, Adolescents, and the Media (CcaM)
Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR)
University of Amsterdam
- 2011 – August 2015 **PhD candidate**
Center for research on Children, Adolescents, and the Media (CcaM)
Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR)
University of Amsterdam
- Jan-March 2014 **Visiting scholar**
Annenberg Public Policy Center and the Annenberg School for Communication,
University of Pennsylvania, PA.
- 2009 – 2010 **Lecturer**
Radboud University Nijmegen

EDUCATION

- 2011 – 2015 **PhD Degree**, Department of Communication, University of Amsterdam
Dissertation title: *A different(ial) perspective: How social context influences the media violence-aggression relationship among early adolescents*
➤ Date of defense: February 25, 2016
➤ Dissertation awarded the distinction **cum laude**
➤ Available at <http://dare.uva.nl/record/1/512223>
- 2014 **University teaching qualification** (Basis Kwalificatie Onderwijs)
The Amsterdam Institute for Lifelong Learning in Education
- 2007 – 2010 **Research Master Degree** in Language and Communication (**cum laude**)
Radboud University Nijmegen and University of Tilburg
- 2004 – 2007 **Bachelor's Degree** in Business Communication
Radboud University Nijmegen

2005 – 2007	Honours Program Degree Interdisciplinary Honours Program, Radboud University Nijmegen
1998 – 2004	Gymnasium Degree Candea College, Duiven

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

June 2018	Winner of the ASCoR Baschwitz Article of the Year award , for the article “Assessing the reliability and validity of television and game violence exposure measures”, published in <i>Communication Research</i> with Jessica Piotrowski and Patti Valkenburg.
May 2018	Recipient of Top Student Paper Award at the Children, Adolescents, and the Media division of the International Communication Association, for the paper “ <i>What’s in it for them? Teens’ Differential Preferences for Types and Contexts of Televised Aggression</i> ”, authored by Amber van der Wal, Karin Fikkers, and Patti Valkenburg.
December 2017	Nominated for department-wide special-themed Collegiality Award at the Department of Communication Science, University of Amsterdam
May 2017	Winner of the Kyoon Hur Dissertation Award of the Mass Communication division of the International Communication Association.
March 2017	Nominated for Lecturer of the Year at the Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Amsterdam
December 2016	Nominated for the Praemium Erasmianum Dissertation Award for top dissertations in the humanities and social sciences in the Netherlands.
Oct 2016	Shortlisted for the Klokhuis Wetenschapsprijs 2016 for a research project conducted in the Nemo Science Museum (August 2016).
June 2013	Winner of Teaching Award from the College of Communication at the University of Amsterdam (“Excellent working group instructor and internship supervisor”)

TEACHING & SUPERVISION

Courses taught

- Introduction to Communication Science (bachelor-level lectures in Dutch and English)
- Introduction to Communication Science (bachelor-level tutorials)
- Entertainment Communication (bachelor-level tutorials in Dutch and English)
- Research Methods in Communication Science (master-level tutorials)
- Introduction to Business Communication & ICT (bachelor-level tutorials)
- Introduction to Business Communication Research (bachelor-level tutorials)

Past supervision

- 2016-2018: Co-promotor of PhD candidate Amber van der Wal
- 2018: MA supervision of Joost Kamer and Daria Kanter

PUBLICATIONS

Piotrowski, J.T. & **Fikkers, K.M.** (2019). Media Violence and Aggression. In M.B. Oliver, A. Raney, & J. Bryant (Eds.), *Media Effects: Advances in Theory and Research* (4th ed.). Routledge.

