

**Division 7 (Developmental Psychology) Announcement:
Renaming of the *G. Stanley Hall Award* to the
*Award for Distinguished Contributions to Developmental Psychology***

This past fall, the leadership of Division 7 considered the significance of the fact that G. Stanley Hall, an early and prominent developmental psychologist who is honored by name in one of the Division awards, expressed views in his professional writings that do not align with the Division's values today. Specifically, on numerous occasions, Hall wrote about racial groups and women in ways that are seriously problematic, especially in light of current efforts to eradicate systemic racism and strive for social justice.

The Division 7 Executive Committee met in early January of 2022 to discuss this matter. We used Hall's writings as reference (e.g., Hall, 1903; 1905), along with a book chapter (Hogan, 2003) that describes Hall's writings on race. Based on this information, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to remove the name G. Stanley Hall from the Division 7 award for distinguished contributions to the field. Beginning this year, this award will be called the *Division 7 Award for Distinguished Contributions to Developmental Psychology*.

We recognize that during his time Hall was not alone in these views, yet that does not relieve us of responsibility to take them seriously in relation to the social realities of today. By removing his name from this award, we do not intend to pass judgment on Hall as a person or a professional, or on his positive contributions to our discipline. However, as APA's Division of Developmental Psychology, it is incumbent upon the Division to communicate clearly what the field stands for and that it is open for all. It is important to make it clear, especially to new generations of scholars, that the Division does not uphold the views Hall expressed in these writing and that these views are not representative of the field today. We are also proud that our decision is in keeping with the recent resolution from APA in *An Apology to People of Color for APA's Role in Promoting, Perpetuating, and Failing to Challenge Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Human Hierarchy in the U. S.* (<https://www.apa.org/about/policy/resolution-racism-apology.pdf>). Please feel free to contact the Executive Committee if you have any questions or comments about this decision.

Division 7 Executive Committee Members

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References noted:

Hall, G. S. (1905). The Negro in Africa and America. *The Pedagogical Seminary*, 12(3), 350-368.

Hall, G. S. (1903). The white man's burden versus indigenous development of the lower races. *Journal of Education*, 58(4), 83-83. <https://doi.org/10.1177/002205740305800415>

Hogan, J. D. (2003). G. Stanley Hall: Educator, organizer, and pioneer developmental psychologist. In G. A. Kimble and M. Wertheimer (Eds.), *Portraits of pioneers in psychology, Vol. V* (pp. 19-36). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.