

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

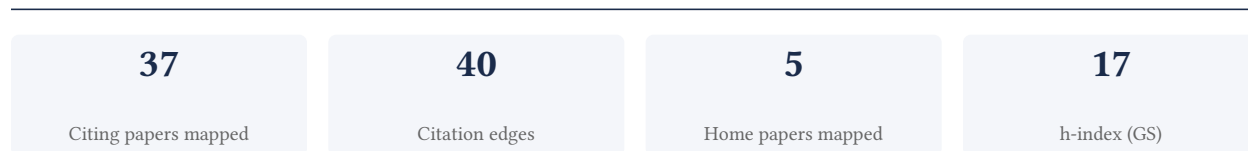
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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.

89.2% independent of 37 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	33
Self-citation	0
Co-author	4
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 conducted a seminal meta-analysis in Psychological Bulletin that systematically evaluated the efficacy, mechanisms, and target populations of growth mindset interventions.

The researcher established a foundational synthesis of growth mindset intervention literature through a 2022 article published in Psychological Bulletin. This work serves as the core contribution, offering a comprehensive review that addresses critical questions regarding for whom, how, and why such psychological interventions are effective. By consolidating existing evidence, the researcher provided a structured framework for understanding the variability in intervention outcomes.

This line of work appears to address the need for rigorous, aggregated evidence in a field often characterized by mixed results. The title suggests a move beyond simple efficacy claims to a nuanced analysis of moderating factors and underlying mechanisms. As the core paper stands alone without follow-up publications by the same researcher in this dataset, it represents a definitive, high-impact synthesis rather than an ongoing experimental series.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 501, indicating widespread recognition within the academic community. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 91.9% of citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has influenced scholars outside the researcher's immediate network and institution. This high degree of independent uptake underscores the paper's role as a key reference point for the broader field.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 10

CORE PAPER

[A systematic review and meta-analysis of growth mindset interventions: For whom, how, and why might such interventions work?](#)

2022 · Psychological Bulletin · 501 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 266 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2022 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	A Meta-Analysis on Teachers' Growth Mindset (2024)	Freie Universität Berlin, Justus Liebig University Giessen, The University of Melbourne	Australia, Austria, Germany	—
2	Teachers' support for growth mindset and its links with students' growth mindset, academic engagement, and achievements in lower secondary school (2023)	University of Stavanger	Norway	—
3	Why Meta-Analyses of Growth Mindset and Other Interventions Should Follow Best Practices for Examining Heterogeneity: Commentary on Macnamara and Burgoyne (2023) and Burnette et al. (2023) (2023)	Michigan State University, Northwestern University, The University of Texas at Austin	United States	—
4	How physical activity context relates to cognition across the lifespan: A systematic review and meta-analysis. (2025)	University of Wollongong	Australia	—
5	The unpleasantness of thinking: A meta-analytic review of the association between mental effort and negative affect. (2024)	Maastricht University, Radboud University	Netherlands	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
6	A critical analysis of the current motivation theories in educational psychology: Why the same theories continue to dominate (2025)	University of Tübingen	Germany	—
7	Evaluation of the "rethink stress" mindset intervention: A metacognitive approach to changing mindsets. (2023)	Boston College, Good Think Inc., Stanford University	United States	—
8	Literasi Baca Siswa Indonesia menurut Jenis Kelamin, Growth Mindset, dan Jenjang Pendidikan: Survei PISA (2023)	SMA Negeri 8 Yogyakarta, Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta	Indonesia	—
9	The motivating effect of monetary over psychological incentives is stronger in WEIRD cultures (2024)	Princeton University, University of Chicago, Yale University	United States	—
10	Cultivating a culture of learning: the role of leadership in fostering lifelong development (2024)	—	—	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher advanced forgiveness theory by proposing an attitudinal continuum from malevolence to benevolence, bridging conceptual frameworks with measurement practices.

The researcher’s core contribution rests on the 2019 paper ‘Forgiveness Takes Place on an Attitudinal Continuum from Malevolence to Benevolence: Toward a Closer Union of Forgiveness Theory and Measurement.’ This work appears to address a disconnect between theoretical constructs and empirical measurement in forgiveness research. By framing forgiveness as a continuum rather than a binary state, the researcher suggests a more nuanced approach to understanding interpersonal dynamics. The title indicates an effort to unify disparate elements of the field, offering a structural model that links abstract theory with concrete assessment tools. This line of work appears to have gained significant traction within the academic community. With 93 citations, the paper is well-cited, indicating its relevance to ongoing scholarly discourse. Notably, 91.9% of the citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the contribution has resonated beyond the researcher’s immediate circle and influenced broader scientific inquiry into forgiveness.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 10

CORE PAPER

[Forgiveness Takes Place on an Attitudinal Continuum from Malevolence to Benevolence: Toward a Closer Union of Forgiveness Theory and Measurement](#)

