

## Dr. Karin M. Fikkers

### Assistant professor

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 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

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- 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 (**cum laude**)
  - Available at <http://dare.uva.nl/record/1/512223>

2014	<b>University teaching qualification</b> (Basis Kwalificatie Onderwijs) The Amsterdam Institute for Lifelong Learning in Education
2007 – 2010	<b>Research Master Degree</b> in Language and Communication ( <b>cum laude</b> ) Radboud University Nijmegen and University of Tilburg
2004 – 2007	<b>Bachelor’s Degree</b> in Business Communication Radboud University Nijmegen
2005 – 2007	<b>Honours Program Degree</b> Interdisciplinary Honours Program, Radboud University Nijmegen
1998 – 2004	<b>Gymnasium Degree</b> Candea College, Duiven

## AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

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May 2020	Winner of the <b>Best Published Article award</b> of the Children, Adolescents, and the Media division of the International Communication Association, for the paper “ <i>Child’s Play? Assessing the Bi-Directional Longitudinal Relationship between Gaming and Intelligence in Early Childhood</i> ”, authored by Fikkers, Piotrowski & Valkenburg.
June 2018	Winner of the ASCoR Baschwitz <b>Article of the Year award</b> , for the article “ <i>Assessing the reliability and validity of television and game violence exposure measures</i> ”, authored by Fikkers, Piotrowski & Valkenburg.
May 2018	Recipient of <b>Top Student Paper Award</b> 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 <b>Collegiality Award</b> at the Department of Communication Science, University of Amsterdam
May 2017	Winner of the Kyoon Hur <b>Dissertation Award</b> of the Mass Communication division of the International Communication Association.
March 2017	Nominated for <b>Lecturer of the Year</b> at the Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Amsterdam
December 2016	Nominated for the Praemium Erasmianum <b>Dissertation Award</b> for top dissertations in the humanities and social sciences in the Netherlands.
Oct 2016	Shortlisted for the Klokhuis <b>Wetenschapsprijs</b> 2016 for a research project conducted in the Nemo Science Museum (August 2016).
June 2013	Winner of <b>Teaching Award</b> from the College of Communication at the University of Amsterdam (“Excellent working group instructor and internship supervisor”)

## TEACHING & SUPERVISION

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### *Utrecht University*

- Bachelor Communicatie- en Informatiewetenschappen
  - Multimodale communicatie
  - Communicatie, media, en interactie
  - Psychologie van de communicator
  - Bachelor eindwerkstuk
- Master Communicatie en Organisatie
  - Data-analyse en visualisatie
  - Master seminar

### *University of Amsterdam*

- Introduction to Communication Science
- Entertainment Communication

### *MA and PhD supervision*

- 2019-2021: Member of the committee of PhD candidate Sarah Devos, Leuven University
- 2019: MA seminar research supervision
- 2016-2018: Co-promotor of PhD candidate Amber van der Wal
- 2018: MA supervision of Joost Kamer and Daria Kanter

## PUBLICATIONS

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

Van der Wal, A., Piotrowski, J.T., **Fikkers, K.M.**, & Valkenburg, P.M. (accepted). More Than Just a Laughing Matter: A Coding Framework of Humor in Media entertainment for Tweens and Teens. *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media*.

**Fikkers, K.M.** & Piotrowski, J.T. (2019). Content and Person Effects in Media Research: Studying Differences in Cognitive, Emotional, and Arousal Responses to Media Content. *Media Psychology*. Advance online publication. doi:10.1080/15213269.2019.1608257

**Fikkers, K.M.**, Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2019). Child's Play? Assessing the Bi-Directional Longitudinal Relationship between Gaming and Intelligence in Early Childhood. *Journal of Communication*. doi:10.1093/joc/jqz003

Van der Wal, A., **Fikkers, K.M.**, & Valkenburg, P.M. (2019). What's in it for them? Teens' Differential Preferences for Types and Contexts of Televised Aggression. *Communication Research*. doi: 10.1177/0093650219832231

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* (4<sup>th</sup> ed., pp. 211-226). New York, NY: 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.

## INVITED LECTURES

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**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

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van der Wal, A., Valkenburg, P. M., Piotrowski, J., & **Fikkers, K. M.** (2020). More than just a laughing matter: A content analysis of different humor types in teens' favorite television shows. *Paper presented at the 70<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the International Communication Association.*

Fikkers, K.M. & Middendorp, L. (2020, February). The future is now: The effect of gain/loss framing in climate stories on hope, fear, and climate policy support. Paper presentation at Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

van der Wal, A., Valkenburg, P. M., Piotrowski, J., & **Fikkers, K. M.** (2019). Not simply a laughing matter: A content analysis of different humor types in teens' favorite television shows. *Paper presented at Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Nijmegen.*

**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 48<sup>th</sup> 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 68<sup>th</sup> 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 68<sup>th</sup> 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 68<sup>th</sup> 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 67<sup>th</sup> 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 66<sup>st</sup> 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 66<sup>st</sup> 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 65<sup>th</sup> 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 64<sup>th</sup> 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 63<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Etmaal 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 62<sup>nd</sup> 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 Etmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap, Leuven, Belgium.*

Hoeken, H., & **Fikkers, K. M.** (2011, June). Scrutinizing Fictional Characters' Arguments. *Paper presented at the 61<sup>st</sup> 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 Etmaal 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.*

## ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

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August 2019 – Present	Editorial board member of <i>Journal of Children and Media</i>
July 2019 – Present	Member of Game Research Special Interest Group, Utrecht University
January 2017 – May 2020	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., *Media Psychology*, *Pediatrics*, *Journal of Media Psychology*, *Journal of Communication*, *Communication Methods & Measures*.