Division of Developmental Psychology, LU

Seminar

RELATIONSHIP-FOCUSED ADJUSTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

We are happy to invite to a Seminar presentation concerning:

“A Relationship-Focused Investigation of Couples’ Adjustment to Sensory Loss”

by

Christine M. Lehane, MSc, PhD Fellow

and

Sofia Maria Hofsöe, BSc, Masters Student

both at the Department of Psychology, University of Copenhagen.

Christine, a recent graduate from the International Master’s Program in Psychology here at LU carries out research that focuses on stress and coping in intimate relationships. Sofia is writing her master’s thesis on couples’ adjustment to sensory loss.

Venue: Thursday the 8th of December, 14:00-15:00
Location: P124 or P206

Abstract: Dating and forming intimate relationships is an integral part of human social development. Many studies have shown that the communication and support provided by intimate relationships are beneficial for our physical and psychological well-being. However, when one or both partners in a relationship are faced with a serious, progressive health condition such as hearing-, vision-, or dual-sensory loss, it can place a strain on both their relationship and their psychological well-being. In fact, research has shown that sensory loss caused by conditions such as Meniere’s Disease, Glaucoma, Usher Syndrome and Macular Degeneration – to mention a few, increase not only the patient’s risk for depression but also their partner’s, and place the couple at an increased risk for divorce. While we know that sensory loss can have a negative impact on the lives of couples, some questions researchers have yet to answer are: What kinds of support are most effective for helping both partners overcome the sensory loss-related challenges? What coping styles are most helpful and to what degree does each partner influence their adjustment? The aim of our research is to examine coping with sensory loss from a dyadic perspective, whereby the interdependent nature of couples’ lives are considered.

WELCOME!