

Situating Peace Psychology in the Academy

Post-Cold War Peace Psychology

1. More global in scope
2. Nuanced by geohistorical contexts
3. More differentiated:
Distinguishes episodes of violence & structural violence
4. More systemic organized

(Christie, *JSI*, 2006)





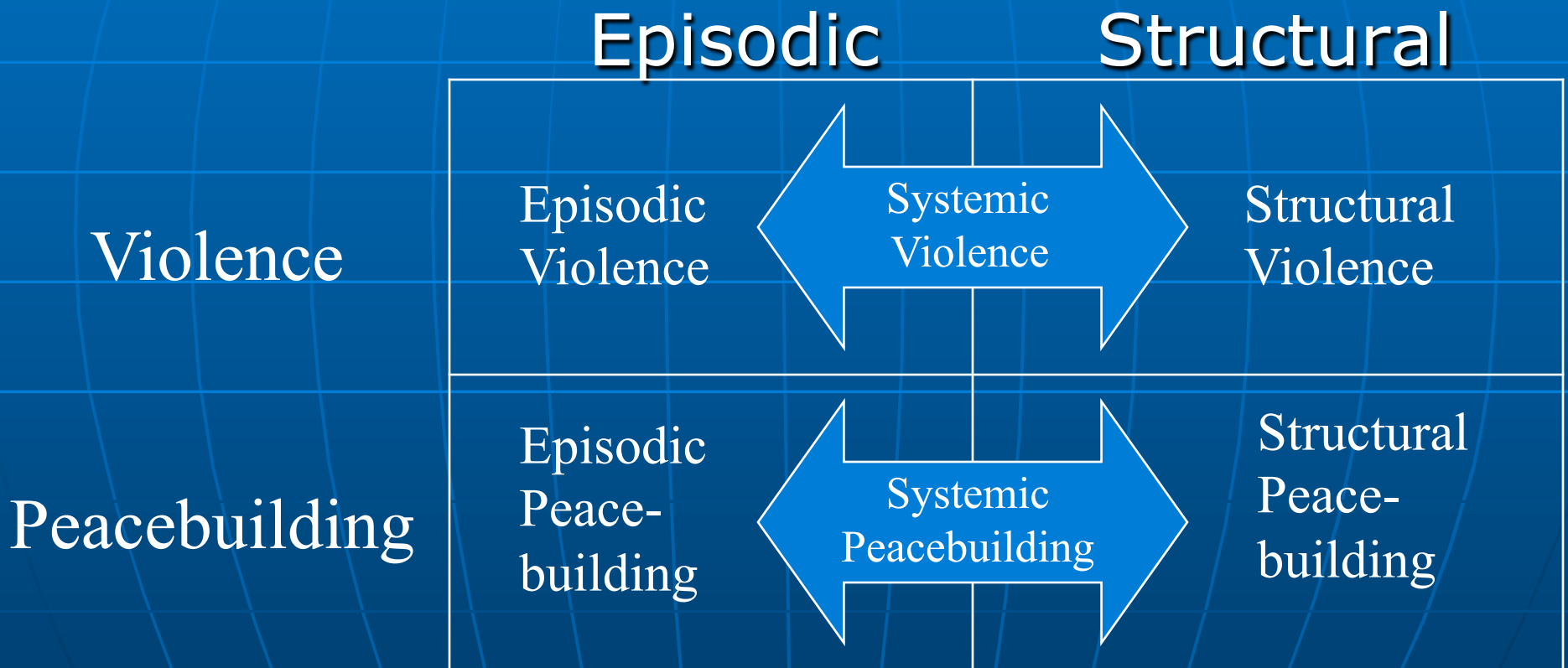
Peace Psychology: Global Scope

- Australia
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- South Africa
- Sweden
- Venezuela
- UK
- USA

Example of Geohistorical Context: Malaysia



Differentiated & Systemically Organized



(Christie, JSI, 2006)

