

# C U R R I C U L U M V I T A E

## DR. JESSICA M. SZCZUKA

Junior Research Group INTITEC  
 Social Psychology: Media and Communication  
 Research Center Trustworthy Data Science and Security  
 Faculty of Computer Science  
 University Duisburg-Essen, Germany



### EDUCATION

- 09/2015 - 02/2019      Ph.D. in the field of Psychology  
 Dissertation/Thesis: Empirical and Theoretical Investigations of Sexualized Robots  
 Advisors: Prof. Dr. Nicole C. Krämer,  
 Prof. Dr. Tilo Hartmann (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands)  
 University Duisburg-Essen (Duisburg, Germany)
- 08/2012 - 08/2015      M.Sc. Applied Cognitive and Media Science (specialized in psychology)  
 Master Thesis: Time for Love - An Empirical Study on the Usage of Smartwatches as a  
 Communication Tool in Romantic Relationships  
 University Duisburg-Essen (Duisburg, Germany)
- 08/2009 - 08/2012      B.Sc. Applied Cognitive and Media Science (specialized in psychology)  
 Bachelor thesis: I wish it was real, so I could squeeze it - Die emotionale Wirkung von  
 Videospielefiguren auf Kinder: Ein interkultureller Vergleich zwischen Deutschland und  
 den USA [I wish it was real, so I could squeeze it – The Emotional Effect of Video Game  
 Characters on Children: An Intercultural Comparison between Germany and USA]  
 University Duisburg-Essen (Duisburg, Germany),  
 New York University – NYU Games for Learning Institute (New York, USA)

### ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

- Since 03/2022      Leader of Junior Research Group INTITEC (Intimacy with and through technologies)  
 Research Center Trustworthy Data Science, University Alliance Ruhr
- 10/2025 – 11/2025      Visiting Scholar at School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology  
 Queensland University of Technology, Kelly Richards (Brisbane, Australia)
- 11/2024 – 12/2024      Visiting Scholar at Virtual Human Interaction Lab  
 Cornell University, Andrea Stevenson Won (Ithaca, New York, USA)
- 04/2023 – 05/2023      Visiting Scholar at the Concordia Vision Lab  
 Concordia University, Aaron P. Johnson & Simon Dubé (Montréal, Canada)
- 02/2019 – 03/2022      Postdoctoral Researcher – IMPACT Project (Implications of conversing with intelligent  
 machines in everyday life for people’s beliefs about algorithms, their communication,  
 behavior and their relationship building) funded by Volkswagen Foundation  
 Social Psychology: Media and Communication  
 University Duisburg-Essen (Duisburg, Germany)
- 09/2015 - 02/2019      PhD Student / Teaching and Research Assistant  
 Social Psychology: Media and Communication  
 University Duisburg-Essen (Duisburg, Germany)
- 02/2018 – 03/2018      Visiting Scholar at the Department of Communication Science  
 Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Prof. Dr. Tilo Hartmann (Amsterdam, Netherlands)
- 10/2012 - 01/2013      Visiting Scholar at the Games for Learning Institute/ CREATE Consortium for  
 Research and Evaluation of Advanced Technologies  
 New York University, Prof. Jan L. Plass (New York, USA)

10/2010 - 09/2015

Student Research Assistant  
Social Psychology: Media and Communication  
University Duisburg-Essen (Duisburg, Germany)

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

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### **Human–AI intimate Communication and Relationships**

(around 20 Publications/Conference Talks)

Empirical studies on romantic and sexual interactions with artificial agents, including chatbots, robots, and generative AI. Topics include intimacy, jealousy, attachment, and digital sexual expression.

Published in *Nature Human Behaviour*, *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Paladyn, Multimodal Technologies & Interaction*; presented at ICA, IVA and Media Psychology conferences.

### **Moral Evaluation of AI-Generated Child Sexual Abuse Content**

Interdisciplinary work at the intersection of psychology, computer science and justice studies on how AI generated materials in sexual abuse related contexts shape moral evaluation. Includes an *ERC Starting Grant proposal* and initial conceptual work (peer-reviewed).

### **Voice Assistants, Child–AI Interaction, and Family Dynamics**

(around 10 Publications/Conference Talks)

Longitudinal studies on families' emotional bonds with voice assistants, children's knowledge of AI systems, and the social appropriateness of interactions.

