

MARIA SPINELLI
Assistant Professor
University "G. D'Annunzio" Chieti-Pescara
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- From 2017 Assistant Professor. Department of Neurosciences, Imaging and Clinical Sciences, University G. D'Annunzio Chieti-Pescara, Italy
- From 2018 Member of the PhD program Business & Behavioural Sciences, University G. D'Annunzio, Italy
- 2019 Erasmus teaching. ISPA Istituto di Formazione Universitaria, Portugal.
- 2013- 2017 Post-Doc Fellow. Department of Psychology, University of Milano-Bicocca.
- 2015 Visiting Research Fellow. Leiden University, Leiden, Nederland.
- 2012 Visiting Research Fellow. University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA.

EDUCATION

- 2009 –2013 PhD in Social, Clinical and Cognitive Psychology. University of Milano-Bicocca.
- 2007- 2011 Qualification as a Psychotherapist. CPAT, Italy.
- 2006 - 2008 Master degree in Psychology for school and education services. Centro Studi Bruner.
- 2001- 2005 Master of Science in Psychology (*cum laude*). University of Milano-Bicocca.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Trainings and Certifications:

- 2018 "TFP Didactic Training Graduate" certification, Milano, Italy.
- 2015 Habilitation as intervener, "Video-feedback Intervention (VIPP-SD)", New York, USA.
- 2013 "The Adult Attachment Interview" training for coding reliability, Rome, Italy.
- 2010 "The Manchester Child Attachment Story Task (MCAST)", Manchester, UK.
- 2010 "Reflective Functioning (RF) Training course for the Parent Development Interview (PDI)", Rome, Italy.
- 2006 "The Rorschach for adults, children and adolescents" training for coding reliability level 1 to 3, Italy.

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2019 PI. University G. D'Annunzio. Project: The preterm infant-mother dyad: the role of individual and dyadic factors
- 2018 PI: University G. D'Annunzio. Project: The development of emotion regulation in preterm infants
- 2018-2019 Co-Investigator. Founder: "Il Sole onlus". Evaluation of the psychological consequences of sexual abuse on children in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia). Other Co-Investigators: Dott. Preti University of Milan-Bicocca, Milan, Italy; Prof. Abebaw Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

MAJOR COLLABORATIONS

- From 2017. Scientific collaboration with Prof. Abebaw Minaye Gezie (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia) and Dott. Emanuele Preti (University of Milano-Bicocca): Psychological consequences of child sexual abuse in children in Ethiopia.
- From 2017. Scientific collaboration with Prof. Prachi Shah (University of Michigan, USA) and Prof. Mark Bornstein (New York University, USA): Cross-cultural comparisons of temperament and cognitive development of preterm infants.
- From 2015. Scientific collaboration with Prof. Judi Mesman (Leiden University, Nederland): The role of mother-infant interaction in the development of infant self-regulation.

From 2014. Scientific collaboration with Prof. Fabia Franco (Middlesex University, UK), Prof. Mirco Fasolo (University G. D'Annunzio Chieti-Pescara, Italy), Dott. Leonor Romero (University di Milano-Bicocca, Italy) and Dott. Chiara Suttora (University of Bologna, Italy): Early musical interactions and child language development.

From 2012. Scientific collaboration with Prof. Julie Pohelmann and Prof. Daniel Bolt (University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA): Preterm infant emotion regulation development.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

University G. D'Annunzio Chieti-Pescara, Italy:

2019 "Affective developmental psychology" Master of Psychology,

2016-2018 "Emotional and affective developmental psychology" Master of Psychology

2016-2018 EPG for the course of "Emotional and affective developmental psychology" Master of Psychology

2018, 2019 "Meta-analyses and systematic reviews" PhD program: Business & Behavioural Sciences

2015/2016 "Social and self developmental psychology" Master of Psychology

2015/2016 EPG for the course of "Social and self developmental psychology" Master of Psychology

University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy

2014/2017 "Methods for the evaluation of cognitive development in preschool years" Bachelor in Psychology

2010/2012 "Methods for the evaluation of mother-infant emotion regulation" Bachelor in Psychology

2007/2008 "Attachment and interaction in mother-infant relationship" Bachelor in Psychology

2011/2012 "Communicative codes of linguistic education" Specialization training for school teachers

ISPA, Portugal:

2019 Seminar. "Does prosody make the difference? The importance of the prosody of maternal voice in mother-infant interactions".

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia:

2019 Workshop. "Evaluation of children and families psychological symptoms associated with the experiences of sexual abuse".

