

# **Roberto (Robert) López Jr.**

## *Curriculum Vitae*

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### **Academic Appointments**

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- 2025 – Present    **Texas State University** – San Marcos, TX  
Assistant Professor (tenure-track)  
Department of Psychology
- 2023 – 2025    **University of California, Los Angeles** – Los Angeles, CA  
Postdoctoral Scholar  
Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences

### **Education**

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- 2022 – 2023    **University of California, Davis** – Sacramento, CA  
Predoctoral Intern (APA Accredited)  
Department of Pediatrics
- 2017 – 2023    **George Mason University** – Fairfax, VA  
Ph.D. – Clinical Psychology (Quantitative Track; APA Accredited)
- 2017 – 2019    M.A. – Clinical Psychology
- 2013    **University of Cambridge** – Cambridge, UK  
Harvard Summer Study Abroad Program
- 2010 – 2014    **Harvard University** – Cambridge, MA  
B.A. – Psychology (cum laude)  
Minor – History of Science

### **Professional Licenses**

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- 2025 – Present    **Licensed Psychologist**  
CA License # 36171 (active)

### **Grants**

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- 2021    **American Psychological Foundation & Council of Graduate  
Departments of Psychology: Peter and Malina James & Dr. Louis P.  
James Legacy Scholarship**  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Status: Funded (\$5,000)

- 2021                    **Association for Psychological Science Student Grant Competition**  
                             Role: Principal Investigator  
                             Status: Funded (\$500)
- 2021                    **American Psychological Association of Graduate Students Psychological  
 Science Research Grant – Diversity**  
                             Role: Principal Investigator  
                             Status: Funded (\$1,000)
- 2019                    **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program**  
                             Role: Principal Investigator  
                             Status: Honorable Mention

### **Honors & Awards**

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- 2024                    Psi Chi Unrestricted Travel Grant (*Amount:* \$1,368)
- 2023                    American Psychological Association Research Grant for Psychology Students  
 and Recently Graduated Psychologists of Color (\$750)
- 2022                    Beck Institute for Cognitive Behavior Therapy Training Scholarship (\$300)
- 2022                    George Mason University Dean’s Challenge Award (\$6,000)
- 2022                    George Mason University Three Minute Thesis (3MT<sup>®</sup>) Finalist (\$100)
- 2021                    George Mason University Departmental Dissertation Award (\$400)
- 2021                    Association for Psychological Science Student Registration Award (\$50)
- 2021                    George Mason University Summer Research Fellowship (\$7,000)
- 2021                    Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology Travel Award (\$300)
- 2019, ‘20, ‘21        Society for Multivariate Experimental Psychology Underrepresented Student  
 Workshop Award (\$2,495)
- 2019                    George Mason University Diversity Advancement Award (\$1,600)
- 2018                    George Mason University Summer Research Grant (\$2,000)
- 2017, ‘19, ‘21, ‘22    George Mason University Graduate Student Travel Award (\$1,000)
- 2016                    Northwestern University Travel Grant (\$600)
- 2013                    David Rockefeller International Experience Grant (\$1,200)
- 2010 – 2014         Gates Millennium Scholarship (\$11,000)
- 2010                    Sam Walton Community Scholarship (\$2,000)

## Publications

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† = mentee; \* = joint first author

### Peer-Reviewed ( $N = 24$ )

- López Jr., R.**, Meza, J., Asarnow, L. D., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2025). Implicit identification with death and adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors: Sleep quality as a moderator. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15374416.2025.2541349>
- López Jr., R.**, Esposito-Smythers, C., Lee, P., Leichtweis, R. N., & Miller, I. W. (2025). Psychometric properties of the Modified Scale for Suicidal Ideation Self-Report-Revised with high-risk adolescents. *Behavior Therapy*, *56*(2), 409-421. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beth.2024.07.004>
- López Jr., R.**, & Asarnow, J. R. (2024). *Firearms and suicide risk: Implications for preventing mortality and morbidity among California's youth* [Policy brief]. UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/our-work/publications/youth-firearms-and-suicide-risk-2024>
- López Jr., R.**, & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024). Problem orientation as a moderator of the relation between discrimination and passive suicidal ideation. *Journal of Affective Disorders Reports*, *17*, 100792. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadr.2024.100792>
- López Jr., R.**, Esposito-Smythers, C., Defayette, A. B., Harris, K. D., Seibel, L., & Whitmyre, E. D. (2024). Relations between discrimination, rejection sensitivity, negative affect, and decrements in problem-solving ability following social rejection: An experimental investigation. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, *54*(2), 233-249. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sltb.13036>
- López Jr., R.**, Harris, K. M., Seibel, L., Thomas, S. C., Leichtweis, R. N., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024). Trajectories of adolescent suicidal ideation and depressive symptom severity during a partial hospital program: Clinical and demographic characteristics as predictors of change. *Psychological Services*, *21*(3), 444-453. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ser0000796>
- López Jr., R.**, Turnamian, M. R., & Liu, R. T. (2024). Prospective relations between life stress, emotional clarity, and suicidal ideation in an adolescent clinical sample. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, *53*(6), 944-957. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15374416.2024.2344735>
- Seibel, L., Harris, K. M., **López Jr., R.**, Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024). Perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness as mediators of the relation between anxiety and suicidal ideation among adolescents. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, *54*(6), 914-924. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sltb.13094>