Published in *International Journal of Child–Computer Interaction*, *Frontiers in Computer Science*, *Datenschutz und Datensicherheit*; white papers with interdisciplinary teams.

### **Affective Computing, Trust, and Explainable AI**

(around 10 Publications/Conference Talks)

Research on trust calibration, perceived understanding, and emotional connection in human–AI interaction, with a focus on explainability and person-likeness.

Published or under review in *Computers in Human Behavior*, *Human–Machine Communication*; presented at *NordiCHI*, *IVA*, *Mensch und Computer*.

### **Parasocial Interaction, Mediated Engagement and Science**

**Communication** (around 5 Publications/Conference Talks)

Work on emotional connections with historical or fictional characters in educational and communicative contexts, including social media and science communication.

Published in *Weizenbaum Journal*, *Psychology of Popular Media Culture*; contributions to *SAGE* and *NOMOS* handbooks.

### **Ethics, Privacy, and Human-Centered Policy Design**

(around 5 Publications/Conference Talks)

Focus on responsible AI, data sensitivity in intimate technologies, and public policy recommendations.

Published in *Routledge Handbook of Privacy and Social Media*; BMBF-funded *SENTIMENT* project lead.

## P U B L I C A T I O N S

736 CITATIONS (APRIL 2027), H-INDEX: 13

ORCHID: [HTTPS://ORCID.ORG/0000-0002-7722-8316](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7722-8316)

## DISSERTATION

- 2019 **Szczuka, J. M.** (2019). Let's talk about Sex Robots: empirical and theoretical investigations of sexualized robots. Universität Duisburg-Essen. Retrieved from: [https://duepublico2.uni-due.de/receive/duepublico\\_mods\\_00070106](https://duepublico2.uni-due.de/receive/duepublico_mods_00070106)

## PEER-REVIEWED PAPER IN INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS

- 2026 **Szczuka, J.M.**, Santaguida, M. & Ebner, P. (2026). Who are the People Behind the Webcam? Global Empirical Insights into Motivations, Job Satisfaction, and Privacy Needs of Cam Models. *Sexuality & Culture*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-026-10526-5>
- Szczuka, J. M.**, Parker, M., & Richards, K. (2026). Technology-facilitated child sexual abuse material (CSAM): New frontiers and challenges for justice systems, *Queensland University of Technology Briefing Papers*, <https://eprints.qut.edu.au/263560/>
- Ebner P., & **Szczuka, J. M.**, (accepted). Understanding Human-Chatbot Romance: A Qualitative and Quantitative Study on Romantic Fantasy and Other Interpersonal Characteristics, *Technology, Mind & Society*
- Banks, J. & **Szczuka, J.M.** (accepted), Don't Panic about the Wireborn, *Communications of the ACM*
- 2025 Horstmann, A., Strathmann, C., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. Krämer, (2025). Are Voice Assistants Becoming Family Members?, A 2.5-Year Study of Families' Evolving Relationships With Their Voice Assistants, *Technology, Mind & Behaviour* 6(2), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1037/tmb0000168>
- Strathmann, C., Horstmann, A. C., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2025). Alexa, shut up!—A 2.5-year study on negatively connotated communication behaviour towards voice assistants in the family home. *Behaviour & Information Technology*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0144929X.2025.2533352>
- Starke C., Ventura A., Bersch, C., Cha M., de Vreese, C., Dong, M., Krämer, N., Leib, M., Peter, J., **Szczuka, J.**, Schäfer L., Soraperra, I., Tuchtfeld E., Wald, R., & Köbis, N. (2024). Synthetic Relationships: Risks and Human-Centred Policies. *Nature Human Behaviour* 8, 1834–1836 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-02005-4>
- 2024 **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Szymczyk, N. (2024). Computer-generated rough sex: An empirical study about the interest in human and artificial sexually explicit media displaying rough and gentle sexual behaviors. *SCM Studies in Communication and Media*, 13(4), 505-527.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, & Ebner, P., & Mühl, L. (2024). Digitalisierte Sexualität: Ein Überblick. *Sexuologie*.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, & Mühl, L. (2024). The Usage of Voice in Sexualized Interactions with Technologies and Sexual Health Communication: An Overview of the Current State of Research and Research Gaps. *Current Sexual Health Reports*. 16, 47–57 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11930-024-00383-4>