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2017). A matter of style? The differential effects of parental mediation on early adolescents' media violence exposure and aggression. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 70, 407-415. doi:10.1016/j.chb.2017.01.029

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2017). Assessing the reliability and validity of television and game violence exposure measures. *Communication Research*, 44, 1, 117-143. doi:10.1177/0093650215573863

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2016). Beyond the lab: Investigating early adolescents' cognitive, emotional, and arousal responses to violent games. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 60, 542-549. doi:10.1016/j.chb.2016.02.055

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., Lugtig, P., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2016). The role of perceived peer norms in the relationship between media violence exposure and adolescents' aggression. *Media Psychology*, 19, 4-26. doi:10.1080/15213269.2015.1037960

Hoeken, H., & **Fikkers, K.M.** (2014). Issue-relevant thinking and identification as mechanisms of narrative persuasion. *Poetics*, 44, 84-99. doi: 10.1016/j.poetic.2014.05.001

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., Weeda, W.D., Vossen, H.G.M., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2013). Double dose: High family conflict enhances the effect of media violence exposure on adolescents' aggression. *Societies*, 3, 280-292. doi: 10.3390/soc3030280

Fikkers, K.M., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2013). Reasons for Consuming Violent Entertainment. In M.S. Eastin (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Media Violence*, pp 318-320. SAGE Publications.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Fikkers, K.M. & Piotrowski, J.T. (R&R). Content and Person Effects in Media Research: Studying Differences in Cognitive, Emotional, and Arousal Responses to Media Content. *Media Psychology*.

Van der Wal, A., **Fikkers, K.M.**, & Valkenburg, P.M. (R&R). What's in it for them? Teens' Differential Preferences for Types and Contexts of Televised Aggression. *Communication Research*.

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (R&R). Child's Play? Assessing the Bi-Directional Longitudinal Relationship between Gaming and Intelligence in Early Childhood. *Journal of Communication*.

Vossen, H.G.M., & **Fikkers, K.M.** (to be submitted). The Mediating Role of Sympathy in the Relationship between Media Violence and Adolescents' Social Behaviors.

INVITED LECTURES

Fikkers, K.M. (2018, February). Individual differences in the effects of violent media entertainment. Hogeschool Utrecht.

Fikkers, K.M. (2017, November). Studying the relationship between violent entertainment and youths' aggression: A different(ial) perspective. Utrecht University.

Fikkers, K.M. (2017, November). Effects of violent entertainment on youth: A different(ial) perspective. Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Minnesota.

Fikkers, K.M. (2017, September). Individuele verschillen in effecten van mediageweld. Hogeschool Utrecht.

Fikkers, K.M. (2016, September). Mediageweld en agressie: Een differentieel perspectief. University of Leuven.

Fikkers, K.M. (2016, April). Mediageweld en agressie: Een differentieel perspectief. University of Leuven.

Fikkers, K.M. (2016, April). Mediageweld en agressief gedrag van kinderen: Een één-op-één relatie? Proost op de Wetenschap, SPUI 25.

Fikkers, K. M. (2015, October). De media-omgeving van kinderen. Expert meeting at Cinekid for professionals.

Fikkers, K.M. (2014, October). The Reliability and Validity of Media Violence Exposure Measures. University of Amsterdam.

PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2018, June). Child's Play? Assessing the Bi-Directional Longitudinal Relationship between Gaming and Intelligence in Early Childhood. *Paper presented at the 48th annual meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.*

Fikkers, K.M. & Piotrowski, J.T. (2018, May). Person vis-à-vis Content Effects: Individual Differences in Cognitive, Emotional, and Arousal Responses to Media Content. *Paper presented at the 68th annual conference of the International Communication Association, Prague, Czech Republic.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2018, May). Child's Play? Assessing the Bi-Directional Longitudinal Relationship between Gaming and Intelligence in Early Childhood. *Paper presented at the 68th annual conference of the International Communication Association, Prague, Czech Republic.*

van der Wal, A., **Fikkers, K.M.,** & Valkenburg, P.M. (2018, May). What's in it for them? Teens' Differential Preferences for Types and Contexts of Televised Aggression. *Paper presented at the 68th annual conference of the International Communication Association, Prague, Czech Republic.*

Fikkers, K.M. & Piotrowski, J.T. (2018, February). Investigating Individual Differences in Youths' Cognitive, Emotional, and Arousal Responses to Entertainment. *Paper presented at Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Ghent, Belgium.*

