

# CURRICULUM VITAE



**Karin M. Fikkers MA**  
PhD candidate

Center for Research on Children, Adolescents and the Media  
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**PhD project summary:** I am involved in Patti Valkenburg's ERC-funded project 'The Entertainization of Childhood'. Within this project, my focus is on the relationship between violent media and aggressive behavior in young children and early adolescents. In this innovative project, we aim to add to the current knowledge by investigating which children are most susceptible to the effects of violent media. We will investigate social influences (parents and peers), individual factors (traits, temperament), and processing of media content among young children and early adolescents.

**Research interests:** Aggressive behavior, violent media (television, movies, games), peer and parental influences, experiential mediators.

## EMPLOYMENT

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2011 – Present	<b>PhD candidate</b> Center for research on Children, Adolescents, and the Media (CCAM) Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR) University of Amsterdam
Jan-March 2014	<b>Visiting scholar</b> Annenberg Public Policy Center and the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, PA.
2009 – 2010	<b>Lecturer</b> Radboud University Nijmegen
2007 – 2009	<b>Student Assistant</b> for Professors H. Hoeken and M. van Mulken Radboud University Nijmegen

## ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

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June 2014 – June 2016	Secretary of the Children, Adolescents and the Media division of the International Communication Association
December 2013 – Present	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)
March 2013 – Present	Journal Reviewer: <i>Global Media and Communication</i> <i>Journal of Children and Media</i>
Oct 2012 – Present	Conference Reviewer: International Communication Association Etnaal van de Communicatiewetenschap
Feb 2012 – Feb 2014	Co-chair of the Young Scholars Network, a division of the Netherlands-Flanders Communication Association (NeFCA)

## AWARDS

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June 2013	Teaching Award from the College of Communication at the University of Amsterdam (“Excellent working group instructor and internship supervisor”)
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## EDUCATION

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2007 – 2010	Research Master Degree <i>Language and Communication</i> Graduated 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

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Fikkers, K.M.**, Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (submitted). Assessing the Reliability and Validity of Television and Game Violence Exposure Measures.

Hoeken, H., & **Fikkers, K.M.** (under review). Identification and Issue-Relevant Thinking as Mechanisms of Narrative Persuasion. *Poetics*.

**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*. SAGE Publications.

Theijssen, D., Halteren, H. van, **Fikkers, K. M.**, Groothoff, F., Hoof, L. van, Sande, E. van de, Tiems, J., Verhagen, V., & Zande, P. van der (2009). A regression model for the English benefactive alternation. An efficient, practical, actually usable approach. *Proceedings of the 19th Meeting of Computational Linguistics in the Netherlands (CLIN)*.

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Fikkers, K.M.**, Piotrowski, J.T., & Valkenburg, P.M. (2014, May). Validity and Reliability of Media Violence Exposure Measures. *Paper to be 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.** (2011, May). Genetic Susceptibility to Violent Media Effects. *Presentation at the NeSCoR PhD Symposium, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.*

**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.*

Hoeken, H. & **Fikkers, K. M.** (2009, April). Scrutinizing Fictional Characters' Arguments: Do Stories Prohibit Central Processing? *Paper presented at the Workshop Narrative Fact and Fiction: Patterns of narrative construction in media stories and differential effects, Vienna, Austria.*

## TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

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Sept. 2013 – Jan. 2014 Introduction to Communication Science (Bachelor)

January 2013                      Research Methods in Communication Science (Master)

Sept. 2012 – Jan. 2013 Introduction to Communication Science (Bachelor)

Jan. 2012 – Aug. 2012 Supervision of bachelor students' internships

Sept. 2011 – Jan. 2012 Introduction to Communication Science (Bachelor)

Sept. 2009 – Jan. 2010 Introduction to Business Communication & ICT (Bachelor)  
Introduction to Business Communication Research (Bachelor)

## COURSES FOLLOWED

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January – March 2014 Public Health Communication  
Graduate course at the Annenberg School for Communication Research,  
University of Pennsylvania

February - May 2012 Structural Equation Modeling  
Graduate School of Communication, University of Amsterdam

April 2011                      Introduction to Meta-Analysis  
Online course, [www.statistics.com](http://www.statistics.com)

February 2011                      English Academic Writing  
PhD Course at the University of Amsterdam