Post-cold War Peace Psychology: More Differentiated, Contextualized, & Systemic

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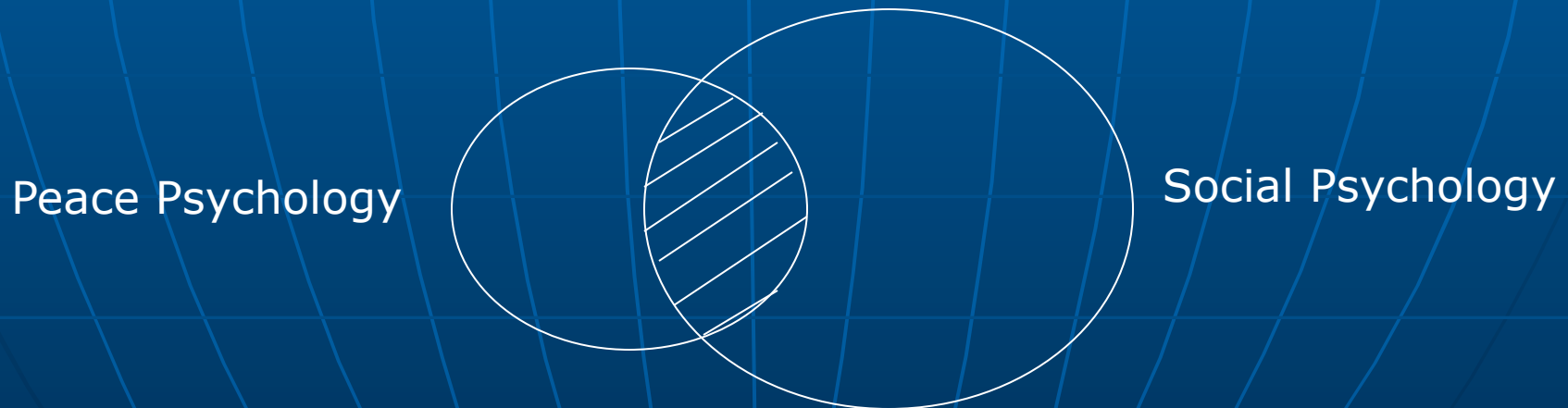


Social Psychological Peace Research (SPPR)

(Vollhardt & Bilali, *SP*, 2008)



- SPPR refers to the overlapping conceptual domains of peace and social psychology



Social Psychological Peace Research (SPPR)

- Study 1: Conceptual, using indexes of social and peace psychology handbooks.
- Study 2: Quantitative: based on content analysis of journals in social and peace psychology

Study 1: Conceptual Relations Between Social Psychology and Peace Psychology

- Based on indexes in three handbooks:

1. *Handbook of Social Psychology* (Gilbert et al., 1998)
2. *Peace, Conflict, and Violence: Peace Psychology for the 21st Century* (Christie, Wagner, & Winter, 2001)
3. *War and Peace: Handbook of Conflict and Peace Psychology* (Sommer & Fuchs, 2004)