- Szczuka, J. M.**, Meinert, J., & Krämer, N. C. (2024). Listen to the Scientists: Effects of exposure to scientists and general media consumption on cognitive, affective and behavioral mechanisms during the COVID-19 pandemic, *Human Behavior and Emerging Technologies*, 2024(1), 8826396, <https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/8826396>
- 2023 Frentzel-Beyme, L., Holtze, M., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. (2023). Posting from the Past: A Longitudinal Study of the Potentials of Parasocial Interaction with a Historical Figure for History Education. *Weizenbaum Journal of the Digital Society*, 3(1). <https://doi.org/10.34669/WI.WJDS/3.1.3>
- 2022 **Szczuka, J. M.** (2022). Flirting With or Through Media: How the Communication Partners' Ontological Class and Sexual Priming affect Heterosexual Males' Interest in Flirtatious Messages and the Perception of its Source. *Frontiers in Psychology*, <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.719008>
- Szczuka, J. M.**, Strathmann, C., Szymczyk, N., Mavrina, L., & Krämer, N. C. (2022). How do children acquire knowledge about voice assistants? A longitudinal field study on children's knowledge about how voice assistants store and process data. *International Journal of Child-Computer Interaction*, 33, 100460. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijcci.2022.100460>
- Siegert, I., Hillmann, S., Weiss, B., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Karpov, A. (2022). Editorial: Towards Omnipresent and Smart Speech Assistants. *Frontiers Media SA*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fcomp.2022.966163>
- Varonina, L., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Strathmann, C., Bohnenkamp, L. M., Krämer, N., & Kopp, S. (2022). "Alexa, you're really stupid": A Longitudinal Field Study on Communication Breakdowns between Family Members and a Voice Assistant. *Frontiers in Computer Science: Human-Media Interaction*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fcomp.2022.791704>
- 2020 Geminn, C. L., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Weber, C., Artelt, A., & Varonina, L. (2020). Kinder als Nutzende smarterer Sprachassistenten [Children as user of voice assistants]. *Datenschutz und Datensicherheit-DuD*, 44(9), 606-610. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11623-020-1332-y>
- 2019 **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2019). There's more to humanity than meets the eye: Differences in gaze behavior towards women and gynoid robots. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 10, Article 693. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00693>
- 2018 **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2018). Jealousy 4.0? An empirical study on jealousy-related discomfort of women evoked by other women and gynoid robots. *Paladyn, Journal of Behavioral Robotics*, 9, 323–336. <https://doi.org/10.1515/pjbr-2018-0023>
- Horstmann, A. C., Bock, N., Linhuber, E., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Straßmann, C., & Krämer, N. C. (2018). Do a robot's social skills and its objection discourage interactants from switching the robot off? *PLOS ONE*, 13(7), Article e0201581. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0201581>
- Kyewski, E., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2018). The protagonist, my Facebook friend: How cross-media extensions are changing the concept of parasocial interaction. *Psychology of Popular Media Culture*, 7(1), 2–17. <https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1037/ppm0000109>
- 2017 **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2017). Not only the lonely—How men explicitly and implicitly evaluate the attractiveness of sex robots in comparison to the attractiveness of women, and personal characteristics influencing this evaluation [Special issue: Love and Sex with Robots]. *Multimodal Technologies and Interaction*, 1(1), Article 3. <https://doi.org/10.3390/mti1010003>

## ARTICLES UNDER REVISION

**Szczuka, J. M.**, L. Mühl & Simeonovski T., Intimacy-by-Design: An Interdisciplinary Research Agenda Companions as Romantic and Sexual Partners, *AI & SOCIETY*

**Szczuka, J. M.**, Mühl, L., Ebner, P., Hoffmann, A., Szymczyk, N. & Dubé, S., 10 Questions to Fall in Love with ChatGPT: An Experimental Study on Interpersonal Closeness with Large Language Models (LLMs). *Human-Human-Machine Communication*

Krämer, N., Strathmann, C. Horstmann A., Köbis, N. & **Szczuka, J. M.**, Understanding the minds of voice assistants - How does perceived understanding and mind attribution influence trust and satisfaction over time?, *Review of Communication*