- Whitmyre, E. D., Esposito-Smythers, C., **López Jr., R.**, Goldberg, D. G., Liu, F., & Defayette, A. B. (2024). Implementation of measurement-based care in mental health service settings for youth: A systematic review. *Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review*, 27, 909-942. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10567-024-00498-z>
- Whitmyre, E. D., Esposito-Smythers, C., Goldberg, D. G., Defayette, A. B., & **López Jr., R.** (2024). Impact of a virtual suicide safety planning training on clinician knowledge, self-efficacy, and use of a safety plans in community mental health clinics. *Archives of Suicide Research*, 28(1), 428-437. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13811118.2023.2183163>
- Defayette, A. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., Cero, I., Kleiman, E. M., **López Jr., R.**, Harris, K. M., & Whitmyre, E. D. (2023). Examination of proinflammatory activity as a moderator of the relation between momentary interpersonal stress and suicidal ideation. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 53(6), 922-939. <http://doi.org/10.1111/sltb.12993>
- Defayette, A. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., Cero, I., Whitmyre, E. D., Harris, K. M., & **López Jr., R.** (2023). Interpersonal stress and proinflammatory activity in emerging adults with a history of suicide risk: A pilot study. *Journal of Mood & Anxiety Disorders*, 2, 100016. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xjmad.2023.100016>
- López Jr., R.**, Esposito-Smythers, C., Defayette, A. B., Harris, K. M., Seibel, L. F., & Whitmyre, E. D. (2023). Facets of social problem-solving as moderators of the real-time relation between social rejection and negative affect in an at-risk sample. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 169, 104398. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.brat.2023.104398>
- López Jr., R.**, Maultsby, K., Seibel, L. F., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023). Fluidity of sexual orientation and factors that influence suicide among youth and young adults: A narrative review of longitudinal studies. *the Behavior Therapist*, 46(1), 16-23. <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.20913.66405/1>
- Maultsby, K., **López Jr., R.**, Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023). Longitudinal relations between parenting practices and adolescent suicidal ideation in a high-risk clinical sample: A moderated mediation model. *Research on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology*, 51, 613–623. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10802-022-01018-9>
- \*Poon, J., \***López Jr., R.**, Marie-Shae, L., & Liu, R. T. (2023). Longitudinal relations between childhood maltreatment, emotion regulation difficulties, and suicidal ideation and non-suicidal self-injury: An 18-month investigation of high-risk adolescents. *Research on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology*, 51, 1315–1326. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10802-023-01067-8>
- Whitmyre, E. D., Esposito-Smythers, C., Goldberg, D. G., Scalzo, G., Defayette, A. B., & **López Jr., R.** (2023). Implementation of an electronic safety plan within a measurement feedback system. *Evidence-Based Practice in Child & Adolescent Mental Health*, 8(4), 541-548. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23794925.2022.2081946>

