

# Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

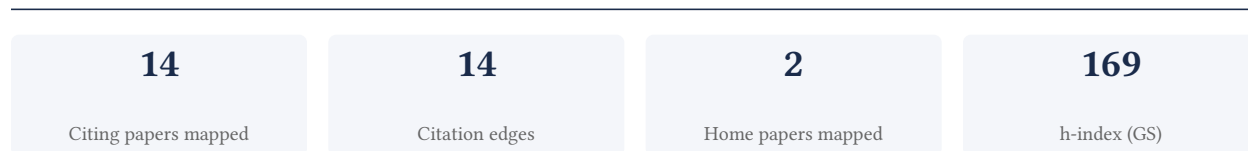
## I Gotlib

Professor of Psychology, Stanford University

[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.

**92.9% independent** of 14 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	13
Self-citation	0
Co-author	0
Same-institution	1

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 seminal developmental model explaining the mechanisms of psychopathology transmission from depressed mothers to their children, as evidenced by a highly cited 1999 Psychological Review article.*

The researcher's primary contribution is the formulation of a developmental model for understanding the mechanisms of transmission of psychopathology risk from depressed mothers to their children. This work is anchored in a 1999 article published in Psychological Review, which serves as the foundational text for this line of inquiry.

This contribution appears to address the need for a structured theoretical framework to explain intergenerational risk. By proposing a developmental model, the researcher moved beyond simple correlation to suggest specific mechanisms of transmission, offering a novel perspective on how maternal depression influences child outcomes.

The significance of this work is demonstrated by its substantial citation count of 3,628, indicating widespread recognition and utility in the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 92.9% originate from independent researchers, underscoring the broad, cross-institutional impact and acceptance of this theoretical model within the scientific community.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

#### CORE PAPER

### [Risk for Psychopathology in the Children of Depressed Mothers: A Developmental Model for Understanding Mechanisms of Transmission.](#)

1999 · Psychological Review · 3,628 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 2,468 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 1999 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">The validity of the multi-informant approach to assessing child and adolescent mental health.</a> (2015)	Temple University, University of Maryland	United States	—
2	<a href="#">Changes in Depression and Anxiety Among Children and Adolescents From Before to During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis</a> (2023)	Hospital for Sick Children, Mount Royal University, University College Dublin	Canada, Ireland	—
3	<a href="#">Depression in adolescence</a> (2012)	Cardiff University, NIMH-Intramural Research Program, Taff Riverside Practice	United Kingdom, United States	—
4	<a href="#">Neurodevelopmental disorders</a> (2017)	King's College London	United Kingdom	—
5	<a href="#">The role of childhood trauma in the neurobiology of mood and anxiety disorders: preclinical and clinical studies</a> (2001)	Charité Universitätsmedizin, University of Miami	Germany, United States	Background
6	<a href="#">Global burden of antenatal depression and its association with adverse birth outcomes: an umbrella review</a> (2020)	Flinders University, Jimma University, South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute	Australia, Ethiopia	Background
7	<a href="#">Parent–infant synchrony and the construction of shared timing: physiological precursors, developmental outcomes, and risk conditions</a> (2007)	Bar-Ilan University	Israel	Background

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
8	<a href="#">Economic, neurobiological, and behavioral perspectives on building America's future workforce</a> (2006)	Stanford University School of Medicine, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University, University of Chicago	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).

## Contribution 2

### Claim – Contribution 2

*The researcher established a foundational framework linking cognition and depression, as evidenced by a seminal 2010 Annual Review article that has garnered over 3,500 citations.*

The researcher's primary contribution is the synthesis of cognitive processes and depressive disorders, anchored by the 2010 paper 'Cognition and Depression: Current Status and Future Directions' published in Annual Review of Clinical Psychology. This work serves as the core reference for this line of inquiry.

This publication appears to address the need for a comprehensive overview of the intersection between cognitive science and clinical psychology. By reviewing current status and outlining future directions, the researcher provided a structured roadmap for the field, distinguishing this work as a pivotal review article rather than a single experimental study.

The significance of this contribution is demonstrated by its extensive uptake, with over 3,500 citations. Notably, 92.9% of classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has become a standard reference point for the broader scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

### CORE PAPER

#### [Cognition and Depression: Current Status and Future Directions](#)

2010 · Annual Review of Clinical Psychology · 3,502 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 2,302 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2010 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">From stress to inflammation and major depressive disorder: a social signal transduction theory of depression.</a> (2014)	University of California, Los Angeles	United States	Background
2	<a href="#">Rodent tests of depression and anxiety: Construct validity and translational relevance</a> (2024)	Boğaziçi University	Turkey	Background
3	<a href="#">Positive and Negative Emotion Regulation in Adolescence: Links to Anxiety and Depression</a> (2019)	King's College London, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	United Kingdom, United States	Background
4	<a href="#">Poverty, depression, and anxiety: Causal evidence and mechanisms</a> (2020)	Harvard Medical School, Harvard University, Harvard Uni-	United States	Background

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		iversity, Massachusetts Institute of Technology		
5	<a href="#">The social cost of depression: Investigating the impact of impaired social emotion regulation, social cognition, and interpersonal behavior on social functioning.</a> (2023)	University of Fribourg	Switzerland	—

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
King's College London	United Kingdom	THE 38 · QS 31	2
University of Ottawa	Canada	SCImago #610 · THE =187 · QS =219	1
Harvard University	United States	SCImago #4 · THE =5 · QS 5	1
University of Miami	United States	SCImago #545 · THE 201–250 · QS =314	1
Bar-Ilan University	Israel	SCImago #2119 · THE 601–800 · QS =660	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	SCImago #41 · THE 2 · QS 1	1
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	1
University of California, San Francisco	United States	SCImago #98	1
Columbia University	United States	SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38	1
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	1
University of Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	1
University of Alberta	Canada	SCImago #262 · THE 119 · QS =94	1
University of South Florida	United States	SCImago #806 · THE 351–400 · QS =654	1
Jimma University	Ethiopia	SCImago #5519	1
University of Calgary	Canada	SCImago #399 · THE 200 · QS 211	1

### Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	8
United Kingdom	3
Ethiopia	1
Germany	1

Country	Citing papers
Ireland	1
Australia	1
Switzerland	1
Turkey	1
Israel	1
Canada	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.

2020  2

2023  2

## 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

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

<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Core paper</b>	<b>Indep. cites</b>	<b>Supports</b>
Contribution 1	Risk for Psychopathology in the Children of Depressed Mothers: A Developmental Model for Understanding Mechanisms of Transmission.	8	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Cognition and Depression: Current Status and Future Directions	5	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)