

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

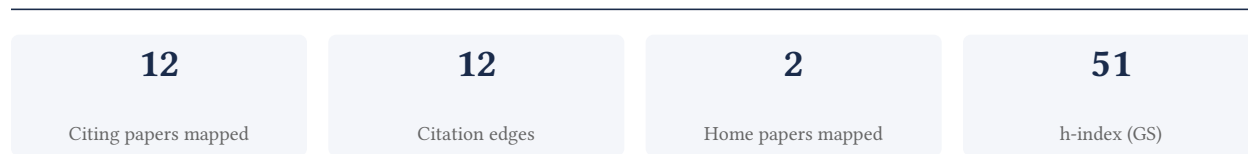
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Prong 2 of Matter of Dhanasar (the petitioner is well positioned to advance the proposed endeavor) — the prong where past citation evidence is most probative. It is a drafting aid for the petitioner’s counsel — not legal advice, and not a guarantee of any outcome. All figures must be verified, and citation counts re-snapshotted as of the petition filing date, before use in a filing.

A. Overview & Filtering Statement



Filtering statement – methodology & limits

Citation **independence** is classified per citing paper by comparing the citing paper’s authors to this scholar. *Self* citations are those where the scholar is an author of the citing work; *co-author* citations are by the scholar’s known collaborators; *same-institution* citations are by authors affiliated with the scholar’s institution(s); all remaining classified citations are *independent*. Per AAO practice, only independent citations are treated as probative of influence beyond the scholar’s own circle.

Known limitations – counsel must verify. (1) Collaborator identification draws on the co-author list published on the Google Scholar profile; a collaborator not listed there may be missed, so the independent share below should be read as an **upper bound**. (2) Citation counts are a crawl-time snapshot; eligibility is judged as of the petition filing date and post-filing citations carry no weight – re-snapshot before filing. (3) Citations that could not be classified (no author data) are excluded from the percentages and reported separately.

B. Citation Independence

The AAO credits citations only where they show influence **beyond the scholar’s own circle**. Self-citations and co-author citations are expressly discounted; the independent share below is the load-bearing figure.

100.0% independent of 12 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	12
Self-citation	0
Co-author	0
Same-institution	0

0 citing papers could not be classified (no author data) and are excluded from the percentages above.

C. Significant Contributions & Their Citation Evidence

Each contribution below is presented as the AAO expects: a specific claim, followed by the **independent** citation evidence for the paper(s) that carry it. Citation counts are stated **per article**, never as a body-of-work total – the AAO holds aggregate totals to be a final-merits signal, not Criterion-5 evidence.

Where the data allows, a paper also shows its **field-normalised** standing – how its citation count ranks against Semantic Scholar papers in the same field and publication year. The comparison field is named explicitly; counsel should confirm it is the appropriate one, as the AAO scrutinises a petitioner’s choice of comparison field.

Contribution 1

Claim – Contribution 1

The researcher established a social cognitive framework for posttraumatic recovery, identifying perceived self-efficacy as a critical mechanism in therapeutic outcomes.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of a social cognitive theory of posttraumatic recovery, anchored by the 2004 paper 'Social cognitive theory of posttraumatic recovery: The role of perceived self-efficacy' published in Behaviour Research and Therapy. This work stands as a seminal piece in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry, suggesting the core theoretical framework was established comprehensively in this single publication.

This line of work appears to address the need for a structured psychological model explaining how individuals recover from trauma. By focusing on perceived self-efficacy, the researcher likely introduced a novel perspective that integrates social cognitive principles with trauma therapy, moving beyond purely symptom-focused approaches to include cognitive and behavioral self-regulation mechanisms.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 2824, indicating widespread recognition and utility in the academic community. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been adopted and built upon by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9

CORE PAPER

[Social cognitive theory of posttraumatic recovery: The role of perceived self-efficacy](#)

2004 · Behaviour Research and Therapy · 2,824 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,548 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2004 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Research on the Effects of Entrepreneurial Education and Entrepreneurial Self-Efficacy on College Students' Entrepreneurial Intention (2019)	Huaqiao University, North China University of Technology	China	—
2	The Role of Social Support in Coping with Psychological Trauma: An Integrated Biopsychosocial Model for Posttraumatic Stress Recovery (2022)	—	—	Background
3	Fifty-five per cent return to competitive sport following anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction surgery: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis including aspects of physical functioning and contextual factors (2014)	La Trobe University	Australia	—
4	Moral injury and moral repair in war veterans: A preliminary model and intervention strategy (2009)	University of California at San Francisco, VA Boston Healthcare System	United States	—
5	Danger zone entrepreneurs: The importance of resilience and self-efficacy for entrepreneurial intentions (2014)	University of Delaware, University of Illinois at Chicago	United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
6	Optimism, Social Support, and Coping Strategies As Factors Contributing to Posttraumatic Growth: A Meta-Analysis (2009)	University of Bologna	Italy	Background
7	COVID-19 Factors and Psychological Factors Associated with Elevated Psychological Distress among Dentists and Dental Hygienists in Israel (2020)	Ariel University, Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Tel Aviv University	Israel	Background
8	Integrating psychological resilience, stress, and coping in entrepreneurship: A critical review and research agenda (2022)	Baylor University, Brigham Young University, University of Warwick	United Kingdom, United States	—
9	Self-Efficacy (2025)	George Mason University	United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher established a foundational meta-analytic framework quantifying the link between job burnout and secondary traumatic stress in workers with indirect trauma exposure.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the publication of a seminal meta-analysis in Psychological Services (2014) that systematically examines the relationship between job burnout and secondary traumatic stress among professionals with indirect exposure to trauma. This work serves as the core reference point for this line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: By employing a meta-analytic approach, the researcher appears to have addressed a critical need for synthesized evidence in a field often characterized by fragmented individual studies. The title suggests a novel focus on the specific intersection of occupational burnout and secondary trauma in contexts of indirect exposure, distinguishing it from direct trauma literature.