- López Jr., R.**, Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Williams, C. A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022). Posttraumatic stress disorder symptom clusters, suicidal ideation, and social support in a clinical adolescent sample. *Death Studies*, *46*(8), 1814-1822. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07481187.2020.1852629>
- \***López Jr., R.**, \*Gonçalves, S. F., Poon, J. A., Ansell, E. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., & Chaplin, T. M. (2022). Sexual identity and its association with trajectories of depressive symptoms and emotion regulation difficulties from early to middle adolescence. *Child Psychiatry & Human Development*, *53*, 1062-1074. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10578-021-01188-5>
- López Jr., R.**, Maultsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022). A prospective investigation of the relation between dysfunctional family communication and suicidal ideation severity in a clinical adolescent sample: A serial mediation model. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, *310*, 241-248. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2022.05.021>
- Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., **López Jr., R.**, Brown, B., Wolff, J. C., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021). Adolescent depressed mood and difficulties with emotion regulation: Concurrent trajectories of change. *Journal of Adolescence*, *91*, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2021.07.001>
- Gonçalves, S. F., Chaplin, T. M., **López Jr., R.**, Regalarío, I. M., McKnight, P. E., Stults-Kolehmainen, M., Sinha, R., & Ansel, E. B. (2021). High frequency heart rate variability and emotion-driven impulse control difficulties during adolescence: Examining experienced and expressed negative emotion as moderators. *Journal of Early Adolescence*, *41*(8), 1151-1176. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0272431620983453>
- López Jr., R.**, †Follet, L., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E.D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021). Depression-related emotional problems mediate the relation between hopelessness and suicidal ideation severity. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, *77*(12), 2978-2993. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jclp.23236>
- López Jr., R.**, Brick, L. A., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E.D., Wolff, J., Frazier, E., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2020). Depressive symptom severity mediates the association between avoidant problem-solving style and suicidal ideation. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, *274*, 662-670. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2020.05.120>
- Book Chapters (N = 1)
- Esposito-Smythers, C., Whitmyre, E. D., Defayette, A. B., **López Jr., R.**, Maultsby, K. D., & Spirito, A. (2022). Suicide and suicide attempts during adolescence. In G. Asmundson (Ed.), *Comprehensive clinical psychology* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Vol. 5, pp. 376-394). Elsevier. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-818697-8.00059-5>

Under Review and Invited Resubmissions (*N* = 4)

Asarnow, J. R., Goldston, D., Spirito, A., Keeshin, B., Miller, I., Belin, T., Ahmadi, N., Meza, J. I., Carlisle, C., Cheek, S., Chung, B., Comulada, W. S., Garcia, R. E., Garrett, C., Gaudiano, B., Giles, L., Jones, F., **López Jr., R.**, Wells, K., & Zullo, L. (Under review). Safe Treatment for Emergency Presentation for Suicidal ideation and behavior (SAFE STEPS): Protocol for randomized controlled trial.

Hindmarch, G. M., Meza, J. I., **López Jr., R.**, Padilla-Frausto, I., Asarnow, J. R., & Eisenberg, D. (Revise & resubmit). Worrying about firearm violence among adolescents in California: Associations with psychological distress, suicide ideation, and sociodemographic factors.

**López Jr., R.**, Ellis, A. J., Henson, V., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (Under review). The Mirror Tracing Persistence Task: An indicator of future adolescent suicide risk?

**López Jr., R.**, Shepherd, B. F., & Brochu, P. (Under review). Heterosexist discrimination and prospective self-harm among sexual minority men: A moderated mediation model.

In Preparation (*N* = 6)

Esposito-Smythers, C., Wolff, J., **López Jr., R.**, Adams, L., & Spirito, A. (In preparation). Youth-specific predictors and moderators of adolescent suicidality in a randomized trial comparing a family-focused cognitive-behavioral intervention to enhanced treatment-as-usual.

Esposito-Smythers, C., Wolff, J., **López Jr., R.**, Adams, L., & Spirito, A. (In preparation). Family-specific predictors and moderators of adolescent suicidality in a randomized trial comparing a family-focused cognitive-behavioral intervention to enhanced treatment-as-usual.

**López Jr., R.**, Adams, L., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C., (In preparation). Predictors and moderators of non-suicidal self-injury in a randomized trial comparing a family-focused cognitive-behavioral treatment for depressed adolescents in suicidal crisis.

**López Jr., R.**, Chodzen, G., Alvarez, A. A., Henson, V., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (In preparation). Parental psychopathology change mechanisms in a randomized controlled trial of dialectical behavior therapy for suicidal adolescents.

**López Jr., R.**, Alvarez, A. A., Bai, S., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (In preparation). Assessing sleep among adolescents at high risk for suicide: What measure to use?

**López Jr., R.**, Tompson, M. C., Langer, D. A. & Asarnow, J. R., (In preparation). Childhood-onset depression: Treatment response as a protective mechanism for self-injurious thoughts and behaviors.

Popular Media (N = 2)

**López Jr., R.** (2024, April 23). Parallel paths. *The New York Times*.  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/23/style/tiny-modern-love-stories-the-problem-was-he-smelled-really-good.html>

**López Jr., R.** (2023, December 26). A new view from the shore. *The New York Times*.  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/26/style/tiny-modern-love-stories-my-first-post-divorce-christmas.html>

**Conference Presentations**

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† = mentee; ‡ = discussant; \* = sponsored by the ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group

Symposia & Oral Presentations (N = 22)

**López Jr., R.**, Adams, L., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2026, June 25-26). Predictors and moderators of non-suicidal self-injury in a randomized trial of family-focused cognitive-behavioral treatment for depressed adolescents in suicidal crisis. The International Society for the Study of Self-Injury (ISSS) 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.