Vossen, H.G.M., & **Fikkers, K.M.** (2017, May). The Mediating Role of Sympathy in the Relationship between Media Violence and Adolescents' Social Behaviors. *Paper presented at the 67th annual conference of the International Communication Association, San Diego, CA.*

van der Wal, A., **Fikkers, K.M.**, & Valkenburg, P.M. (2017, January). Adolescent's Selective Exposure to Different Types of Violent Television Entertainment. *Paper presented at Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Tilburg, The Netherlands.*

Vossen, H.G.M., & **Fikkers, K.M.** (2017, January). The Mediating Role of Sympathy in the Relationship between Media Violence and Adolescents' Social Behaviors. *Paper presented at Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Tilburg, The Netherlands.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2016, June). Beyond the lab: Investigating early adolescents' cognitive, emotional, and arousal responses to violent games. *Paper presented at the 66st annual conference of the International Communication Association, Fukuoka, Japan.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2016, June). A matter of style? The differential effects of parental mediation on early adolescents' media violence exposure and aggression. *Paper presented at the 66st annual conference of the International Communication Association, Fukuoka, Japan.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2016, February). Beyond the lab: Investigating early adolescents' cognitive, emotional, and arousal responses to violent games. *Paper presented at Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2016, February). A matter of style? The differential effects of parental mediation on early adolescents' media violence exposure and aggression. *Paper presented at Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., Lugtig, P., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2015, May). The Role of Perceived Peer Norms in the Relationship Between Media Violence Exposure and Adolescents' Aggression. *Paper presented at the 65th annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), San Juan, Puerto Rico.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2014, May). Validity and Reliability of Media Violence Exposure Measures. *Paper presented at the 64th annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Seattle, WA.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., Vossen, H.G.M., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2013, June 19). How Family Conflict Moderates the Relationship between Media Violence and Adolescents' Aggression. *Paper presented at the 63rd annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), London, England.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., Weeda, W.D., Vossen, H.G.M., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2013, June 15). Double dose: The joint effect of media violence and family conflict on adolescents' aggression. *Paper presented at the 3rd George Gerbner Conference, Budapest, Hungary.*

Fikkers, K.M., Piotrowski, J.T., Vossen, H.G.M., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2013, February). Double dose: How violent media exposure and family conflict interact to predict adolescents' aggression. *Paper presented at Etnaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.*

Fikkers, K. M., Valkenburg, P. M., & Vossen, H. G. M. (2012, May). Validity of Adolescents' Direct Estimates of Their Exposure to Media Violence in Three Types of Media. *Poster presented at the 62nd annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Phoenix, AZ.*

Fikkers, K. M., Valkenburg, P. M., & Vossen, H. G. M. (2012, February). Short and Sweet. The Validity of Adolescents' Direct Estimates of Their Exposure to Media Violence in Three Types of Media. *Paper presented at Etnaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Leuven, Belgium.*

Hoeken, H., & **Fikkers, K. M.** (2011, June). Scrutinizing Fictional Characters' Arguments. *Paper presented at the 61st annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Boston, MA.*

Fikkers, K. M., & Hoeken, H. (2011, January). Scrutinizing Fictional Characters' Arguments: The Role of Cognitive Responses and Identification in Narrative Persuasion. *Paper presented at Etnaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Enschede, the Netherlands.*

Fikkers, K. M., & Hoeken, H. (2010, June). Scrutinizing Fictional Characters' Arguments: The Role of Cognitive Responses and Identification in Narrative Persuasion. *Paper presented at the Conference for the Internationale Gesellschaft für Empirische Literaturwissenschaft (IGEL), Utrecht, the Netherlands.*

POPULAR PRESS

Fikkers, K. M. (October 2017). Media violence and youth aggression. Interviewer-writer: Bryant Furlow [Editorial content]. *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health.* Available online at: [http://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanchi/PIIS2352-4642\(17\)30033-0.pdf](http://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanchi/PIIS2352-4642(17)30033-0.pdf)

Fikkers, K. M. (August 14, 2016). Onderzoek naar invloed films en games op kinderen. *AT5* [television]. Available online at: <http://www.at5.nl/artikelen/159276/onderzoek-naar-invloed-films-en-games-op-kinderen>

