



The Jacobs Center  
Research Seminar Series

**Dr. Nils Schuhmacher**

Westfälische Wilhelms-  
Universität Münster

## Early Helping Behavior – Investigating the Social Origins of Early Prosocial and Moral Development

In this talk I will present a multi-method approach for investigating the social origins of early prosocial behaviours such as helping, comforting, and sharing.

Amongst others, I will show experimental, longitudinal and (preliminary) experience sampling data from our laboratory that shall provide convergent evidence on answering the question “How do early social experiences shape prosocial development?”. These studies particularly investigate the role of prosocial modelling and parental scaffolding in the development of helping behaviour during the second year of life.

Finally, I would like to present and discuss different ideas on why early prosocial development – during toddlerhood and preschool years – is potentially connected to the emergence and development of children’s moral competencies such as moral reasoning, moral emotions, and moral decision making.

**Friday, May 21, 2021, 10:00 h**

Online via Zoom with the following link:

<https://uzh.zoom.us/j/93090579080?pwd=TGw5NjJzUFErSXluL1BCeDVLRG4xZz09>

*Individual meetings with Dr. Schuhmacher are available,  
if interested please contact Ines Florin at [ines.florin@jacobscenter.uzh.ch](mailto:ines.florin@jacobscenter.uzh.ch)*