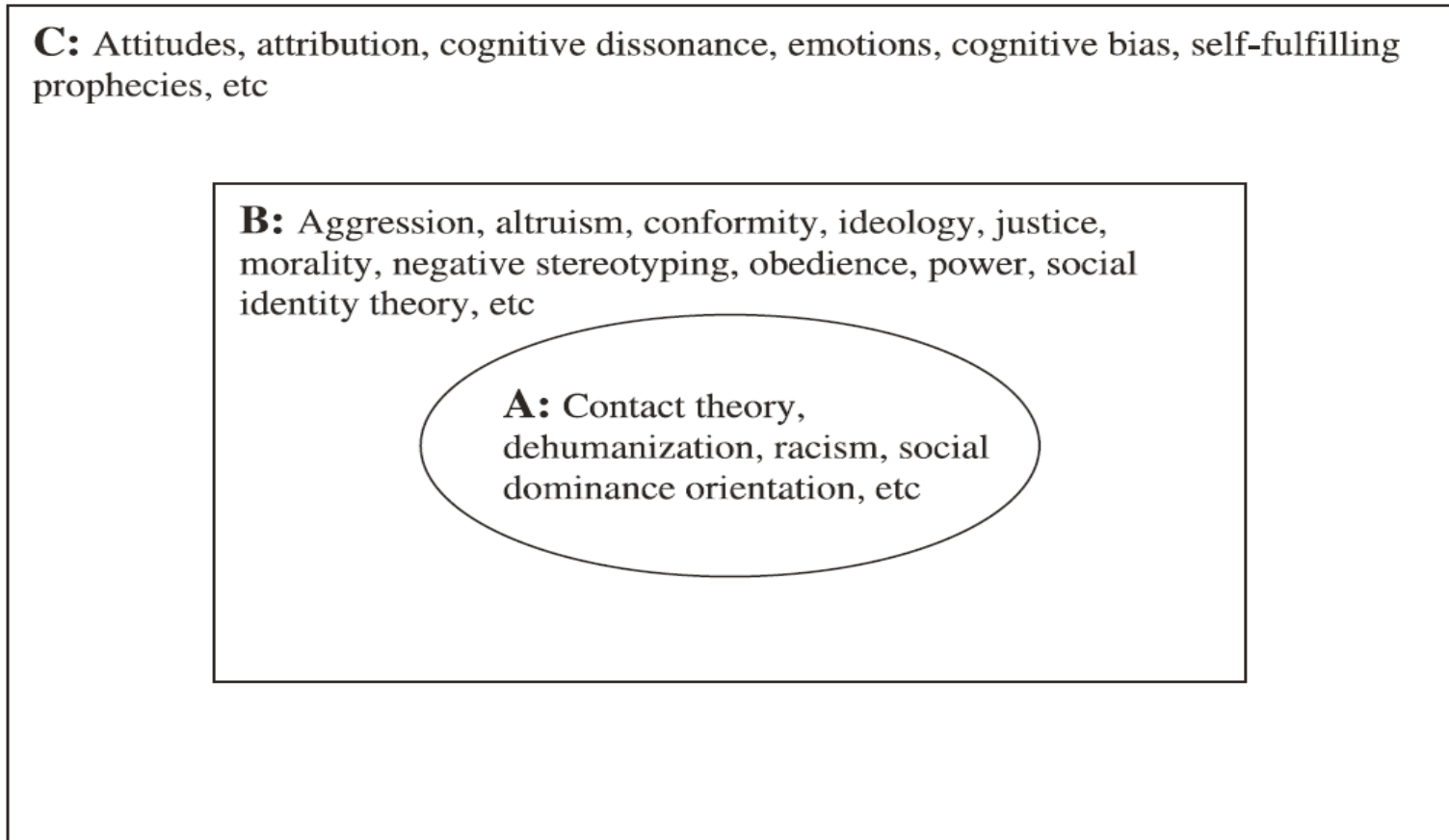
Conceptual Domain of Peace Psychology

- Deals with “the prevention of structural violence and intergroup conflict as well as the promotion of positive intergroup relations (p. 15 & 16).”

- In addition, prototypical peace psychology research meets the following criteria:
 1. Normative (vs. value-neutral) research
 2. Contextualized (vs. context-free) research
 3. Multiple levels of analysis (vs. methodological individualism or holism)
 4. Practical (vs. epistemic) research orientation

(Vollhardt & Bilali, *SP*,
2008)

Figure 1. Conceptual relations between social psychology and the (social) psychological study of peace.



Note. Area A includes social psychological concepts that are at the **core** of SPPR. Area B those that are **directly relevant**, and Area C concepts **indirectly relevant** to SPPR.

Social Psychological Peace Research:

Core Concepts

- Authoritarian personality
- Conflict resolution
- Contact hypothesis
- Dehumanization
- Discrimination
- Escalation dynamics
- Ethnocentrism
- Graduated and Reciprocated Initiatives in Tension Reduction
- Intergroup relations
- Multiculturalism
- Racism
- Realistic group conflict theory
- Relative deprivation
- Right-wing authoritarianism
- Social dominance orientation
- Social equality
- Social change
- Social justice
- Tolerance

(Vollhardt & Bilali, *SP*,
2008)