2019 · 93 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The road to consumer forgiveness is paved with money or apology? The roles of empathy and power in service recovery (2020)	—	—	—
2	Teacher Personality Domains and Facets: Their Unique Associations with Student-Ratings of	University of Zadar, University of Zagreb	Croatia	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
	Teaching Quality and Teacher Enthusiasm (2023)			
3	Definitional drift within the science of forgiveness: The dangers of avoiding philosophical analyses. (2025)	Liberty University, University of Wisconsin–Madison	United States	—
4	Dynamics of Moral Repair: Forgiveness, Self-Forgiveness, and the Restoration of Value Consensus as Interdependent Processes. (2021)	Flinders University, Virginia Commonwealth University	Australia, United States	—
5	Peer Victimization and Subjective Well-Being Among Chinese Adolescents: Moderated Mediation by Forgiveness and Self-Esteem. (2023)	Beijing Normal University, Central China Normal University	China	—
6	6-Fold path to self-forgiveness: an interdisciplinary model for the treatment of moral injury with intervention strategies for clinicians (2024)	California Institute of Integral Studies	United States	—
7	Rehumanizing the Self After Victimization: The Roles of Forgiveness Versus Revenge (2022)	Stanford University	United States	—
8	Unintended influence of leader forgiveness: increased employee cyberloafing (2023)	China University of Mining and Technology	China	—
9	Examining Motivational Profiles of Forgiveness in the Workplace: An Employee-Centered Approach (2025)	Flinders University	Australia	—
10	Beyond punishment: psychological foundations of restorative interventions (2025)	—	—	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 3

Claim – Contribution 3

The researcher established that coresidence duration and maternal investment cues regulate sibling altruism across cultures, as demonstrated in a seminal 2016 Journal of Personality and Social Psychology paper.

The researcher’s contribution centers on a 2016 paper published in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, which examines how coresidence duration and cues of maternal investment regulate sibling altruism across cultures. This work stands as a core contribution in the field, with no follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in the provided data.

This line of work appears to address the complex interplay between family structure, maternal investment signals, and altruistic behavior among siblings. By focusing on cross-cultural variations, the research suggests a nuanced understanding of how environmental and familial factors shape social dynamics, moving beyond single-culture or single-factor explanations.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its citation record. With 79 citations, the paper has garnered substantial attention. Notably, 91.9% of the citing papers are from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and built upon by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher’s immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

■ CORE PAPER

Coreidence duration and cues of maternal investment regulate sibling altruism across cultures.

2016 · Journal of Personality and Social Psychology · 79 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The behavioral ecology of cultural psychological variation (2018)	Arizona State University, University of Michigan	United States	—
2	Cognitive foundations for helping and harming others: Making welfare tradeoffs in industrialized and small-scale societies (2023)	University of California, Santa Barbara, University of Oregon	United States	—
3	Kin terms and fitness interdependence (2019)	Arizona State University, University of Arizona	United States	—
4	Re-examining the role of family relationships in structuring perceived helping obligations, and their impact on moral evaluation (2021)	Boston College	United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	3
Yale University	United States	SCImago #76 · THE 10 · QS 21	2
University of California, Santa Barbara	United States	SCImago #584 · THE 72 · QS 179	2
Boston College	United States	SCImago #3099 · THE 251–300 · QS =526	2
Arizona State University	United States	SCImago #357 · THE 201–250 · QS =173	2
University of Tübingen	Germany	THE =98	2
Flinders University	Australia	SCImago #2159 · THE 301–350 · QS 387	2
University of Vienna	Austria	THE =95 · QS 152	2
University of Arizona	United States	SCImago #408 · THE =138 · QS =287	1
Misurata University	Libya	—	1
Michigan State University	United States	SCImago #436 · THE =105 · QS 161	1
University of Zawia	Libya	—	1
Universitas Budi Luhur	Indonesia	—	1
Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Ekonomi	Indonesia	—	1
University of Pennsylvania	United States	SCImago #52 · THE 14 · QS 15	1

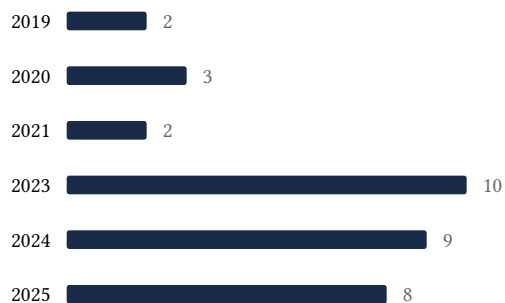
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	17
Australia	5
Canada	4
Netherlands	3
Austria	2
China	2
Germany	2
Indonesia	2
United Kingdom	2
Croatia	1
Libya	1
Denmark	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	A systematic review and meta-analysis of growth mindset interventions: For whom, how, and why might such interventions work?	10	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Forgiveness Takes Place on an Attitudinal Continuum from Malevolence to Benevolence: Toward a Closer Union of Forgiveness Theory and Measurement	10	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Coresidence duration and cues of maternal investment regulate sibling altruism across cultures.	4	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)