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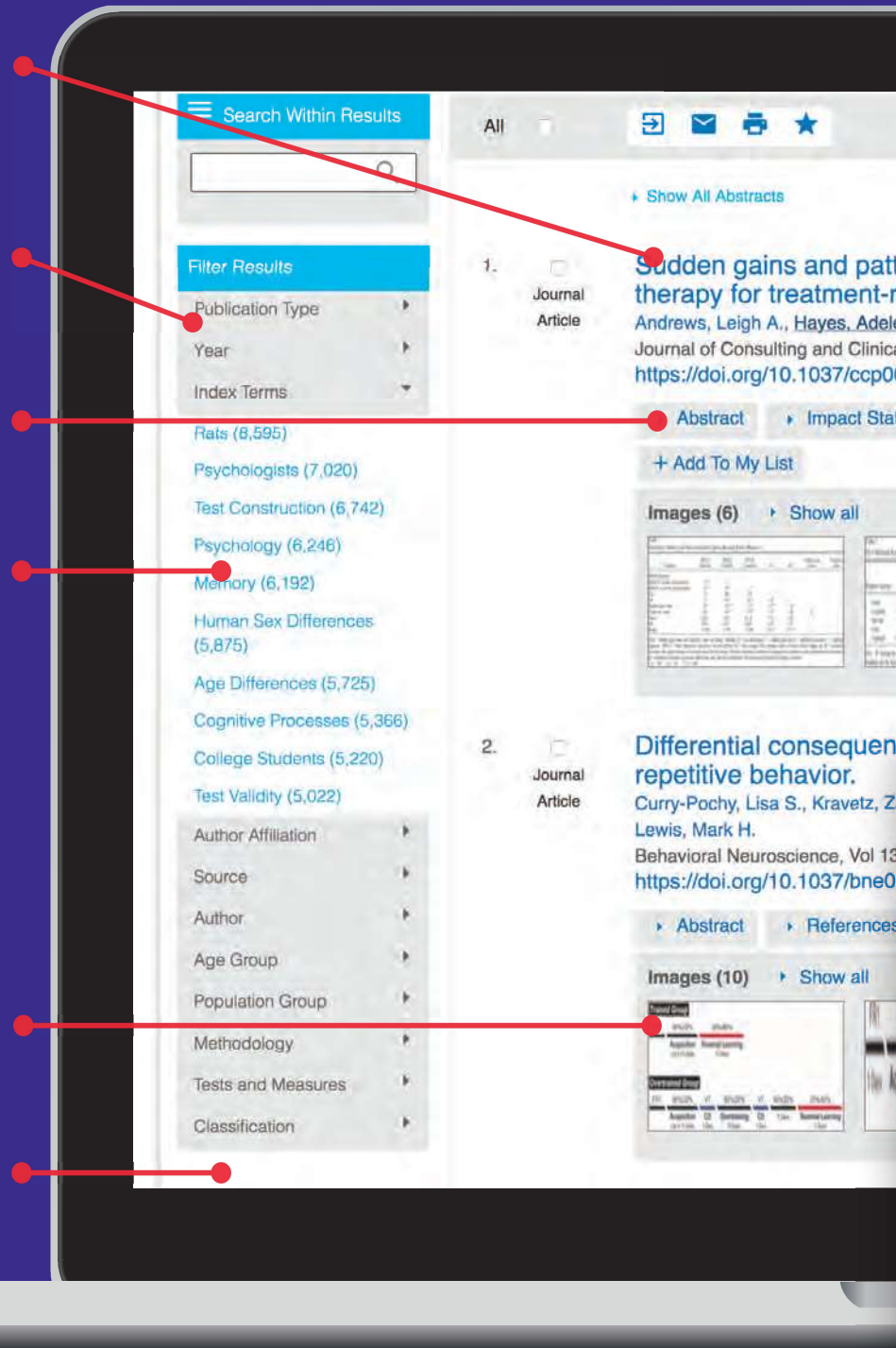
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## Creativity and romantic passion.

