

## Special Issue

# Social Cognitive Processes in Legal Decision Making

### Message from the Guest Editors

The legal system makes countless assumptions about how people think and act (e.g., jurors are able to set aside their biases, eyewitness memory acts as a videotape). But when those assumptions are erroneous, the consequences can be life-changing. Thus, it is critical for researchers to empirically examine how and when social cognitive processes can challenge and inform the legal system's assumptions about human behavior. In this Special Issue, we seek research examining the role of social cognitive processes in legal decision making, broadly construed. We welcome all submissions related to decision making in legal contexts, including but not limited to decision making among eyewitnesses, judges, attorneys, jurors and juries, police officers, and forensic examiners. We also welcome submissions from a broad range of disciplines, including psychology, law, criminal justice, criminology, sociology, and political science, among others.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Kayla Burd

Department of Psychology, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, USA

Dr. Hannah Phalen

Department of Psychology, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, USA

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 September 2025



## Behavioral Sciences

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.5  
CiteScore 3.1  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/215324](https://mdpi.com/si/215324)

*Behavioral Sciences*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[behavsci@mdpi.com](mailto:behavsci@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
behavsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/behavsci)





# Behavioral Sciences

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.5  
CiteScore 3.1  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/  
behavsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/behavsci)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

---

#### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Jerrell Cassady  
Department of Educational Psychology, Ball State University, Muncie, IN  
47306, USA

---

#### Author Benefits

##### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SSCI (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, PsycInfo, and other databases.

##### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Psychology, Multidisciplinary) / CiteScore - Q2  
(Development)

##### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 29.6 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.4 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).