2018 Workshop. "Working with abused children: treatment and assessment".

Other teaching experiences (selected):

2017-2019 "Taking care of parent-child relationship: methods of evaluation and intervention". Master in psychotherapy, Auximon, Italy.

2018 "Developmental psychology 1 and 2". Specialization school in psychotherapy, Auximon, Italy.

2018 "General Psychology 1 and 2". Specialization school in psychotherapy, Auximon, Roma, Italy.

2016 "Interventions to promote mother-child relationship". Master infanzia e adolescenza (for psychoterapists). ITAT, Torino.

2010-2018 Trainings for Counsellors and Psychologists on topics related to implications of sexual abuse on children and treatment guidelines. IFSO Counselling Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

2014-2017 Master for psychologists: "Emotion and relational problems in children with learning disabilities". LR Psicologia, Italy.

SUPERVISOR

Supervisor of 15 Bachelor thesis, 28 Master thesis, 1 PhD student and 6 post-graduate internships at the University G. D'Annunzio Chieti-Pescara.

Supervisor of 6 Master thesis and 3 post-graduate internships at the University of Milan-Bicocca

OTHER EXPERIENCES AND MEMBERSHIPS

Scientific Advisory Board:

From 2012. Scientific coordinator of "Il Sole onlus" NGO.

From 2014. Scientific coordinator with Dr. Capoferri of “Progetto Prima Infanzia”.

From 2013. Head of the valuation and treatment team for Learning Disorders, Centro di Psicoterapia Niguarda.

Member of the division of Developmental Psychology of the APA and of AIP.

Journal reviewer: Child Development, Developmental psychopathology, Infancy, Journal of Family Psychology, Journal of Experimental Child psychology, European developmental psychology, Language Learning and Development, Journal of child language, Parenting, Infant mental health, Plos one, Stress: the international journal of the biology of stress, Marriage and Family, International Archives of Communication Disorder,

Associate editor: Frontiers, Developmental psychology section, International Journal Autistic studies

PRIZES AND AWARDS

2018. “Best scientific paper 2018” from the Italian Association of Psychology (AIP) section of Developmental and school Psychology

RESEARCH INTERESTES

- The development of parent-infant relationship in typical and at-risk contexts (micro and macro analyses of parent-infant interactions, the multimodality of parent-infant communication, prematurity)
- Prosody: the prosody of the voice as a way to communicate and share affect (applications in parent-infant interactions, in adults, and in childhood).

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS PUBLICATIONS (selected)

FRANCO, F., **SPINELLI, M.**, SUTTORA, C., KOZAR, I., FASOLO, M. (under review). Singing to infants matters: Early singing interactions affect musical preferences and facilitate vocabulary building. *Journal of Child Language*.

SPINELLI, M., AURELI, T., COPPOLA, G., SCIALPI, V., PONZETTI, S., FASOLO, M. (under review). Verbal - prosody association when narrating early caregiving experiences during the Adult Attachment Interview: differences between secure and dismissing subjects. *Attachment & Human Development*.

SPINELLI, M., BORNSTEIN, M., PUTNICK, D., SHAH, P. E. (under review). Multimodal Assessments of Preterm Temperament across the First Year of Life, Associations with Country of Origin and Infant Age. *Early Human Development*.

SPINELLI, M., SCHADEE, H., ZAMPINI, L., SALERNI, N., SUTTORA, C., ZANCHI, P. & FASOLO, M. (under review). The developing of prosody in infants. A longitudinal study over the first 16 months of infant life. *Applied Psycholinguistics*.

GENOVESE, G., AURELI, T., ROMERO LAURO, L.J., **SPINELLI, M.**, CASTELLETTI, G., FASOLO, M. (2019). Infant directed speech as a simplified but not simple register: a longitudinal study of lexical and syntactic features. *Journal of Child Language*, 1–23.

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M., COPPOLA, G. AND AURELI, T. (2019). It is a matter of how you say it: Verbal content and prosody matching as an index of emotion regulation strategies during the Adult Attachment Interview. *International journal of psychology*, 54: 102-107.

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M., SHAH, P. E., GENOVESE, G., AURELI, T. (2018). The Influence of Early Temperament on Language Development: The Moderating Role of Maternal Input. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 1527.

SPINELLI, M. & MESMAN, J. (2018). The regulation of infant negative emotions: the role of maternal sensitivity and infant-directed speech prosody. *Infancy*, 23(4), 502–518, 2018.

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M, & MESMAN, J. (2017). Does prosody make the difference? A meta-analysis on relations between prosodic aspects of infant-directed speech and infant outcomes. *Developmental Review*, 44, 1-18.

