

# William Costello

## Curriculum Vitae

January 2024

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### Education

2026 (expected) - Ph.D., Individual Differences and Evolutionary Psychology, University of Texas at Austin. Advisor: Dr. David M. Buss

2021 – MSc, Psychology, Culture and Evolution, Brunel University London. Advisor: Prof. David P. Schmitt (graduated with distinction)

2015 - Postgraduate degree in Career Guidance, Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom

2014 - BA Hons in English and Education, Newman University, United Kingdom

### Citation Impact Indices Google Scholar

Citations: 56

h-index: 3

i10 index: 1

### ResearchGate Statistics

Research Interest: 195

Reads: 26,455

### Publications

#### *Peer reviewed journal articles.*

Apostolou, M., Sullman, M., Birkás, B., Błachnio, A., Bushina, E., Calvo, F., **Costello, W.**, Dujlovic, T., Hill, T., Lajunen, T. J., Lisun, Y., Manrique-Millones, D., Manrique-Pino, O., Meskó, N., Nechtelberger, M., Ohtsubo, Y., Ollhoff, C. K., Przepiórka, A., Putz, Á., Font-Mayolas, S. (2023). Mating performance and singlehood across 14 nations. *Evolutionary Psychology*

Apostolou, M., Sulliman, M., Birkas, B., Blachino, A., Bushina, E., Calvo, F., Costello, W., Dujlovic, T., Hill, T., Lisun, Y., Manrique-Millones, D., Manrique-Pino, O., Mesko, N., Nechtelberger, M., Ohtsubo, Y., Ollhoff, C. K., Przepiorka, A., Putz, A., Tagliabue, M., Font-Mayolas, S. (2023). Strategies for becoming a more desirable mate: Evidence from 14 countries. *Personal Relationships*,

Costello, W., Rolon, V., Thomas, A.G., Schmitt, D.P. (2022). Levels of wellbeing among men who are incel (involuntary celibate). *Evolutionary Psychological Science*.

Costello, W., Rolon, V., Thomas, A.G., Schmitt, D.P. (2023) The mating psychology of incels (involuntary celibates). *Journal of Sex Research*.

Costello, W & Buss, M. D. (2023). Why isn't there more incel violence? (2023). *Adaptive Human Behavior and Physiology*.

### **Manuscripts in preparation**

Costello, W. (2023) Involuntary Celibates. Chapter in *Sexual Crime and the Internet*.

Apostolou, M. et al (in preparation). Emotional wellbeing and life satisfaction of singles and mated people across 12 nations.

Costello, W., Blake, K., Kavanagh, P., Hill, S., Buss, M. D. (in preparation) The Mating Crisis.

Costello, W., Thomas, A.G., Whittaker., (under review). Predicting Harmful Attitudes and Beliefs Among Incels (Involuntary Celibates) How Potent is the Black-Pill?

### **Popular Science Articles**

Costello, W. (2023, May 23) The allure of inceldom: why incels resist ascension. *Aporia*.

Costello, W. (2022, April 18) Analysis of 1.8 million online daters shows resource-acquisition ability boosts romantic interest. *PsyPost*.

Costello, W. (2021, June 8). When Men Behave Badly: The Hidden Roots of Sexual Deception, Harassment and Assault. *Areo*.

Costello, W. (2021, January 21). Birthstrike: the movement to end all movements. *Quillette*.

Costello, W. (2020, September 23) How Sport Can Reduce Racism: An Irish Case Study. *Areo*.

## **Awards**

Winner of the best poster award at the University of Texas at Austin Research for Y'all Graduate Showcase (2023)

Winner of the International Academy of Sex Research (IASR) Student Research Development Award (2023)

Honorable mention (3rd place) for best poster at the International Academy of Sex Research (IASR) Conference (2023).

Winner of the American Psychological Association Division 51 Society for the Psychological Study of Men & Masculinities student of the year 2023.