Chodzen, G. N., & Bowers, G. (2025, November 20-23). ‡*Socio-ecological perspectives on assessing and intervening on barriers to psychological treatment among diverse adolescents and young adults*. Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

**López Jr., R.**, & Shepherd, B. F. (2025, November 20-23). Heterosexist discrimination and prospective self-harm among sexual minority men: A moderated mediation model\*. In **López Jr., R.** (Moderator), *Minority stress mechanisms and psychological outcomes*. ABCT 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

**López Jr., R.**, Meza, J. I., Asarnow, L. D., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2025, November 8-11). Implicit identification with death and adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors: Sleep quality as a moderator. In *Suicide risk, resilience, and support strategies*. International Academy of Suicide Research (IASR)/American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP) 2025 International Summit on Suicide Research, Boston, MA, United States.

**López Jr., R.**, & Asarnow, J. R. (2025, May 17). Firearms and youth suicide: Identifying and addressing risk. UCLA Interdisciplinary Conference on Gun Violence Reduction. Los Angeles, CA.

- López Jr., R.**, Ellis, A. J., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2025, April 23-25). A laboratory-based assessment of emotion regulation and prospective risk for adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors. Suicide Research Symposium (SRS) 2025. Virtual conference.
- López Jr., R.** (Chair) (2024, November 14-17). *Identifying, and addressing, suicide risk across adolescence and adulthood* \*. ABCT 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- López Jr., R.**, & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024, November 14-17). Relations between sexual orientation, depressive symptom severity, and suicidal ideation: Preliminary results from an ecological momentary assessment study. In Shepherd, B. F. & Tang, M. (Chairs), *Minority stress and mental health among LGBTQ+ persons across the lifespan: A longitudinal, developmentally informed approach*. ABCT 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- Shepherd, B. F., **López Jr., R.**, Mensinger, J. L., & Brochu, P. M. (2024, November 14-17). Fearing judgement from outside and within: Increases in heterosexist stigma and intraminority stigma predict increases in social anxiety symptom severity over time among gay and bi+ men. In Shepherd, B. F. & Tang, M. (Chairs), *Minority stress and mental health among LGBTQ+ persons across the lifespan: A longitudinal, developmentally informed approach*. ABCT 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- Shepherd, B. F., **López Jr., R.**, Mensinger, J. L., & Brochu, P. M. (2024, November 14-17). A strengths-based, intersectional analysis of general belongingness and status as moderators of the association between community-specific belongingness and perceived stress among gay and bi+ men. In Shepherd, B. F. (Chair). *Diverse pathways to stigma resistance among LGBTQ+ persons: A strengths-based approach to addressing mental health inequities*. ABCT 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- López Jr., R.**, & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024, April 17-19). Predictors and moderators of real-time social rejection severity among a diverse, young adult sample. SRS 2024. Virtual conference.
- López Jr., R.**, & Liu, R. T. (2023, November 16-19). Relations between negative urgency, interpersonal problems, and non-suicidal self-injury: An 18-month investigation with high-risk youth. In **López Jr., R.** (Chair), *Longitudinal predictors of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among clinical populations across the lifespan* \*. ABCT 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