Social Psychology with *Direct* Relevance to Peace Psychology Research

- Aggression
- Altruistic behavior
- Belief in a just world
- Bystander intervention
- Conflict
- Conflict escalation
- Cooperation
- Cross-categorization
- Deindividuation
- Empathy
- Frustration-aggression hypothesis
- Gender stereotypes
- Group polarization
- Group think
- Ideology
- Ingroup bias
- Intergroup contact
- Justice motive
- Moral outrage
- Morality
- Negotiation
- Obedience
- Power
- Prejudice
- Prosocial behavior
- Self-categorization theory
- Social categorization
- Social identity (theory)
- Social movements
- Solidarity
- Stereotyping
- Violence

(Vollhardt & Bilali, *SP*,
2008)

Social Psychology with *Indirect* Relevance to Peace Psychology Research

- Attitudes
- Attribution
- Cognitive bias
- Cognitive dissonance
- Expectancy value models
- Fundamental attribution error
- Group dynamics
- Group pressure
- Learning theories
- Identity
- Integrative complexity
- Machiavellianism
- Majority/minority influence
- Moral dilemma
- Naïve realism
- Needs
- Perceptual/observer bias
- Perspective taking
- Political participation
- Rational choice theories
- Self-concept
- Self-determination
- Self-efficacy
- Self-esteem
- Self-fulfilling prophecy
- Self-perception
- Self-presentation
- Self-regulation
- Social categories
- Social cognition
- Social comparison theory
- Social dilemmas
- Social influence
- Social motives
- Social perception
- Social support
- Social value orientation
- Theory of planned behavior
- Trust
- Value orientation /systems

(Vollhardt & Bilali, *SP*,
2008)

Study 2 Content Analysis:

SPPR (Core Concepts) Represented in High Impact Journals

SPPR Criteria:

- Relevant: addresses the prevention of structural violence or intergroup conflict or the promotion of positive intergroup relations;
- At least three of four criteria were met (normative, contextualized, multilevel, and practical);
- Used social psychological constructs or theories.

(Vollhardt & Bilali, *SP*, 2008)

Social Psychological Peace Research in Leading Journals (2001-2005)

Table 1. Number of reviewed articles and percentage of social psychological peace research articles per journal and in total

Journal	Reviewed	Selected		Contribution ^a
	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	%	%
JPSP	754	28	4	14
PSPB	627	52	8	25
EJSP	255	31	12	15
BASP	140	9	6	4
JSI	238	50	21	25
PaC	111	35	32	17
Total	2,125	205	10	100

^aPercentage of articles contributed from each journal to the total pool of social psychological peace research.

Social Psychological Peace Research in Leading Journals (2001-2005)

Table 4. Percentage of samples from different world regions and student versus nonstudent population, per journal and in total

Sample	JPSP	PSPB	EJSP	BASP	JSI	P&C	Total
Region							
North America	68	72	29	60	65	20	55
South America	0	0	3	10	0	0	1
Europe	28	17	61	10	13	40	28
Middle East	4	3	3	10	19	16	8
Africa	0	2	0	0	0	4	1
Asia	0	2	0	0	3	16	4
Australia	0	4	4	10	0	4	3
Type of Sample							
Student	82	74	70	78	58	52	69
Nonstudent	14	14	19	11	35	48	23
Combination ^a	4	12	11	11	7	0	8

^aArticles using a combination of student and nonstudent samples.

Social Psychological Peace Research in Leading Journals (2001-2005)