Winner of the Best Oral Presentation award at the British Society for the Psychology of Individual Differences (2022)

Winner of a Feminist Evolutionary Psychology Society award (2021)

Winner of the Best Poster award at the Evolutionary Perspectives on Culture Conference (2021)

## **Grants**

2023: Pennebaker Research Fellowship for summer 2023 at the University of Texas at Austin (\$8,430)

2023: Swansea University Strategic Partners seedcorn fund. Developing the Swansea Texas Researching Incel Distortions and Extremism (STRIDE) collaboration group (£4925/\$5257).

2023: Janet Spence Fellowship (\$500)

2022: Research funding from the UK Government Commission for Countering Extremism (£30,000/\$38,000)

## **Conference presentations**

Costello, W. The Social Networking of Incels (December 2023) Talk presented at the International Conference on Singlehood, Poznan, Poland.

Costello, W. The Denial of Sex Differences Harms Women (August 2023) Talk presented at the Big Conversation: Sex/Gender Differences, Sante Fe.

- Costello, W. The Social Networking of Incels (July 2023) Talk presented at the BPS (British Psychological Society) Cyberpsychology conference, Newcastle, U.K.
- Costello, W. The Social Networking of Incels (April 2023) Talk presented at the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, New Paltz.
- Costello, W. Levels of Wellbeing Among Involuntary Celibates (February 2023) Talk presented as a data blitz at the Evolutionary Psychology Preconference of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta
- Costello, W. The Psychological Profile of Involuntary Celibates (July 2022) Talk presented at The British Psychological Society Male Psychology Conference, England.
- Costello, W. Modern mating markets, misogyny, and the involuntary celibacy (incel) movement (June 2022) Talk presented at Human Behavior and Evolution Society Still Virtually Everywhere, online.
- Costello, W. The Psychological Profile of Involuntary Celibates (June 2022) talk presented at the Online Hostility and Bystanders conference, Aarhus.
- Costello, W. The Psychological Profile of Involuntary Celibates (April 2022) Talk presented as a data blitz at the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society conference, Pittsburgh.
- Costello, W. The Psychological Profile of Involuntary Celibates (April 2022) Talk presented as a data blitz at the European Human Behavior and Evolution Association, online.
- Costello, W., Rolon, V. The Psychological Profile of Involuntary Celibates (April 2022) Talk presented at the British Society for the Psychology of Individual Differences, Nottingham.
- Costello, W., The Psychological Profile of Involuntary Celibates (December 2021) Counter Extremism Conference, London, U.K.
- Costello, W., The Psychological Profile of Involuntary Celibates (February 2022) talk presented as a data blitz at the Sexuality Pre-conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology

### **Symposia**

#### ***Mind The Gap: Cross-Sex Theory of Mind – HBES, 2023***

- Costello, W., Baca, P., Hahnel-Peeters, R. K., Schmitt, D. P., & Buss, D. M. Adaptive Errors, and Accuracies: Sex Differences in Cross-Sex Mind-Reading of Sexual Desires. (June 2023). Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society's annual conference, Palm Springs, CA.

Buss, D. M., Baca, P., Costello, W., Hahnel-Peeters, R. K., & Schmitt, D. P. Do Mind Reading Adaptations Possess Sex-Differentiated Design Features? (June 2023). Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society's annual conference, Palm Springs, CA.

Hahnel-Peeters, R. K., Baca, P., Costello, W., Schmitt, D. P., & Buss, D. M. Perceptions of Psychological Pain Following Sexual Victimization: Errors in Cross-Sex Mind-Reading. (June 2023). Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society's annual conference, Palm Springs, CA.

Baca, P., Costello, W., Hahnel-Peeters, R. K., Schmitt, D. P., & Buss, D. M. Uncovering the Individual Differences in Men and Women's Theory of Mind in Mating Psychology. (June 2023). Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society's annual conference, Palm Springs, CA.

### **Poster presentations**

Costello, W. (August 2023) The Social Networking of Incels (August 2023) International Academy of Sex Researchers conference, Montréal, Canada.

Costello, W. The Social Networking of Incels (May 2023) Human Behavior and Evolution Society's annual conference, Palm Springs, CA.

Costello, W. Levels of Wellbeing and Mating Psychology of Involuntary Celibates (Incels) (February 2023) Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta.

Costello, W. Modern mating markets, misogyny, and the involuntary celibacy (incel) movement (July 2022) International Academy of Sex Researchers Conference, Reykjavik.