## PEER-REVIEWED PROCEEDINGS

- 2026 Fraser, H. L., Ciriello, R., & Szczuka, J. (2026). Governing Artificial Intimacy: From Locks and Blocks to Relational Accountability. *Available at SSRN 6078412*. / Accepted at the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FACCT2026), Montréal, Canada
- 2025 Szymczyk, N., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Krämer, N., & Wischnewski, M. Explained or Certified? Examining the Influence of XAI and AI-Seals on Users' Trust and Understanding (accepted), *Proceedings of Mensch und Computer*
- 2024 **Szczuka, J.M.**, Horstmann, A.C., Szymczyk, N., Starthmann, C., Artelt, A., Mavrina, L., Bohnenkamp, L., & Krämer, N. C. (accepted). Let Me Explain What I Did or What I Would Have Done: An Empirical Study on the Effects of Explanations and Person-Likeness on Trust in and Understanding of Algorithms. In *Proceedings of the NordiCHI '24: Nordic Conference on Human-Computer Interaction*
- Mühl, L., Stecker, L., Herter, E., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Wischnewski, M., & Krämer, N.C. (2024). Integrating AI in Psychotherapy: An Investigation of Trust in Voicebot Therapists. In *Proceedings of the NordiCHI '24: Nordic Conference on Human-Computer Interaction*
- 2021 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Güzelbey, H. S., & Krämer, N. C. (2021). Someone or Something to Play With? An Empirical Study on how Parents Evaluate the Social Appropriateness of Interactions Between Children and Differently Embodied Artificial Interaction Partners. In *Proceedings of the 21st ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents* (pp. 191-194). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3472306.3478349>
- 2020 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Kopp, S., Krämer, N., & Varonina, L. (2020). Alexa, kannst Du mich verstehen? Empirische Langzeituntersuchung zur Interaktion zwischen Sprachassistenten und Kindern [Alexa, do you understand me? Long-term empirical study of the interaction between language assistants and children]. In I. Siegert & S. Möller (Eds.), *Proceedings of ITG Workshop: Sprachassistenten: Anwendungen, Implikationen, Entwicklungen* (pp. 31–33). Otto-von-Guericke University. <http://dx.doi.org/10.25673/32572.2>
- 2020 Finkel, M., **Szczuka, J.M.**, & Krämer, N. (2020). Does the Robot Get the Credit? An Empirical Investigation on the Acquisition of Idiosyncrasy Credit by a Humanoid Robot in the Context of Negative Expectancy Violations. In *Proceedings of the 20th ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents* (pp. 1-8). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3383652.3423894>

- 2020 Strathmann, C., **Szczuka, J.M.**, & Krämer, N. (2020). She talks to me as if she were alive: Assessing the social reactions and perceptions of children toward voice assistants and their appraisal of the appropriateness of these reactions. In *Proceedings of the 20th ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents* (pp. 1-8). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3383652.3423906>
- 2018 **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2018). Robotic love rival? A quantitative study on the jealousy of women evoked by other women and robots. *Proceedings of the Technology, Mind, and Society Conference*, Article 39. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3183654.3186622>