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Carswell, K. L., Finkel, E. J., & Kumashiro, M. (2019). Creativity and romantic passion. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 116*(6), 919–931. <https://doi.org/10.1037/psp000162>

### Abstract

Romantic passion typically declines over time, but a downward trajectory is not inevitable. Across 3 studies (1 of which encompassed 2 substudies), we investigated whether creativity helps bolster romantic passion in established relationships. Studies 1A and 1B revealed that people with highly creative personalities report not only greater overall passion but also an attenuation in the tendency for passion to decline as relationship duration increases. Studies 2 and 3 explored positive illusions about the partner's physical attractiveness as a possible mediator of the effect of creativity on passion. Cross-lagged panel analyses in Study 2 indicated that being creative is linked to a tendency to view the partner as especially attractive, even relative to the partner's own self-assessment. Path analyses in Study 3 provided longitudinal evidence consistent with the hypothesis that positive illusions mediate the link between creativity and changes in passion over time. Study 3 also provided longitudinal evidence of the buffering effect of creativity on passion trajectories over time, an effect that emerged not only for self-reported passion but also for objectively coded passion during a laboratory-based physical intimacy task 9 months later. A meta-analytic summary across studies revealed a significant overall main effect of creativity on passion, as well as a significant moderation effect of creativity on risks of passion decline (e.g., relationship length). (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2019 APA, all rights reserved)

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3. Arker, M., & Davis, M. H. (1992). Intimacy, passion, and commitment in adult romantic relationships: A test of...

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... creativity and Romantic Passion

Eli J. Finkel Madoka Kumashiro  
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... declines over time, but a downward trajectory is not inevitable. Across 3 studies (1 of which encompassed 2 substudies), we investigated whether creativity helps bolster romantic passion in established relationships. Studies 1A and 1B revealed that people with highly creative personalities report not only greater overall passion but also an attenuation in the tendency for passion to decline as relationship duration increases. Studies 2 and 3 explored positive illusions about the partner's physical attractiveness as a possible mediator of the effect of creativity on passion. Cross-lagged panel analyses in Study 2 indicated that being creative is linked to a tendency to view the partner as especially attractive, even relative to the partner's own self-assessment. Path analyses in Study 3 provided longitudinal evidence consistent with the hypothesis that positive illusions about the partner's attractiveness mediate the link between creativity and changes in passion over time. Study 3 also provided longitudinal evidence of the buffering effect of creativity on passion trajectories over time, an effect that emerged not only for self-reported passion but also for objectively coded passion during a laboratory-based physical intimacy task 9 months later. A meta-analytic summary across studies revealed a significant overall main effect of creativity on passion, as well as a significant moderation effect of creativity on risks of passion decline (e.g., relationship length).

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... imagination."  
 ...nel Proust (1993, p. 592)  
 ...t out expounds on the  
 ...s' hold for the objects  
 ...nd Robert a picture of  
 ...mes immediately aware

... elders seeing Helen... but precisely the opposite impression which may be expressed by: "What, it's for this that he has worked himself into such a state" (Proust, 1993, p. 594).

... Drawing parallels between his infatuation with Albertine and Robert's own infatuation with Rachel, a woman Proust deemed "not worth twenty francs." Proust recognizes their mutual ability to distort the optics through which they see these women—a feat of mental elaboration that Proust suggests may be better achieved by imaginative, creative men. Building upon this suggestion, the

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 ...ment of Psychology and  
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... of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the SSHRC. The authors thank Lydia Emery for her helpful comments, as well as Priscilla Chan, Victoria Contreras, Ian Davis, Vincent Dujardin, Mark Fulkman, Ariela Kaiser, Michell Kim, Jane Ko, Timothy Little, Morgan McCowan, Elizabeth McLaughlin, Serena Patel, Jamie Ramsey, Alyssa Rodriguez, Jamilla Silver, Katherine Slobodkin, Rachel Trautman, Tiffany Tsou, Natalie Villegas, and Reyna Won for their assistance in data collection and behavioral coding.  
 ... Correspondence concerning this article should be addressed to Kathleen L. Carswell, Department of Psychology and the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, 2029 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208. E-mail: kathleen-carswell@northwestern.edu

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