Costello, W. Moral Typecasting and Gamma bias may Blind us to Sexually Exploitative Female Mating Strategies (June 2021) British Psychological Society Male Psychology Conference

Costello, W. Moral Typecasting and Gamma bias may Blind us to Sexually Exploitative Female Mating Strategies (2021) Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, online.

Costello, W. WEIRD Cultural Norms Evoke Mating Strategies that Facilitate Effective Polygyny (2021) British Psychological Society Male Psychology Conference, online. 5

Costello, W. WEIRD Cultural Norms Evoke Mating Strategies that Facilitate Effective Polygyny (2021) Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society Conference, online.

Costello, W. WEIRD Cultural Norms Evoke Mating Strategies that Facilitate Effective Polygyny (2021) University of Stirling Evolutionary Perspectives on Culture Conference.

## **Teaching Experience**

- 2024 – Teaching assistant for Dr. Laretta Reeves’ Infant Development class – University of Texas at Austin
- 2023 – Guest lecture on The Evolution of Morality for the Cognitive Science of Religion undergraduate class at the University of Texas at Austin
- 2023 – Teaching assistant for Dr. Cristine Legare’s Cognitive Science of Religion class at the University of Texas at Austin
- 2023 – Guest lecture on Evolutionary Psychology and Incels for the Biological Anthropology undergraduate class at Dartmouth University
- 2023 – Co-lecture alongside Dr. David Buss on the topic of Mate Competition for the Intro to Human Sexuality class at the University of Texas at Austin
- 2023 – Co-lecture alongside Dr. David Buss on the topic of Sexual Orientation for the Intro to Human Sexuality class at the University of Texas at Austin
- 2023 – Guest lecture on The Psychology of Incels for the University of Washington
- 2023 – Teaching assistant for Dr. David Buss and Dr. Cindy Meston’s Intro to Human Sexuality class – University of Texas at Austin
- 2022 – Guest lecture on The Psychology of Incels for Kings College London
- 2022 – Guest lecture on the The Evolutionary Psychology of how Infants Invented Humanity for the Infant Development class at the University of Texas at Austin
- 2022 – Teaching assistant for Dr. Laretta Reeves’ Infant Development course - University of Texas at Austin
- 2022 – Helped design and deliver a new Evolutionary Perspectives on Romantic Relationships module - Swansea University
- 2021 – Guest lecture on The Psychology of Incels for the Evolutionary Psychology class – SUNY New Paltz

## **Research Experience**

- 2022 – Buss Lab – University of Texas at Austin
- 2022/2023 – Honorary Research Assistant – Swansea University
- 2020/2021 – Personality and Culture Lab – Brunel University London

2020/2021 – Visiting Researcher at the Evolutionary Psychology lab – SUNY New Paltz

## **Popular Podcast Appearances**

The Mikayla Peterson Podcast. (October 2022). Everything you Need to Know About Incels. [Video]

The Sex and Psychology Podcast. (September 2022). Inside the Minds of Incels. [Audio]

Modern Wisdom. (September 2022). Everything you Know About Incels is Wrong. [Video]

TriggerNometry. (August 2022). The Truth About Incels. [Video].

The Dissenter. (August 2022). The Psychology of Involuntary Celibates and Modern Mating Psychology. [Video]

Ayn Rand Centre UK. (August 2021) Choice, Evolution & Human Behaviour | Yaron Brook Debates William Costello [Video]

## **Journal Refereeing Experience**

Culture and Evolution,

Journal of Online Trust and Safety

Personality and Individual Differences

Evolutionary Psychological Science

Journal of Sex Research

Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences

Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences

Evolution and Human Behavior

EvoS Consortium Journal

## **Research Coverage in Media**

**Magazine coverage:** PsyPost, Psychology Today, Forbes.

**News coverage:** The Daily Texan, CNN, FOX News (Memphis), BBC.

## **Professional Affiliations**

Academic-Practitioner Counter Extremism Network (APCEN).

Human Behavior and Evolution Society

BPS (British Psychological Society)

APA (American Psychological Association)

British Psychological Society Male Psychology Section

Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS)

International Academy of Sex Researchers (IASR)

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)