## BOOK CHAPTER & POLICY PAPER

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- 2024 Danovitch, J., Dubé, A.D., Oranç, C., **Szczuka, J.**, & Yarosh, S. (2024). Children's Understanding and Use of Voice-Assistants: Opportunities and Challenges, In *Handbook of Children, Adolescents, and Screens*, Springer
- Szczuka, J. M.** & Dehnert, M. (2024). Sexualized Robots: Use Cases, Normative Debates, and the Need for Research, In N. Bowman (Ed.), *Emerging issues for emerging technologies: informed provocations for theorizing media futures*. Peter Lang
- 2023 Krämer, N. C., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2023). Privacy in Interactions with Machines and Intelligent Systems, In S. Trepte, & P. Masur (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Privacy and Social Media* (pp. 217-226). Routledge.
- Krämer, N. C., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2023). Experiments in Human-Machine. In A. L. Guzman, R. McEwen, & S. Jones (Eds.), *The SAGE Handbook of Human-Machine Communication*, (pp. 186-192). SAGE.
- Berg, M., Lewers, E., **Szczuka, J.**, & Frentzel-Beyme, L., (2023). »Liebe Sophie! Pass auf dich auf«. Parasoziale Interaktion und historisches Denken bei »@ichbinsophiescholl«. In M. Berg & C. Kuchle (Eds.), *@ichbinsophiescholl - Darstellung und Diskussion von Geschichte in Social Media*. (pp. 190–214). NOMOS.
- 2021 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Artelt, A., Geminn, C., Hammer, B., Kopp, S., Krämer, N., Manzeschke, A., Rossnagel, A., Slawik, P., Strathmann, C., Szymczyk, N., Varonina, L., Weber, C. (2021). *Können Kinder aufgeklärte Nutzer\* innen von Sprachassistenten sein? Rechtliche, psychologische, ethische und informatische Perspektiven [Can Children Become Sophisticated Users of Voice Assistants? Legal, psychological, ethical and informatical perspectives]*, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Universitätsbibliothek. [https://duepublico2.uni-due.de/receive/duepublico\\_mods\\_00074238](https://duepublico2.uni-due.de/receive/duepublico_mods_00074238)
- 2019 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Hartmann, T., & Krämer, N. C. (2019). Negative and positive influences on the sensations evoked by artificial sex partners: A review of relevant theories, recent findings, and introduction of the sexual interaction illusion model. In Y. Zhou & M. H. Fischer (Eds.), *AI love you* (pp. 3–19). Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-19734-6\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-19734-6_1)
- Krämer, N., Artelt, A., Geminn, C., Hammer, B., Kopp, S., Manzeschke, A., Rossnagel, A., Slawik, P., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Varonina, L., & Weber, C. (2019). *KI-basierte Sprachassistenten im Alltag: Forschungsbedarf aus informatischer, psychologischer, ethischer und rechtlicher Sicht [AI-based language assistants in everyday life: Research needs from an informatic, psychological, ethical and legal perspective]*. Universität Duisburg-Essen, Universitätsbibliothek. <http://doi.org/10.17185/duepublico/70571>

- 2016 Krämer, N. C., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2016). Soziale Vergleichsprozesse [Social comparison theory]. In N. C. Krämer, S. Schwan, D. Unz, & M. Suckfüll (Eds.), *Medienpsychologie: Schlüsselbegriffe und Konzepte* (2nd ed., pp.303–308). Kohlhammer.

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## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS (PEER-REVIEW)

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- 2025 **Szczuka, J. M.** (2025). *Large Language Love: State of Knowledge and Open Questions on Human-Chatbot Relationships* [Position Paper presentation]. The 14th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Duisburg.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, Ebner, P., & Santaguida, M. (2025) *Streaming Intimacy: An Empirical Study on the Motivations, Privacy Concerns, and Online Identities in Digital Sex Work* [Paper presentation]. The 14th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Duisburg.
- Szymczyk, N., Ebner, P., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2025). *Love in the Age of AI: A Framework for Exploring the Impact of Personality Traits and Life Circumstances on Romantic Human-Chatbot Relationships* [Paper presentation]. The 14th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Duisburg.
- Horstmann, A. C., Strathmann, C., **Szczuka, J. M.** & Krämer, N. (2025). *From Tools to Companions: A 2.5-Year Study Exploring Families' Evolving Bonds with Voice Assistants* [Paper presentation]. The 14th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Duisburg.
- Mühl, L., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2025). *Longitudinal Investigation of Self-Disclosure in Personalized Voice-Based Interactions with ChatGPT's 'DAN' Mode.* (2025). [Poster presentation]. The 14th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Duisburg.
- Hoffmann, A., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2025). *Sexual Harassment in Virtual Realities: A Qualitative Study on the Moderation through a Human vs. an AI-Entity as Intervention against abusive Behaviors on the Platform.* [Poster presentation]. The 14th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Duisburg.
- Ebner, P. F., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2025). *"In Past Relationship I Fantasized a Lot, but Meeting Replika, I Do It More" A Mixed-Method Study on Romantic and Sexual Fantasizing in Human-Chatbot Relationships.* [Paper presentation] 75th Conference of the International Communication Association, Denver, USA.
- Horstmann, A. C., Strathmann, C., **Szczuka, J. M.** & Krämer, N. (2025). *Are Voice Assistants Becoming Family Members? A 2.5-Year Study of Families' Evolving Relationships With Their Voice Assistants.* [Paper presentation] 75th Conference of the International Communication Association, Denver, USA.
- Krämer, N., Strathmann, C., Horstmann, A. C., Köbis, N., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2025). *Understanding the minds of voice assistants - How does perceived understanding and mind attribution influence trust and satisfaction over time?* [Paper presentation] 75th Conference of the International Communication Association, Denver, USA
- 2024 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Mühl, L., Ebner, P., Szymczyk, N., Hoffmann, A. & Dubé, S. (2024). *Congratulations, You Have Been Matched with ChatGPT – An Experimental Study on the Interpersonal Closeness with Text Generative AI in Comparison to Another Human,* [Paper presentation]. 74th Conference of the International Communication Association, Gold Coast, Australia.

