

Special Issue

The Nature, Role, and Development of Purpose

Message from the Guest Editors

The current era presents challenges that echo historical cycles of war, injustice, and oppression. While humanity has responded with revolutions—economic, industrial, political, and scientific—lasting change depends on a collective transformation of hearts and minds, a process called "human revolution." At the core of this transformation is a sense of purpose, the intention behind achieving life's most meaningful goals. Purpose drives positive change both personally, through growth, well-being, and happiness, and societally, by inspiring contributions to others and aligning with values and causes. Despite its importance, questions remain about how purpose develops and varies across contexts. This Special Issue explores the nature, role, and development of purpose across cultures and age groups. Understanding how people cultivate purpose can help educators and professionals design strategies to enhance identity, well-being, and societal impact. Submissions using quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods approaches are welcome to deepen insights into how purpose shapes lives and advances social change.

Guest Editors

Dr. Gitima Sharma

Counselor Education and Rehabilitation, Kremen School of Education and Human Development, California State University, Fresno, CA 93740, USA

Dr. Mariya Yukhymenko-Lescroart

Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Kremen School of Education and Human Development, California State University, Fresno, CA 93740, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 September 2025



Behavioral Sciences

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 3.1
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/210171

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

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

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