Emerging Scholar Best Article Award, 2018

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The editors of the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* are very pleased to announce the 2018 recipient of its *Emerging Scholar Best Article Award*. This award goes to the article's lead author, who must be an "emerging scholar" (i.e., an untenured researcher, such as a graduate student, post-doctoral scholar, research scientist, or assistant professor) at the time their manuscript was accepted. The recipient of the award is selected by editorial board members who evaluate a volume's manuscripts on the basis of their innovative and substantive contributions to the empirical understanding of adolescence. In addition to receiving the recognition from colleagues, the winner receives a financial award generously provided by Springer, the journal's publisher.

The 2018 winner is Stephanie Plenty, for her article entitled "Social Exclusion among Peers: The Role of Immigrant Status and Classroom Immigrant Density" (Plenty & Jonsson, 2017). Dr. Plenty is an assistant professor at the Institute for Future Studies and at the Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University, Sweden. Her research interests include social relationships and social integration in relation to adolescent well-being and positive development. Her co-author, Jan O. Jonsson, is an Official Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford University, and Professor of Sociology at the Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University and also affiliated with the Institute for Futures Studies. Among his research interests are social stratification, the welfare and living conditions of children and youth, and ethnic integration.

Plenty and Jonsson's study addressed a pressing concern facing many countries experiencing increased immigration, school ethnic segregation, and the need to effectively integrate minority students. To do so, they examined the role of immigrant status in social exclusion and the moderating effect of classroom immigrant density among Swedish 14–

15-year olds ($n = 4795$, 51% females). Unlike prior research, their models of exclusion studied multiple outcomes: victimization, isolation, and rejection. They found that students with immigrant backgrounds were rejected more than majority youth and that first generation non-European immigrants were more isolated. Importantly, their study revealed that immigrants generally experienced more social exclusion in immigrant sparse than immigrant dense classrooms, and victimization increased with higher immigrant density for majority youth. The findings demonstrate that, in addition to victimization, subtle forms of exclusion may impede the social integration of immigrant youth. This line of research, along with others that focus on other forms of exclusion including those relating to one's identity (e.g., gender identity, Wernick et al. 2017) or one's actions (e.g., exclusions from school, e.g., Obsuth et al. 2017) has become one of the most important areas of youth research and policy (see Levesque 2015a, 2017a) of our time.

The journal's editors view receiving the award as a considerably distinctive accomplishment. The journal publishes 12 issues per year, each typically containing about 16 manuscripts. In addition, it is notable that, every year, fewer and fewer first authors are emerging scholars. Although fewer emerging scholars qualify to be considered, this shift in authorship has not reduced the competitiveness of the award. In fact, these developments actually make the process even more competitive for emerging scholars, as they have increased competition to get published in the first place.

The selection process resulted in a pool of very impressive articles. This is similar to prior years (see Levesque 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015b, 2016, 2017b). Unlike prior years, however, there appears to be much less variation in the range of topics that emerged. In fact, all of the articles selected from each journal issue are notable for their focus on relationships and their influence on development. They did so by focusing on emotional wellbeing (Oshri et al 2017; Schäfer et al 2017; Coelho et al. 2017; Bluth et al 2017), economic adversity (Nieuwenhuis et al. 2017; Ng-Knight and Schoon 2017), peer interactions (Shin

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2017), sexual partners (Rossi et al. 2017), justice system involvement (Wolff et al. 2017) and schooling (Amemiya and Wang 2017; Geven et al. 2017).

On behalf of the journal's editorial board, I would like to congratulate Dr. Stephanie Plenty and her colleague, Professor Jan O. Jonsson. Their recognition comes at a remarkable time in the growth of our journal and field as well as in our rapidly changing world.

Compliance with Ethical Standards

Conflict of Interest The author declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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