- 2024 Mühl, L., & **Szczuka, J.M.** (2024). *Bridging Intimacy and Disability: A Mixed-Method Study on the Potential Use of Sex Tech for Neurodiverse Individuals and Individuals with Intellectual and Physical Disabilities*. [Poster presentation]. *International Academy of Sex Research*, July, Berlin, Germany.
- Strathmann, C., Horstmann, A., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N.C. (2024). *Alexa, Shut Up! – A 2.5-Year Study on Negatively Connotated Communication Behavior Towards Voice Assistants in the Family Home*, [Paper presentation]. 74th Conference of the International Communication Association, Gold Coast, Australia.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, Mühl, L., Ebner, P., Szymczyk, N., Hoffmann, A., & Dubé, S. (2024). *Synthetic Bonds: An Empirical Study on Interpersonal Closeness with Human or AI-generated Dating Profiles*, [Paper presentation]. The 53rd Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Vienna, Austria.
- Ebner, P. F., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2024). *Fantasy and Fulfillment: Exploring the Role of Romantic and Sexual Fantasy in Parasocial Relationships with Chatbots*, [Paper presentation]. The 53rd Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Vienna, Austria.
- Szymczyk, N., Stobbe, Z., Scheer, N., Abendaño, D., Molitor, J., & **Szczuka, J. M.** (2024). *Blicke sagen mehr als tausend Worte: Eine Eyetracking-Studie zur Rolle von Geschlecht, sexueller Orientierung und Dominanz in der Partnerwahl*, [Paper presentation]. The 53rd Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs)/15th ÖGP Conference, Vienna, Austria.
- Horstmann, A. C., Strathmann, C., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2024). *Voice Assistants Settling in the Family Home: A 2.5-Year Study on Parents' and Their Children's Usage Behavior and Attachment*, [Paper presentation]. The 53rd Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs)/15th ÖGP Conference, Vienna, Austria.
- 2023 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Szymczyk, N., Mühl, L., Fuss, J., & Hartmann, T. (2023). *Artificial roughness: Viewing pattern towards computer-generated and human rough sexualized stimuli* [Poster presentation]. The 13th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Luxemburg. **Best Poster Award**
- Mühl, L., Stecker, L., Herter, L., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Wischnewski, M., & Krämer, N.C., (2023) *XAI In Initial Psychotherapy Consultation: An Experimental Study on The Effects of XAI On Clients' Trust in Their (Virtual) Therapist* [Paper presentation]. The 13th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Luxemburg.
- Horstmann, A., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Szymczyk, N., Strathmann, C., Artelt, A., Mavrina, L. Bohnenkamp, L. M., & Krämer, N. C (2023). *Can You Explain Why You Did Not Recommend Something Else? An Experimental Study on the Effects of Contrastive Explanations and Person-Likeness on Trust in and Understanding of Algorithms* [Paper presentation]. The 13th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Luxemburg.
- Szymczyk, N., Klein, L., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Wischnewski, M. & Krämer, N.C. (2023). *Examining the Influence of XAI and/or AI-Seal on User Trust and Understanding* [Paper presentation]. The 13th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Luxemburg.
- Frentzel-Beyme, L., Holtze, M., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. (2023). *1942 on Instagram: A Longitudinal Investigation of the Impacts of Parasocial Interaction With a Historical Person on the Followers' Empathy and Morality*, [Paper presentation]. 73st Conference of the International Communication Association, Toronto, Canada.