AURELI, T., **SPINELLI, M.**, FASOLO, M., GARITO, M., PERUCCHINI, P., & D'ODORICO, L. (2017). The pointing-vocal coupling progression in the first half of the second year of life. *Infancy*, 22 (6), 801-818.

BENELLI, E., BERGAMASCHI, M., CAPOFERRI, C., MORENA, S., CALVO, V., MANNARINI, S., PALMIERI, A., ZANCHETTA, M., **SPINELLI, M.**, & WIDDOWSON, M. (2017). TA Treatment of Depression: A Hermeneutic Single-Case Efficacy Design Study - 'Deborah'. *International Journal of Transactional Analysis Research*, 8(1), 39-58.

- SUTTORA, C., SALERNI, N., ZANCHI, P., ZAMPINI, L., **SPINELLI, M.**, & FASOLO, M. (2017). Relationships between structural and acoustic properties of maternal talk and children's early word recognition. *First Language*, 37(6), 612-629.
- ZAMPINI, L., ZANCHI, P., SUTTORA, C., **SPINELLI, M.**, FASOLO, M., & SALERNI, N. (2017). Assessing Sequential Reasoning Skills In Typically Developing Children. *Bpa-Applied Psychology Bulletin*, 65(279).
- ZAMPINI, L., ZANCHI, P., SUTTORA, C., **SPINELLI, M.**, FASOLO, M., & SALERNI, N. (2016). Gesture production in the narratives of preschool children. *Gesture*, 15:3, 306-320.
- ZAMPINI, L., FASOLO, M., **SPINELLI, M.**, ZANCHI, P., SUTTORA, C., & SALERNI, N. (2016). Prosodic skills in children with Down syndrome and in typically developing children. *International Journal of Language & Communication Disorders*, 51(1), 74-83.
- SPINELLI, M.**, FRIGERIO, A., FASOLO, M., & MONTALI, L., SPADA, M.S., MANGILI, G. (2016). "I Still Have Difficulties Feeling like a Mother": The Transition to Motherhood of Preterm Infants Mothers. *Psychology and Health*, 31(2), 184-204.
- SPINELLI, M.**, FASOLO, M., TAGINI, A., ZAMPINI, L., SUTTORA, C., ZANCHI, P., & SALERNI, N. (2016). Linguistic and prosodic aspects of child-directed speech: the role of maternal child-rearing experiences. *European Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 13(2), 183-196.
- ZANCHI, P., FASOLO, M., **SPINELLI, M.**, ZAMPINI, L., SUTTORA, C., & SALERNI, N. (2016). Il ruolo delle caratteristiche acustiche e contestuali nel riconoscimento delle cause del pianto [The Role of Acoustic and Contextual Features in the Recognition of Crying Causes]. *Psicologia Clinica Dello Sviluppo*, 1, 103-123.
- SUTTORA, C., **SPINELLI, M.**, & MONZANI, D. (2014). From Prematurity to Parenting Stress: The Mediating Role of Perinatal Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. *European Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 11, 478-493.
- SPINELLI, M.**, POEHLMANN, J., & BOLT, D. (2013). Predictors of Parenting Stress Trajectories in Premature Infant-Mother Dyads, *Journal of Family Psychology*, 27, 873-883.
- RIVA CRUGNOLA, C., GAZZOTTI, S., **SPINELLI, M.**, IERARDI, E., CAPRIN, C., & ALBIZZATI, A. (2013). Maternal Attachment, Emotional Regulation and Play with Objects in Mother and Infant Interaction at Nine Months. *Attachment and Human Behaviour*, 15, 107-131.
- RIVA CRUGNOLA C., TAMBELLI R., **SPINELLI M.**, GAZZOTTI S., CAPRIN C., & ALBIZZATI A. (2011). Attachment patterns and emotion regulation strategies in the second year, *Infant Behavior & Development*, 34, 136-151.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- SPINELLI, M.**, AVANZI, A., MARCONATO, F. (2018). L'intervento clinico con la diade genitore-bambino [The clinical intervention with the mother-child dyad]. In Morena S. and Bergamaschi M., *Ciao ti stavo aspettando. L'incontro clinico con il bambino Vol II* (97-120). Brescia: Serra Tarantola.
- RIVA CRUGNOLA, C., **SPINELLI, M.**, GAZZOTTI, S., & ALBIZZATI, A. (2013). Stili di interazione madre/bambino, attaccamento e sviluppo socioemotivo: indicatori di rischio in uno studio longitudinale [Mother-infant interactive styles, attachment and socio-emotional development: risk indicators in a longitudinal study]. In Caretti V., Craparo G., Schimmenti A. (Eds.), *Memorie traumatiche e mentalizzazione* (pp. 83-102). Roma: Astrolabio.
- RIVA CRUGNOLA, C., **SPINELLI, M.**, & GAZZOTTI, S. (2012). Le rappresentazioni genitoriali dalla gravidanza alla nascita del bambino [Parental representations from pregnancy to infant birth]. In C. Riva Crugnola (Ed), *La relazione genitore-bambino. Tra adeguatezza e rischio* (pp. 137-167). Bologna: Il Mulino.
- RIVA CRUGNOLA, C., GAZZOTTI, S. & **SPINELLI, M.** (2012). Le interazioni tra genitore e bambino [Parent-infant interactions]. In C. Riva Crugnola (Ed), *La relazione genitore-bambino. Tra adeguatezza e rischio* (pp. 169-200). Bologna: Il Mulino.
- RIVA CRUGNOLA, C., GAZZOTTI, S., & **SPINELLI, M.** (2011). Regolazione e comunicazione delle emozioni nella prima infanzia [Emotion regulation and communication in infancy]. In I. Grazzani Gavazzi, & C. Riva Crugnola (Eds), *Lo sviluppo della competenza emotiva dall'infanzia all'adolescenza. Percorsi tipici e atipici e strumenti di valutazione* (pp. 21-36). Milano: Unicopli.