- López Jr., R.**, Maultsby, K., Seibel, L., Esposito-Smythers, C., & Leichtweis, R. N. (2023, November 16-19). Trajectories of adolescent suicidal ideation and depressive symptom severity during a partial hospital program: Clinical and demographic characteristics as predictors of change. In **López Jr., R.** (Chair), *Longitudinal predictors of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among clinical populations across the lifespan* \*. ABCT 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.
- Seibel, L., Maultsby, K., **López Jr., R.**, Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023, November 16-19). Adolescent social and generalized anxiety disorder symptoms as predictors of suicidal ideation: Longitudinal mediation modeling. In **López Jr., R.** (Chair), *Longitudinal predictors of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among clinical populations across the lifespan* \*. ABCT 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.
- Esposito-Smythers, C., Wolff, J., **López Jr., R.**, Adams, L., Fischer, S., & Spirito, A. (2023, October 15-18). Moderators of adolescent suicidal ideation severity in a randomized controlled trial comparing a cognitive-behavioral intervention to enhanced treatment-as-usual. In *Changing the Mind of a Person at Risk*. IASR/AFSP 2023 International Summit on Suicide Research, Barcelona, Spain.
- Defayette, A. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., Cero, I., Maultsby, K. D., Whitmyre, E., & **López Jr., R.** (2023, April 26-28). Interpersonal stress and the proinflammatory response in emerging adults with a history of suicide risk: A pilot study. SRS 2023. Virtual conference.
- López Jr., R.**, & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023, April 26-28). Social problem-solving deficits as moderators of the real-time relation between social rejection and negative affect. SRS 2023. Virtual conference.
- López Jr., R.**, Maultsby, K., Seibel, L., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). Observer rated family problem-solving moderates the relation between adolescent depressive symptoms and suicidal ideation. In **López Jr., R.**, & Esposito-Smythers, C. (Chairs), *Prospective risk for self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among vulnerable populations across the lifespan*. ABCT 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New York, NY.
- Poon, J., **López Jr., R.**, Shea, L., & Liu, R. T. (2022, November 17-20). Relations between trauma, emotion regulation difficulties, and self-injurious thoughts and behaviors: An 18-month prospective study of high-risk adolescents. In **López Jr., R.**, & Esposito-Smythers, C. (Chairs), *Prospective risk for self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among vulnerable populations across the lifespan*. ABCT 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New York, NY.

**López Jr., R.**, Seibel, L., Maultsby, K., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers. (2022, June 3). The protective role of positive recognition in the relation between NSSI versatility and suicidal ideation. In Hamilton, J. (Chair), *Strengths-based approaches in youth suicide research*. Youth Suicide Research Consortium (YSRC) Third National Virtual Conference.

**López Jr., R.**, Brick, L. A., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E.D., Wolff, J., Frazier, E., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2020, November 19–22). Depressive symptom severity mediates the association between avoidant problem-solving style and suicidal ideation. In **R. López Jr.**, & C. Esposito-Smythers (Chairs), *The impact of social factors on the onset and maintenance of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors* \*. ABCT 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Virtual Convention.

**López Jr., R.**, Gonçalves, S. F., Esposito-Smythers, C., & Chaplin, T. M. (2020, November 19–22). Associations between self-identified sexual orientation and trajectories of emotion dysregulation and depressive symptoms from early to middle adolescence. In **R. López Jr.**, & C. Esposito-Smythers (Chairs), *An examination of the psychological mediation framework and its relation to self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among LGBTQ individuals from early adolescence to adulthood*. ABCT 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Virtual Convention.

#### Select Poster Presentations (N = 51)

Shepherd, B. F., **López Jr., R.**, & Pachankis, J. (2025, November 20-23). *Too this, too that: A longitudinal exploration of dating app use, intraminority stigma, and HIV/STI-transmission-risk behavior among gay and bi+ men across the lifespan*. ABCT 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

†Alvarez, A., Qi, R., Nguyen. P. T., **López Jr., R.**, Meza, J. I. (2025, April 23-25). *Emotional resilience moderates the association between financial stress and suicide outcomes in college students*. SRS 2025. Virtual conference.

Qi, R., †Alvarez, A., Nguyen. P. T., **López Jr., R.**, Meza, J. I. (2025, April 23-25). *Regional variations in self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among sexual and gender minorities*. SRS 2025. Virtual conference.

†Alvarez, A., **López Jr., R.**, & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024, November 14-17). *Problem-solving deficits moderate the association between current and future suicidal ideation*. ABCT 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

**López Jr., R.**, & CARES Team (2024, November 14-17). *Longitudinal relations between perceived stress, emotion reactivity, and adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors*. ABCT 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

**López Jr., R.**, Turnamian, M. R., & Liu, R. T. (2023, November 16-19). *Prospective relations between life stress, emotional clarity, and suicidal ideation in an adolescent clinical sample*. 2023 ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group Exposition.