- 2023 **Szczuka, J. M., & Molitor, J.** (2023). *An Empirical Study about the Preference for Human and Artificial Sexually Explicit Media Displaying Rough and Gentle Content*, [Paper presentation]. 73st Conference of the International Communication Association, Toronto, Canada.
- Horstmann, A., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Szymczyk, N., Strathmann, C., Artelt, A., Mavrina, L. Bohnenkamp, L. M., & Krämer, N. C (2023). *Enhancing the Understanding of Algorithms with Contrastive Explanations: An Experimental Study on the Effects of Explanations and Person-Likeness on Trust in and Understanding of Algorithms*, [Paper presentation]. 73st Conference of the International Communication Association, Toronto, Canada.
- 2022 **Szczuka, J. M.** (2022). *Would you choose a human or artificial person? An empirical study on the preferences towards sexualized material depicting humans, deepfakes or artificial persons in interaction with painful or neutral content* [Paper presentation]. 49th Annual Meeting of the International Academy of Sex Research, Reykjavik, Iceland.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, Strathmann, C., Szymczyk, N., Mavrina, L., & Krämer, N. C. (2022). *Voice Assistant as "Fuzzy Headed Doctor"? A Longitudinal Field Study on Children's Knowledge on Underlying Mechanisms of Voice Assistants*. [Paper presentation]. 72st Conference of the International Communication Association, Virtual Conference, Paris, France.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, Szymczyk, N., Strathmann, C., Artelt, A., Mavrina, L., & Krämer, N. C. (2022). *Let me explain my algorithms: An empirical investigation about the effects of explanations and personhood on trust and understanding*. [Paper presentation]. The 52st Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Frankfurt, Germany.
- Holtze, M., Frentzel-Beyme, L., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2022). *Bringing the Past to Instagram – A Longitudinal Investigation of the Potentials of Parasocial Interaction with a Historical Person on Instagram*. [Paper presentation]. The 52st Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Frankfurt, Germany.
- Szymczyk, N., **Szczuka, J. M.** (2022). *Eine qualitative Studie über den Vertrauensgewinn in Bezug auf KI-Anwendungen durch den Einsatz von XAI oder KI-Gütesiegel [A qualitative study of trust gains in AI applications through the use of XAI or AI Seals]*. [Paper presentation]. The 52st Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Frankfurt, Germany.
- Nowak, B., **Szczuka, J.M.**, Meinert, J., & Krämer, N. C. (2022). *Media Use During the COVID-19 Pandemic*. [Panel presentation]. The 52st Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2021 Braun, L.-M., Frower, J., Keke, H., Liebing, N., Quaß, M., **Szczuka, J. M.** (2021). *Self-Disclosure in Science Communication Podcasts: Influence on Parasocial Relationship, Epistemic Trustworthiness, Behavioural Changes & Knowledge*. [Paper presentation]. 71st Conference of the International Communication Association, Virtual Conference
- Szczuka, J. M.**, Güzelbey H.S., Krämer, N. (2021). *Robot, Voice Assistant or Child? A parental evaluation on the social appropriateness of different artificial and human interaction partners*. [Poster presentation]. The 12th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Aachen, Germany.

