

DUNA SUSIE LEE, PHD

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I am a behavioral scientist studying human life history in the context of reproduction. I take comparative approach, collect field data on behavior and physiology, and analyze register data and panel data from both humans and non-human primates. I am interested in the aspects of life history that characterized human evolution - increased rate and variance in fertility rate, cooperative care that supports extended juvenility, long post-reproductive lifespan, and pronounced sociocultural variation therein.

EDUCATION

New York University, NY, USA *MSc & PhD in Biological anthropology, Sept 2019*

- PhD thesis: "Reproductive trade-offs in the free-ranging rhesus macaque females on Cayo Santiago"
2020 NYU Dean's Outstanding Dissertation Award in Social Sciences
- MSc thesis (2015): "Testing the threshold weaning weight hypothesis in rhesus macaques"
- Advisor: Prof. James P. Higham

Seoul National University, South Korea *MSc in Anthropology, 2009*

- MSc thesis (2009): "The categorization of 'bad animal' and its relation to animal appearances: A study of 6-year-old children's perceptions"
- Advisor: Prof. Sunyoung Pak

Seoul National University *BSc in Child Development & Family Studies (cum laude), 2006*

**Maternity leave between 2009 and 2013.*

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Research scientist (post-doc) | Max-Planck Institute for Demographic Research *Aug 2020-current*

- Lead projects on fertility in contemporary human societies in the Lab of Fertility of Well-Being.

Lead researcher for PhD in Biological anthropology | New York University *2013-2019*

- Summary: Patterns and trade-off relationship between female fertility, mortality, and offspring survival, in a free-ranging non-human primates population.
- Designed original research on the **demography and behaviors** of female reproduction in rhesus macaques, involving **fieldwork, genetics and endocrinological labwork, and longitudinal census data analysis**.
- Wrote successful proposals for **research grants** from National Scientific Foundation of the USA, Leakey Foundation, American Society of Primatologists, and International Primatological Society.
- **Hired, trained, and supervised** a team of international field assistants in Puerto Rico.
- Collaborated with international researchers from Germany, Puerto Rico, South Korea, and the UK.
- Thesis committee members: Susan Albert, Marina Cords, Todd Disotell, Clifford Jolly

PUBLICATIONS

- Peer-reviewed journal articles

Lee DS, Ruiz-Lambidez A., Higham JP. (2019) Higher offspring mortality with short inter-birth intervals in free-ranging rhesus macaques, *Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences* 116 (3): 6057-6062. **(Nominated for the PNAS 2019 Cozzarelli Prize.)**

Lee DS, Mandalaywala T, Dubuc C, Widdig A, Higham JP. (2020) Higher early life mortality with lower infant body mass in a free-ranging primate, *Journal of Animal Ecology* (first published Jul 2020).

Dubuc C, Allen WL, Cascio J, **Lee DS**, Maestriperi D, Petersdorf M, Winters S, Higham JP. (2016). Who cares? Experimental attention biases provide new insights into a mammalian sexual signal, *Behavioral Ecology* 27 (1): 68-74

Lee DS and Kang HR (2012), The categorization of "bad animal" and its relation to animal appearances: a study of 6-year-old children's perceptions, *J Soc, Evol, and Cultural Psy* 6 (1), 32-49.

- Encyclopedia entries

Lee DS (2018) Inter-birth interval, In: *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*, Springer.

Lee DS (2018) R- and K-strategies, In: *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*, Springer.

RESEARCH GRANTS

National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (**\$9,450**) *2018*

The Leakey Foundation, General Research Grants (**\$6,500**) *2018*

American Society of Primatologists, Small Grants (\$1,000)	2016
International Primatological Society, Research Grants (\$1,000)	2016
National Science Foundation, IGERT Pilot Research Funds (\$3,000)	2015

FELLOWSHIPS

New York University, MacCracken Fellowship	2013-2018
Seoul National University, Teaching Assistant Scholarship	2007-2008
Seoul National University, Honor Scholarship	2005
Seoul National University, Alumni Scholarship for Outstanding Undergraduates	2005

OTHER RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Analyst I RAND Europe 2019-2020

- Conducted evaluation and research projects within the **Home Affairs and Social Policy** team and the **Innovations in Health and Sciences** team, on **topics related to family, health, and education**.
- Published a **policy memo on inclusion in early childhood education and care (ECEC)** on behalf of the European Platform for Investing in Children project (<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=8309&furtherPubs=yes>); presented the memo at the European Commission's Working Group on ECEC in Jan 2020.
- Conduct research and evaluation on topics related to children and family policies (e.g., childcare preferences by parents, women's prenatal mental health, review of current brain sciences literature on adolescent development and learning).
- Perform data analysis for randomised control trials, mixed-methods study using a mixture of survey, focus group discussions, interviews, and secondary data analysis.

Consultant I Science Advocacy and Action Network (ScaAN) 2017

- Published a **policy memo on UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network blog**, to advocate the policy to end institutionalized care and invest in supporting vulnerable families (unsdsn.org/news/2017/07/07/are-orphanages-for-orphans/).
- Wrote a knowledge brief outlining scientific evidence against solitary confinement ([link](#)).
- Participated in an outreach program for teaching science at a juvenile detention centre.

Analyst I New York University 2017-2019

- Conducted meta-analysis for an OECD project on evaluating the effectiveness of structural and process quality indicators in early childhood education and care settings.
- First round of results are published on the OECD website (www.oecd.org/education/school/ECEC-meta-analysis-studies.pdf); will be expanded for a publication in an academic journal.
- Presented results at the **22nd OECD Early Childhood Education and Development Network meeting** (27 Oct, 2017) on behalf of the project team to policymakers from OECD countries.

Research assistant I Tokai Baboons Project, South Africa 2012

- Conducted **fieldwork** on 2 troops of chacma baboons (~80) in Cape Town, South Africa, and **collected behavioral and physiological data**.
- Set up behavioral coding scheme and a field station for storing physiological data.

Lead researcher for MSc in Anthropology I Seoul National University 2006-2008

- Designed and conducted an original research on pre-school children's perception of animals and its implication on cultural evolution of the concept of 'danger.'
- Conducted **classroom observations, experimental survey, and literature review**.

Research Assistant I Seoul National University 2006-2007

- Arranged visiting schedules for over 1,000 mother-child pairs and conducted physical measurements and household survey, for the Korea Research Foundation funded project, "Study on the Effect of Poverty from a Life Cycle Perspective: Focusing on Childhood Poverty."

Early Childhood Educator I Centre for Child Educare Service, Seoul National University 2004-2005

- Assisted early childhood care and education for 3 classrooms of children aged 4–5 years.

TEACHING

Teaching assistant, Dept. of Anthropology, New York University 2017

- Led two weekly lab sections each with ~20 undergraduate students during the "**Human Origins**" course.

Teaching assistant, Dept. of Anthropology, Seoul National University 2008

- Assisted a weekly teaching by Prof. Han-Suk Wang and facilitated independent discussion groups for the undergraduate course "**Culture and Language.**"
- Received **the best teaching assistant award** from the School of Social Sciences.

SKILLS

- Programming in R, MATLAB, and STATA
- Statistics and modeling: mixed-effects models; Markov-chain models; Cox proportional hazard models; meta-analysis; time-series analysis
- Laboratory skills: hormone measurements using enzyme immunoassay techniques; DNA extraction and PCR analysis
- Field animal data collection: non-invasive observation of animal behaviours and collection of physiological samples
- Languages: English (excellent), Korean (excellent), Deutsch (elementary)