- López Jr., R.,** Esposito-Smythers, C., Lee, P., Leichtweis, R. N., & Miller, I. W. (2023, November 16-19). *Psychometric properties of the Modified Scale for Suicidal Ideation-Self-Report with high-risk adolescents*. ABCT 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.
- López Jr., R.,** & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023, October 15-18). *Real-time relations between social rejection, meaning in life, and suicidal ideation severity among at-risk sexual minority and heterosexual young adults: A moderated mediation model*. IASR/AFSP 2023 International Summit on Suicide Research, Barcelona, Spain.
- López Jr., R.,** & Liu, R. T. (2023, October 15-18). *Proxies of acquired capability as predictors of recurrent suicide attempts among high-risk adolescents: An 18-month investigation*. IASR/AFSP 2023 International Summit on Suicide Research, Barcelona, Spain.
- López Jr., R.,** & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). *Relations between discrimination, rejection sensitivity, and decrements in problem-solving ability following social rejection: An experimental investigation*. 2022 ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group Poster Exposition, New York, NY.
- López Jr., R.,** & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). *The influence of social problem-solving orientation on the relation between lifetime discrimination and past month passive suicidal ideation in a diverse, young adult sample*. ABCT 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New York, NY.
- López Jr., R.,** & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). *Preliminary evidence for a psychosocial model of the relation between discrimination and passive suicidal ideation in a diverse, nonclinical sample*. ABCT 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New York, NY.
- López Jr., R.,** Maultsby, K., Seibel, L. F., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, August). *The prospective relation between childhood emotional maltreatment and adolescent suicidal ideation severity: A moderated mediation model*. 6<sup>th</sup> Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (JCCAP) Virtual Future Directions Forum.
- López Jr., R.,** Maultsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, November 18–21). *A prospective investigation of the relation between dysfunctional family communication and suicidal ideation severity in a clinical adolescent sample: A serial mediation model*. 2021 ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group Virtual Exposition.
- López Jr., R.,** Maultsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, October 24–27). *A longitudinal, multi-informant study of the relation between family affective responsiveness, sexual identity, and suicidal ideation in an adolescent clinical sample*. IASR/AFSP International Virtual Summit on Suicide Research.

- López Jr., R.**, Maulsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, June 17–19). *Past month engagement in non-suicidal self-injury predicts changes in suicidal ideation severity over 18 months following psychiatric hospitalization in a treatment-seeking adolescent sample*. 5<sup>th</sup> JCCAP Virtual Future Directions Forum.
- López Jr., R.**, Defayette, A. B., Maulsby, K., Whitmyre, E. D., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, May 26–27). *A multimethod investigation of the relation between minority stress and suicide risk among sexual minority youth*. Association for Psychological Science (APS) 2021 Virtual Convention.
- López Jr., R.**, Gonçalves, S., & Chaplin, T. M. (2020, November 19–22). *Differences in physiological and psychological indices of emotion regulation between sexual minority and heterosexual youth*. ABCT 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- López Jr., R.**, †Follet, L., Whitmyre, E. D., Defayette, A. B., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2020, June 12–13). *Depression-related emotional problems mediate the association between hopelessness and suicidal ideation severity*. JCCAP 4<sup>th</sup> Future Directions Forum, Washington, D.C.
- López Jr., R.**, Williams, C. A., †Franks, H., Leichtweis, R., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2019, June 28–29). *The impact of measurement-based care on key clinical outcomes within a partial hospital setting*. JCCAP 3<sup>rd</sup> Future Directions Forum, Washington, D.C.
- López Jr., R.**, Williams, C. A., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., †Franks, H., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2019, May 24–25). *Concurrent relationships between childhood maltreatment, suicidality, and social problem-solving abilities in a clinical adolescent sample*. APS 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.
- López Jr., R.**, Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Williams, C. A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2018, November 15–18). *PTSD symptom clusters, suicidal ideation, and social support in a clinical adolescent sample*. ABCT 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.
- †Clark, J., Esposito-Smythers, C., **López Jr., R.**, Whitmyre, E. D., Defayette, A. B., & Williams, C. A. (2018, April 27). *The role of peer-relationship trauma in the association between exposure to domestic violence and suicidality*. George Mason University's Undergraduate Honors Research Symposium, Fairfax, VA.
- López Jr., R.**, Randall, A., Sorgi, K., Rabasco, A., Schatten, H., Miller, I., & Armeiy, M. (2017, June 23–24). *The impact of non-suicidal self-injury versatility on suicidality*. International Society for the Study of Self-Injury (ISSS) 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