Fikkers, K. M. (August 11, 2016). Kinderen als proefkonijn in Nemo: hoe reageren ze op heftige beelden? Interviewer-writer: Laura Obdeijn [newspaper]. *Het Parool.* Available online at: <https://www.parool.nl/kunst-en-media/kinderen-als-proefkonijn-in-nemo-hoe-reageren-ze-op-heftige-beelden~a4355867/>

Fikkers, K. M. (August 11, 2016). UvA-onderzoeker op zoek naar effecten film op kind. Interviewer-writer: Steffi Weber [magazine]. *Folia.* Available online at: <https://www.folia.nl/actueel/103218/uva-onderzoeker-op-zoek-naar-effecten-film-op-kind>

Fikkers, K. M. (August 9, 2016). Welke invloed heeft film op kinderen? Interviewer: Martijn Middel [radio]. *BNR Nieuwsradio.* Available online at: <https://www.bnr.nl/radio/wetenschap-vandaag/10309107/welke-invloed-heeft-film-op-kinderen?>

Fikkers, K. M. (February 25, 2016). Game-geweld leidt in harmonieus gezin niet tot agressieve kinderen. Interviewer-writer: Tonie Mudde [newspaper]. *De Volkskrant.* Available online at:

<https://www.volkskrant.nl/wetenschap/game-geweld-leidt-in-harmonieus-gezin-niet-tot-agressieve-kinderen~a4251084/>

Fikkers, K. M. (February 22, 2016). Wetenschap: gewelddadige games leiden meestal niet tot agressie. Interviewer: Lara Rense [radio]. *NPO Radio 1*. Available online at: <https://www.nporadio1.nl/nieuws-en-co/onderwerpen/345353-wetenschap-gewelddadige-games-leiden-meestal-niet-tot-agressie>

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

January 2017 – Present	Social media editor of the <i>Journal of Children and Media</i>
May 2017	Co-organizer of preconference “Invention & Intervention: Blending Research with Practice to Develop Effective Media for Youth”, a preconference by the Children, Adolescents, and the Media division at the 2017 annual conference of the ICA.
January 2017	Co-organizer of preconference “Moving beyond self-report: Measuring arousal, emotional, and cognitive responses to media through physiological measures” at the Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, on behalf of the Media Psychology division
May 2015 – May 2017	Member of the Students and Early Career Advisory Committee (SECAC) of the International Communication Association
May 2014 – June 2016	Secretary of the Children, Adolescents, and the Media (CAM) division of the International Communication Association.
July 2014	Participant in LERU (League of European Research Universities) Summer School, Helsinki, Finland. Topic: “Doing the right things right – Research Integrity in a Complex Society.”
Dec 2013 – June 2014	Member of the working group “Innovation of measures” for the Consortium on Individual Development (a consortium of seven Dutch universities funded by the Dutch Gravitation subsidy)
Feb 2012 – Feb 2014	Co-founder and co-chair of the Young Scholars Network, a division of the Netherlands-Flanders Communication Association (NeFCA)
	Conference reviewer for the annual conferences of the International Communication Association and the Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap.
	Ad-hoc reviewer for, e.g., <i>Media Psychology</i> , <i>Journal of Children and Media</i> , <i>Pediatrics</i> , <i>Journal of Media Psychology</i> , <i>Journal of Communication</i> , <i>Communication Methods & Measures</i> .

CONSULTANCY

February – April 2016	Consultancy project for the Netherlands Institute for the Classification of Audio-visual Media (NICAM) and Kijkwijzer
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Mplus Advanced Course, Summer School at Utrecht University (June 2017)
- MOOC “Understanding Child Development: From Synapse to Society” (Utrecht University, June 2017)
- Workshop “Conducting field experiments” by Professor Green (University of Amsterdam, 2016)
- Mplus user meeting and workshop on Bayesian methods for the social sciences (Utrecht University, 2016)
- Workshop “Mediation, Moderation, and Conditional Process Analysis”, by Dr. Andrew Hayes (University of Amsterdam, 2012)
- Course “Structural Equation Modelling” (University of Amsterdam, 2012)