

# **Karen Dill-Shackleford, PhD**

**Doctoral Faculty - School of Psychology at Fielding Graduate University**

Hickory, NC, US

Media violence; Fandom and the construction of meaning from media; Media, race and gender.

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## **Description**

Karen Dill-Shackleford earned her PhD in social psychology from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her dissertation on media violence has been cited 1,500 times. She testified twice before Congress about media use and everyday realities. Karen studies the way people seek and construct social meaning from media including fictional stories, especially in the context of fandom. She demonstrates how media can be used to enhance social justice, particularly related to issues involving race and gender. She also studies the benefits of using media to support a meditation practice to enhance psychological well being. Karen is the author of *How Fantasy Becomes Reality*, and the editor of the *Oxford Handbook of Media Psychology*. She is co-author of *Mad Men Unzipped: Fans on Sex, Love, and the Sixties on TV* (University of Iowa Press, 2015); and *Finding Truth in Fiction: The Benefits of Getting Lost in a Story* (Oxford University Press, 2015).

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## **Industry Expertise**

Education/Learning, Research, Training and Development

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## **Topics**

Social Psychology, Media Psychology, Gender, Race, Social Representations in Media, Social Justice, Narrative, Meaning Making, Wellbeing, Methodology, Media Effects, Meditation, Social Media

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## **Affiliations**

Association for Psychological Science : Member, American Psychological Science : Member, International Society for Research on Aggression : Member, National Science Foundation : Grant Reviewer, Oxford University Press : Book Proposal Reviewer, *Simulation & Gaming: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Theory Practice and Research* : Editorial Board, Oxford University Press : Book Referee, Institute of Digital Media and Child Development : Working Group Leader

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## **Past Talks**

### **Media Portrayals of Social Groups**

(2015) Institutes of Medicine Board on Children, Youth and Families (Group presentation)

### **Modality of Social Support and User Preferences and Success**

(2015) American Psychological Association annual meeting

### **Drinking and sex: The addictions of Mad Men through the eyes of the fans**

(2015) Popular Culture Association annual meeting

### **Using social media for sobriety recovery**

(2015) American Psychological Association annual meeting

### **Modality of social support: Sobriety recovery using online and face-to-face support**

(2015) American Psychological Association

### **Meaningful media lessons: How adolescents learn and develop through interactions with media**

(2015) Digital Media and Developing Minds Conference

### **Social psychological perspectives on prosocial media research and application (panel presentation)**

(2013) The International Communications Association

### **Using dramatic narrative to reduce myths about relationship abuse (with L.E. Shackelford, M.C. Green, E. Scharrer & C. Wetterer)**

International Society for Research in Aggression Conference

### **Three Pillars of Causality: The Case of Media Violence and Aggression**

Meeting of the International Society for Research on Aggression

### **Mass media, Degradation and Aggression**

Meeting of the International Society for Research on Aggression

### **The Dark and Light Sides of Videogames: The Influence of Videogames on Youth**

Invited Presentation at the Universidad Catholica de Santiago de Chile

### **Science and Public Policy**

International Expert Meeting on ICT and Education

### **The Influence of Videogames on Youth: Implications for Learning in the New Millennium**

(October, 2007) International Expert Meeting on Videogames and Education

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## **Education**

**University of Missouri-Columbia**

PhD Social Psychology

**University of Missouri-Columbia**

MA Social Psychology

**University of Missouri-Columbia**

BA Psychology

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## **Accomplishments**

**Outstanding Woman of Catawba Valley Award**

(2008) Awarded by the League of Women Voters of Catawba Valley, NC.

**Outstanding Community Service Award**

(2007) Awarded by Lenoir-Rhyne College.

**Expert Testimony, US Congress**

(2000) Called to give expert testimony at the Public Health Summit on Entertainment Violence

(2007)) Called to give expert testimony before the House subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection; Hearing entitled, From Imus to Industry: The Business of Stereotypes and Degrading Images.

<http://tinyurl.com/imustoindustry>

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