## Teaching Experience

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- 2025 – Present    **Instructor of Record**  
Department of Psychology  
Texas State University (San Marcos, TX)  
Term: Spring 2025  
Course 1: Psychological Therapies (PSY 5352)  
Student population: Masters level  
Overall rating: *Not yet available*
- Term: Fall 2025  
Course 1: Psychological Therapies (PSY 5352)  
Student population: Masters level  
Overall rating:  $M = 4.61$  (range = 1-5) \*  
\* Composite score derived from ratings of instructor effectiveness & course quality
- 2023 – 2025    **Clinical Instructor**  
David Geffen School of Medicine  
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)  
Didactic: Dialectical Behavior Therapy in Outpatient Settings  
Student population: Medical residents & fellows  
Overall rating:  $M = 6.83$  (range = 1-7) \*  
\*Question: How does this teacher compare with other clinical teachers you have had at UCLA (1 = “Among the very worst” to 7 = “Among the very best”)?
- 2021    **Psychology Extern**  
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
Children’s National Hospital (Washington, D.C.)  
Didactic: Dialectical Behavior Therapy for Adolescents  
Student population: Medical students/residents/fellows & unit staff  
Overall rating:  $M = 4.00$  (range = 0-4) \*  
\*Competency domain (as assessed by supervisor): Providing instruction, disseminating knowledge, and evaluating acquisition of knowledge/skills in professional psychology (0 = “Not at all/slightly ready for internship” to 4 = “Very ready for internship”)
- 2017 – 2018    **Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)  
Term: Spring 2018  
Course 1: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 203  
Student population: Undergraduate level  
Overall rating:  $M = 5.00$  (range = 1-5) \*

Course 2: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 204  
Student population: Undergraduates  
Overall rating:  $M = 5.00$  (range = 1-5) \*

Term: Fall 2017

Course 1: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 204  
Student population: Undergraduate level  
Overall rating:  $M = 4.91$  (range = 1-5) \*

Course 2: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 210  
Student population: Undergraduates  
Overall rating:  $M = 5.00$  (range = 1-5) \*

\*Question: My overall rating of the teaching (1 = “Poor” to 5 = “Excellent”)

2012 – 2020

**Private Tutor**

WyzAnt, Inc. (Chicago, IL)

Topics: Statistics, Clinical/General Psychology, English, etc.

Student population: Middle school to graduate level students

Overall rating:  $M = 4.90$  (range = 1-5 stars)

**Pre-Doctoral Research Experience**

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2017 – 2023

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Laboratory for Adolescent Mental Health Promotion

George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

Supervisor: Christianne Esposito-Smythers, Ph.D.

2018

**Field Interviewer**

Data Science, Surveys, & Enabling Technologies (DSET)

ABT Global (Rockville, MD)

Supervisors: Karen Jarvis, Ana Socarras, & Christopher Hansen, Ph.D.

2015 – 2017

**Research Assistant**

Psychosocial Research Program

Butler Hospital & Brown University (Providence, RI)

Supervisors: Michael Armev, Ph.D., & Heather Schatten, Ph.D.

2014 – 2015

**Volunteer Research Assistant**

Multicultural Clinical Laboratory

University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (Edinburg, TX)

Supervisor: Alfonso Mercado, Ph.D.

2012 – 2014      **Volunteer Research Assistant**  
Nock Laboratory  
Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)  
Supervisors: Alexander Miller, Ph.D., & Catherine R. Glenn, Ph.D.

### **Specialized Research Methods Training**

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2022              **Intensive Longitudinal Data: A Dynamic Structural Equation Modeling Perspective**  
American Psychological Association (Webinar)

2022              **Concepts and Considerations in EMA Research for Suicide Prevention**  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention & International Academy of Suicide Research (Webinar)

2022              **Analyzing Intensive Longitudinal Data**  
The Center for Statistical Training (Webinar)

2022              **Recent Advances in Modeling Short and Long Longitudinal Data**  
American Statistical Association (Webinar)

2021              **Analysis of Intensive Longitudinal Data: Experience Sampling and Ecological Momentary Assessment**  
APA’s Advanced Training Institute (Webinar)

2021              **Multilevel Modeling: A Secondary Course**  
Statistical Horizons (Webinar)

2020              **Applied Latent Class Analysis & Finite Mixture Modeling**  
Stats Camp (Webinar)

2019              **SEM with Mplus**  
Stats Camp (Albuquerque, NM)

### **Clinical Experience**

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2025 – Present    **Psychologist**  
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)  
Setting: Outpatient Clinic/Academic Health Center

2023 – 2025      **Clinical Instructor**  
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)  
Setting: Outpatient Clinic/Academic Health Center

2021 – 2022      **Psychology Extern**  
Pediatric Specialists of Virginia (Fairfax, VA)  
Setting: Outpatient Medical Clinic

- 2020 – 2021      **Psychology Extern**  
 Children’s National Hospital (Washington, D.C.)  
 Setting: Inpatient Psychiatric Unit/Academic Health Center
- 2018 – 2022      **Psychodiagnostic Examiner**  
 George Mason University Center for Psychological Services & Cognitive  
 Assessment Program (Fairfax, VA)  
 Setting: Outpatient Community Mental Health Clinic
- 2018 – 2020      **Graduate Student Psychotherapist**  
 George Mason University Center for Psychological Services (Fairfax, VA)  
 Setting: Outpatient Community Mental Health Clinic
- 2014 – 2015      **Case Manager**  
 Tropical Texas Behavioral Health (Edinburg, TX)  
 Setting: Outpatient Community Mental Health Clinic