SYMPOSIA CHAIR AND DISCUSSANT

SPINELLI, M. (2019). Chair and discussant. "The longitudinal interplay of maternal and infant factors in preterm children emotional development". 19^o ECDP, Athens.

SPINELLI, M. & COPPOLA, G. (2017). Chair. "Is attachment shaping language or language shaping attachment? A closer look into the reciprocal influences between the two domains". IAC 2017, London, UK.

SPINELLI, M. & AURELI, T. (2017). Chair. "Communication Beyond Words: The Many Faces of Infant-Directed Speech Prosody and its Impacts on Infant Outcomes". ICPS 2017, Vienna.

PREVOO, M. & **SPINELLI, M.** (2016). Chair. "Let's talk about parental talk: The role of parental speech in parenting and its effect on child outcomes". 24th ISSBD, Vilnius.

SPINELLI, M. & SUTTORA, C. (2016). Chair. "Singing and talking: how maternal input fosters early infant development". 15th WAIMH, Prague.

CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS (selected)

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M., PONZETTI, S., FASOLO, M., AURELI, T. (2019). Dyadic co-regulation, maternal sensitivity, and infant characteristics: interaction effects on preterm infants emotional development. ECDP, Athens.

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M., AURELI, T. (2019). La prosodia materna come modalità comunicativa diadica: due studi su diadi con bambini nati a termine e nati pretermine. XXXII AIP, Napoli.

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M., AURELI, T. (2018). Emotion regulation development in preterm and full-term infants: The integrated role of dyadic, maternal and infant factors. Workshop Understanding and promoting change from early to complex skills in typical and atypical development: a cross-population approach, Bologna.

SPINELLI, M., AURELI, T., FASOLO, M. PONZETTI, S., GARITO, MC. (2018). Prematurity from a multi-dimensional perspective: the interplay of maternal and infant factors in the development of socio-emotional adjustment. WAIMH, Rome

SPINELLI, M., AURELI, T., FASOLO, M. GARITO, MC., PONZETTI, S. (2018). Prematurity from a multi-dimensional perspective. 48th JPS Annual meeting, Amsterdam

SPINELLI, M., AURELI, T., PONZETTI, S., GENOVESE, G., FASOLO, M. (2017). The influence of attachment style on infant-directed speech: a longitudinal study. IAC, London, UK.

SPINELLI, M., MESMAN, J. (2017). The role of maternal sensitivity and prosody of speech on the development of infant regulation of negative emotions. ICPS, Vienna.

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M., & TAGINI, A. (2016). *Linguistic and prosodic aspects of child-directed speech: the role of maternal child-rearing experiences*. ISSBD, Vilnius.

SPINELLI, M., FRIGERIO, A., MONTALI, L., FASOLO, M., SPADA, MS., & MANGILI, G. (2016). *"I still have difficulties feeling like a mother": the transition to motherhood of preterm infants mothers*. WAIMH, Prague.

SPINELLI, M., FASOLO, M., COPPOLA, G., & AURELI, T. (2016). *A link between language and affect: influences of maternal attachment and sensitivity on maternal linguistic input*. WAIMH, Prague.

SPINELLI M., CAPOFERRI C., & MORENA S. (2015). *Hermeneutic single-case efficacy design for treatment of depression in adolescents: The I.T.A.C.A.'s model*. EATA Conference, Rome.

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