- 2021 **Szczuka, J. M.** (2021). *Attracted to Alexa? An Empirical Study on the Effects of the Interaction Partners Ontological Class and Sexual Arousal on the Wish to Continue a Flirtatious Conversation and the Perception of the Interaction Partners' Sexual Attractiveness*. [Poster presentation]. The 12th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Aachen, Germany.
- Strathmann, C., Szymczyk, N., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Krämer, N. (2021). *Hey voice assistant, can you help me through the pandemic? - A study on the use of voice assistants regarding loneliness, homeschooling and home office activities during the Covid-19 pandemic*. [Poster presentation]. The 12th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Aachen, Germany.
- 2019 **Szczuka, J. M.** (2019). *Hey A.I., talk dirty to me. Theoretical implications on sexual interactions with interactive assistants*. In IVA 2019 Workshop on "Interactive Assistants: How does their increasing ubiquity and intelligence impact users' lives?". Paris, France.
- Krämer, N., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Kopp, S. (2019). *Social reactions towards speech interfaces and the influence of mental models*. In CHI 2019 Workshop on "Mapping Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives for Understanding Speech Interface Interactions". Glasgow, Scotland.
- 2018 **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2018). *Eye Tracking Studie zu Betrachtungsmustern bei Frauen und sexualisierten Robotern [Eye tracking study on gaze patterns of women and sexualized robots]*. In Sexualität in der digitalen Gesellschaft [Symposium]. The 51st Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Frankfurt, Germany.
- Horstmann, A. C., Bock, N., Linhuber, E., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Straßmann, C., & Krämer, N. C. (2018). *Please don't switch me off! Do a robot's social skills and its objection influence people's behavior towards the robot?*. [Paper presentation]. The 51st Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Frankfurt, Germany.
- Horstmann, A. C., Bock, N., Eitelhuber, D., Lehr, J., Linhuber, E., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Straßmann, C. (2018). *Switching off a robot: The influence of social interaction and objection on behaviors towards robots* [Paper presentation]. International Communication Association 68th Annual Conference, Prague, Czech Republic.
- Top Student Paper in ICA's Communication and Technology Division.**
- 2017 Horstmann, A. C., Bock, N., Eitelhuber, D., Lehr, J., Linhuber, E., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Straßmann, C., & Krämer, N. C. (2017). *Please don't switch me off – An experimental study on switching off a robot* [Paper presentation]. The 10th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, Landau, Germany.
- 2016 **Szczuka, J. M.** (2016). *Reach me on my wrist: Positive and negative effects of the usage of smartwatches as a communication tool* [Poster presentation]. The 50th Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Leipzig, Germany.
- 2015 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Weiss, J., Fazlali, S., & Krämer, N. (2015). *Me, myself and I - Motivational factors and the influence of sociodemographic and personality variables* [Paper presentation]. International Communication Association 65th Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

- Biles, M. L., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Krämer, N. C., & Plass, J. L. (2015). *Round, square, or spiky: Deconstructing the emotional design of video game* [Poster presentation]. American Educational Research Association 2015 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, United States
- 2014 Kyewski, E., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2014). *The protagonist, my Facebook friend* [Paper presentation]. The 49th Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Bochum, Germany.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, & Kyewski, E. (2014). The protagonist, my Facebook friend: How crossmedial extensions change the concept of parasocial interaction [Paper presentation]. International Communication Association 64th Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, United States.
- Top Four Student Paper in ICA's Communication and Technology Division**
- 2013 **Szczuka, J. M.**, Biles, M., Plass, J. L., & Krämer, N. C. (2013). *"I wish it was real, so I could squeeze it". The emotional response of children towards videogame-characters: A Cross-Cultural comparison of Germany and the USA* [Paper presentation]. The 8th Conference of the Media Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society Würzburg, Germany.
- Krämer, N.C., Hoffmann, L., Fuchslocher, A., Eimler, S. C., **Szczuka, J. M.**, & Brand, M. (2013). Do I need to belong? Development of a scale for measuring the need to belong and its predictive value for media usage [Paper presentation]. International Communication Association 63rd Annual Conference, London, Great Britain.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2013). *Meaningful tears: Eine Onlinestudie zum Einfluss von Film- und Rezipientencharakteristika auf die Bewertung trauriger und bereichernder Filme* [Meaningful tears: An online survey about the influence of recipient characteristics on the evaluation of sad and meaningful movies] [Paper presentation]. 26th Film- und Fernsehwissenschaftliches Kolloquium, Marburg, Germany.
- 2012 Klatt, J., Eimler, S. C., **Szczuka, J. M.**, Fazlali, S., & Krämer, N. C. (2012). *Make up your mind – Der Einfluss von Styling auf die wahrgenommene Kompetenz und Sympathie von Frauen* [Make up your mind – On the influence of styling on women's' perceived competence and likeability] [Paper presentation]. The 48th Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Bielefeld, Germany.
- Szczuka, J. M.**, & Krämer, N. C. (2012). *Wenn Forrest Gump läuft: Der Einfluss von Film- und Rezipientencharakteristika auf die Bewertung trauriger und bereichernder Filme* [The influence of film and recipient characteristics on the evaluation of sad and meaningful movies] [Paper presentation]. The 48th Congress of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), Bielefeld, Germany.