### **Specialized Clinical Training**

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- 2022              **CBT for Depression and Suicide**  
 Beck Institute for Cognitive Behavior Therapy (Webinar)
- 2022              **Mini-Structured Interview for Psychosis Risk Syndromes Training**  
 PRIME Research Clinic (Webinar)
- 2022              **Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: Introductory Training**  
 UC Davis CAARE Center (Sacramento, CA)
- 2021              **Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) Certification Training**  
 MoCA Test, Inc. (Webinar)
- 2021              **Diabetes Psychology 101**  
 APA Division 54 Society of Pediatric Psychology (Webinar)
- 2021              **Brief Assessment-Informed Intervention for COVID-19**  
 Institute for Mental Health Research’s Anxiety & Stress Clinic (Webinar)
- 2021              **Understanding Suicide Risk Among Children and Pre-Teens: A  
 Synthesis Workshop**  
 National Institute of Mental Health (Webinar)
- 2021              **Dialectical Behavior Therapy with Sexual & Gender Minority People**  
 Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (Webinar)
- 2020              **Telepsychology Best Practice 101 Series**  
 American Psychological Association (Webinar)

- 2019            **Dialectical Behavior Therapy Bootcamp**  
George Mason University Center for Psychological Services (Fairfax, VA)
- 2019            **Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Clients Workshop**  
George Mason University Center for Psychological Services (Fairfax, VA)
- 2019            **Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Training**  
TF-CBT Web 2.0 (Webinar)
- 2017            **Best Practices with LGBTQ+ Youth**  
Fairfax Consortium for Evidence-Based Practice (Fairfax, VA)
- 2017            **Screening, Brief Interventions, and Referral to Treatment Training**  
HealthKnowledge Online Learning Portal (Webinar)
- 2017            **Safe Zone Training**  
George Mason University LGBTQ Resource Center (Fairfax, VA)
- 2015            **Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale Training**  
The Columbia Lighthouse Project (Webinar)

### **Supervision & Consultation Experience**

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- 2023 – 2025    **Clinical Instructor**  
Youth Stress and Mood Program  
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)
- 2020            **Peer Supervisor**  
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Youth  
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)
- 2020            **Consultant**  
ServingTogether  
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)
- 2018 - 2022    **Undergraduate Research Assistant Supervisor**  
Adolescent Mental Health Promotion Lab  
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

### **Invited & Departmental Presentations**

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- 2022 & 2024    **College Career Panel**  
Road to Hire (Charlotte, NC)
- 2020            **Multicultural Considerations in Suicide Risk Assessment**  
VA-SBIRT TeleECHO (Fairfax, VA)

2018

**Psychology: College to Career**  
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

**Service to the Profession**

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Ad hoc Reviewer (Peer-Reviewed Journals)

*Archives of Suicide Research*

*Behaviour Research and Therapy*

*BMC Psychiatry*

*Child Psychiatry & Human Development*

*Children and Youth Services Review*

*Comprehensive Psychiatry*

*Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority*

*Psychology*

*European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*

*Family Process*

*Journal of Affective Disorders*

*Journal of Clinical Psychology*

*Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*

*Journal of Homosexuality*

*Journal of Psychiatric Research*

*Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral  
Assessment*

*Journal of Traumatic Stress*

*Personality and Individual Difference*

Ad hoc Reviewer (Grants & Scholarships)

*American Psychological Foundation*

**Professional Affiliations**

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2021 – Present     **Society for Science of Clinical Psychology**

2020 – Present     **Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology**

2017 – Present     **Association for Psychological Science**

2017 – Present     **American Psychological Association**

2015 – Present     **Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies**

**Departmental & Community Service**

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2014 – Present     **Volunteer Interviewer**  
Harvard Alumni Association – Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)

2018 – 2022        **Safe Zone Facilitator**  
George Mason University LGBTQ Resource Center (Fairfax, VA)

2017 – 2020        **Undergraduate Academic Advisor**  
Department of Psychology – George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

## Select Skills

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### Software

Microsoft Office	ΩNYX	AcqKnowledge	OWL
Mplus	R	QRSTool	Epic
SPSS	SocialSci	Tobii Studio	Cerner
HLM	E-Prime	Qualtrics	Windows
	mEMA	REDCap	macOS

### Languages

English & Spanish – Native proficiency