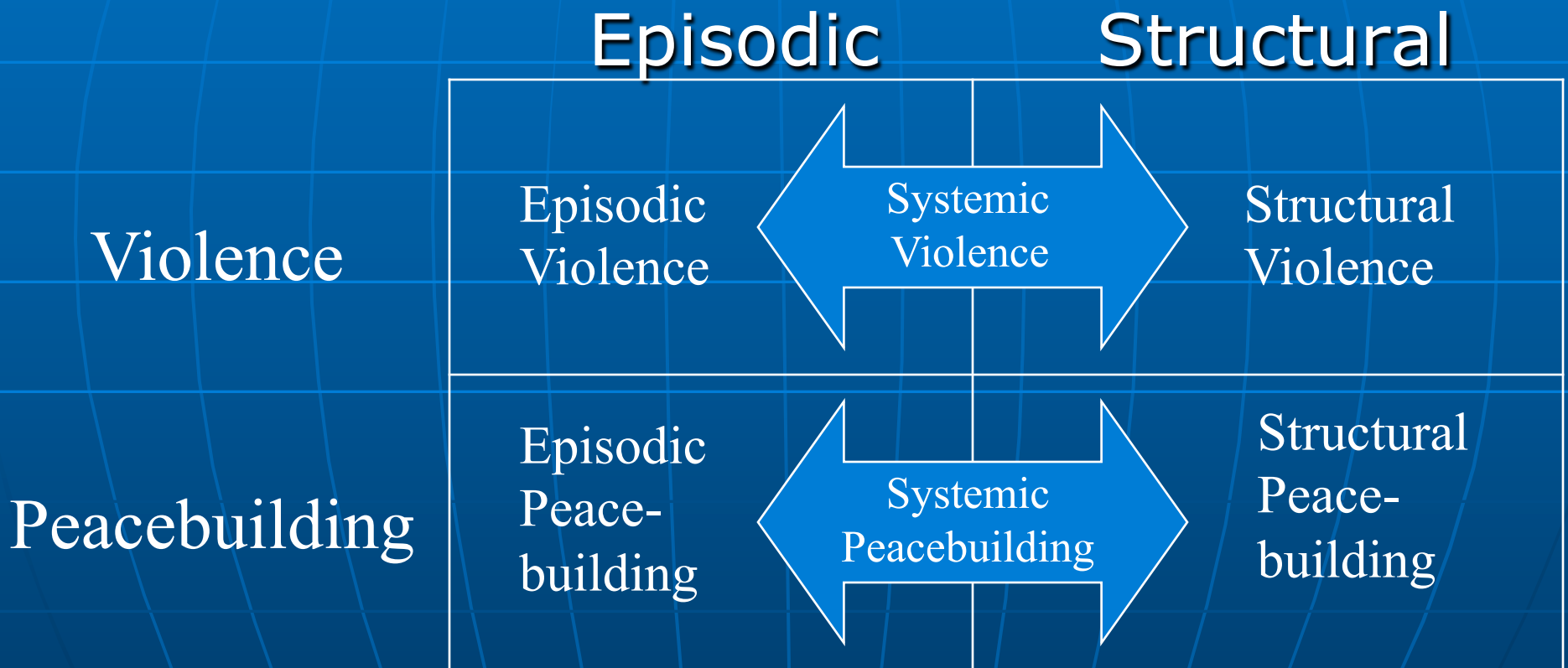
Table 5. Percentage of methodological designs reported in articles, by journal and in total

Methodology	JPSP	PSPB	EJSP	BASP	JSI	PaC	Total
Survey	4	35	42	44	18	47	30
Longitudinal	11	0	3	0	6	3	4
Experiment in survey	11	8	0	0	3	0	4
Experiment	53	40	28	44	22	3	31
Quasiexperimental	0	0	3	0	3	3	2
Interview	0	4	3	0	15	14	6
Observation	0	0	0	0	3	10	2
Diary	0	0	0	0	3	0	1
Meta-analysis	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
Archival	0	2	0	0	9	3	3
Case study	0	0	3	0	3	14	3
Multiple methods	21	11	15	12	15	3	13

Peace Psychology & Academic Fields

	International Relations	Peace & Conflict Studies	Conflict Resolution
Discipline	Social Sciences	Transdisciplinary	Multidisciplinary
Unit of Analysis	State and Interstate	Multiple	Multiple
Time Frame	1648 to date	Large: Past & Future	Present Oriented
Values	Epistemic & Neutral	Normative & Value Explicit	Normative & Value Explicit
Goals	Descriptive & Explanatory	Policy Oriented	Resolving Conflicts
Subject	Negative Peace	Negative & Positive Peace	Negative Peace

Differentiated & Systemically Organized



(Christie, JSI, 2006)