SIGNIFICANCE: The paper has garnered 907 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the academic community. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has influenced scholars outside the researcher's immediate network and institution, thereby confirming its broad independent impact.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[A Meta-Analysis of the Relationship Between Job Burnout and Secondary Traumatic Stress Among Workers With Indirect Exposure to Trauma](#)

2014 · Psychological Services · 907 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 415 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2014 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	PTSD symptoms in healthcare workers facing the three coronavirus outbreaks: What can we expect after the COVID-19 pandemic (2020)	Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, University of Pisa	Italy, United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
2	A Systematic Review of Secondary Traumatic Stress and Compassion Fatigue in Teachers (2022)	Indiana University Bloomington	United States	—
3	Communication accommodation theory: Past accomplishments, current trends, and future prospects (2023)	University of California, Santa Barbara	United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School	United States	—	1
University of Pisa	Italy	THE 351–400 · QS =343	1
La Trobe University	Australia	SCImago #1321 · THE 251–300 · QS =233	1
Indiana University Bloomington	United States	SCImago #798 · QS =306	1
Ariel University	Israel	SCImago #4925 · THE 1201–1500	1
University of California at San Francisco	United States	—	1
George Mason University	United States	SCImago #1399 · THE 401–500 · QS 951-1000	1
Tel Aviv University	Israel	SCImago #507 · THE 201–250 · QS 223	1
Huaqiao University	China	SCImago #2596 · THE 1201–1500	1
University of Bologna	Italy	THE 130	1
Brigham Young University	United States	SCImago #2113 · QS 1001-1200	1
North China University of Technology	China	SCImago #4026	1
University of Warwick	United Kingdom	SCImago #657 · THE =122 · QS 74	1
University of Delaware	United States	SCImago #1522 · THE 401–500 · QS =553	1
Baylor University	United States	SCImago #3105 · THE 801–1000 · QS 1001-1200	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	7
Italy	2
Australia	1
China	1

Country	Citing papers
Israel	1
United Kingdom	1

Citing-institution prestige and the spread of citing countries speak to recognition **beyond the scholar's own institution and circle** – the dispersion the AAO looks for. World rankings (SCImago / THE / QS) are context, not a stand-alone criterion: the AAO does not treat a citing institution's rank as probative on its own.

E. Citation Growth Over Time

Distinct citing papers by publication year. Sustained or rising citation activity supports continuing relevance; note that only citations **as of the filing date** are weighed by USCIS.



F. AAO Precedent Considerations

Pre-filing self-check (AAO denial patterns)

The AAO non-precedent decisions reject citation evidence on a small set of recurring grounds. Confirm the petition addresses each before filing:

- Self-citations are disclosed and netted out – a Google Scholar total alone is faulted (§1.1).
- Evidence is per individual article, not a body-of-work aggregate total (§1.2).
- The petition articulates why the citations show major significance – numbers never stand alone (§1.5).
- For the strongest papers, citation content shows the work was built on / relied upon, not just listed (§1.6, §2.2).
- Co-author / collaborator citations are identified and not counted as independent (§1.7).
- Recognition is shown beyond the scholar's own institution and circle (§1.8).
- Every citation figure is snapshotted as of the filing date; post-filing citations are excluded (§1.9).
- Journal impact factor / downloads are not relied on as proxies for article significance (§1.10, §1.12).
- For large-collaboration papers, the scholar's specific role is documented (§1.13).
- Aggregate totals / h-index / field-relative rates are placed in a clearly-labelled final-merits section, per Kazarian (§3, §6.1.7).

Disclaimer

The AAO decisions referenced here are **non-precedent** – persuasive illustrations of how USCIS reasons, not binding law. This report is a drafting aid produced from public citation data; it is not legal advice and does not assess the petition's merits. All analysis must be reviewed by qualified immigration counsel.

G. Citation Evidence Index

Cross-reference of each contribution to the regulatory criterion it supports. Counsel should map these to the petition's exhibit numbers.

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 1	Social cognitive theory of posttraumatic recovery: The role of perceived self-efficacy	9	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	A Meta-Analysis of the Relationship Between Job Burnout and Secondary Traumatic Stress Among Workers With Indirect Exposure to Trauma	3	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)