

# Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

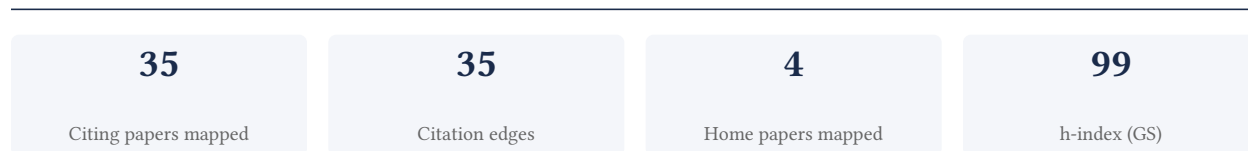
## Jutta Joormann

Yale 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.

**74.3% independent** of 35 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	26
Self-citation	2
Co-author	4
Same-institution	3

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 foundational link between emotion regulation and cognitive inhibition in depression, subsequently synthesizing this framework to guide future clinical research directions.*

The researcher's contribution centers on elucidating the relationship between emotion regulation and cognitive inhibition within the context of depression. This line of work is anchored by a seminal 2010 paper published in *Cognition & Emotion*, which has garnered over 2,200 citations, indicating its status as a key reference in the field.

Originality in this work appears to stem from integrating cognitive and emotional processes to better understand depressive mechanisms. The titles suggest a progression from identifying specific relational dynamics in 2010 to providing a comprehensive review and outlining future research directions in 2016. This chronological development indicates an effort to consolidate emerging evidence and clarify the theoretical landscape for subsequent investigators.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial uptake in the scientific community. The core paper's high citation count, alongside the follow-up review's 1,119 citations, demonstrates sustained relevance. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 85.7% of citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the work's broad impact beyond the researcher's immediate institutional or collaborative network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 11

#### CORE PAPER

### [Emotion regulation in depression: Relation to cognitive inhibition](#)

2010 · *Cognition & Emotion* · 2,233 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,167 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="#">Psychological Resilience: An Affect-Regulation Framework</a> (2023)	Franklin & Marshall College, Washington University in St. Louis	United States	—
2	<a href="#">The Structure of Common Emotion Regulation Strategies: A Meta-Analytic Examination</a> (2017)	University at Buffalo, The State University of New York	United States	—
3	<a href="#">Relation between emotion regulation and mental health: a meta-analysis review.</a> (2014)	—	—	—
4	<a href="#">Fear of missing out: Testing relationships with negative affectivity, online social engagement, and problematic smartphone use</a> (2018)	University of Macau, University of Toledo	China, 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.

#### FOLLOW-UP WORK

### [Examining emotion regulation in depression: A review and future directions](#)

2016 · *Behaviour Research and Therapy* · 1,119 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 656 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2016 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">Emotion regulation in autism spectrum disorder: Where we are and where we need to go</a> (2018)	Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism (Autism CRC), La Trobe University, University of Geneva	Australia, Switzerland	—
2	<a href="#">Physical activity and depression: Towards understanding the antidepressant mechanisms of physical activity</a> (2019)	King's College London, Monash University, University College London	Australia, Canada, United Kingdom	—
3	<a href="#">Unlocking the Emotional World of Visual Media: An Overview of the Science, Research, and Impact of Understanding Emotion</a> (2023)	Beijing National Research Center for Information Science and Technology (BNRist), Tsinghua University	China	—
4	<a href="#">Gaming Your Mental Health: A Narrative Review on Mitigating Symptoms of Depression and Anxiety Using Commercial Video Games</a> (2021)	—	—	—
5	<a href="#">The associations between academic stress and depression among college students: A moderated chain mediation model of negative affect, sleep quality, and social support</a> (2023)	Shanxi Datong University	China	—
6	<a href="#">Differences and Similarities in the Use of Nine Emotion Regulation Strategies in Western and East-Asian Cultures: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis</a> (2024)	—	—	—
7	<a href="#">Emotional dysregulation in relation to substance use and behavioral addictions: Findings from five separate meta-analyses</a> (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 established a foundational framework linking cognitive processes to depression, as evidenced by a highly cited seminal review that continues to shape clinical psychology discourse.*

The researcher’s primary contribution is the synthesis of cognitive mechanisms 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 central pillar of this research line, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in the provided data.

This line of work appears to address the need for a comprehensive overview of the intersection between cognition and depression. By framing the contribution as a review of current status and future directions, the researcher likely provided a critical consolidation of existing knowledge, identifying key gaps and proposing pathways for subsequent investigation in the field.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its substantial citation count of 3,506, indicating widespread influence. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 85.7% of classified citations originating from independent researchers, suggests that the work has been broadly adopted and utilized by the wider scientific community beyond the researcher’s immediate network.

CORE PAPER

**Cognition and depression: current status and future directions.**

2010 · Annual Review of Clinical Psychology · 3,506 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	—
2	<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	—
3	<a href="#">Poverty, depression, and anxiety: Causal evidence and mechanisms</a> (2020)	Harvard Medical School, Harvard University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	—
4	<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	—
5	<a href="#">Cognitive Psychology: A Student’s Handbook</a> (2020)	Royal Holloway, University of London, University College Dublin	Ireland, United Kingdom	—
6	<a href="#">Prefrontal cortex and depression</a> (2021)	Harvard Medical School & McLean Hospital	United States	—
7	<a href="#">Hot and cold executive functions in the brain: A prefrontal-cingular network.</a> (2021)	—	—	—
8	<a href="#">Marital Quality and Health: A Meta-Analytic Review</a> (2013)	University of California, Los Angeles, Wayne State University	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.

**Contribution 3**

**Claim — Contribution 3**

*The researcher provided a seminal framework for mental health challenges during the pandemic, establishing a critical call to action that has been widely adopted by independent scholars.*

The researcher’s contribution centers on the 2021 publication in American Psychologist, which addresses mental health and clinical psychological science during the COVID-19 pandemic. This work serves as the foundational piece for this line of inquiry, outlining specific challenges and opportunities while issuing a direct call to action for the field.

This line of work appears to address the urgent need for structured guidance in clinical psychology during a global crisis. By framing the pandemic’s impact through the lens of challenges and opportunities, the researcher likely filled a gap in immediate,

actionable scholarly discourse. The absence of follow-up papers by the same author suggests this single publication stands as a comprehensive, standalone intervention rather than part of a longitudinal series.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its high citation count of 941. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 85.7% originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption across the field. This high degree of independent uptake suggests the work has become a standard reference point for scholars addressing pandemic-related mental health issues.

#### INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

##### CORE PAPER

### **Mental Health and Clinical Psychological Science in the Time of COVID-19: Challenges, Opportunities, and a Call to Action.**

2021 · American Psychologist · 941 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 555 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2021 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">A Call to Action on Assessing and Mitigating Bias in Artificial Intelligence Applications for Mental Health</a> (2022)	Colliga Apps Corporation, Florida International University, Texas A&M University	United States	—
2	<a href="#">Mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic: Effects of stay-at-home policies, social distancing behavior, and social resources</a> (2020)	Loyola Marymount University, University of Pittsburgh	United States	—
3	<a href="#">Loneliness Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Systematic Review With Meta-Analysis</a> (2022)	Goethe University Frankfurt, University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz, Weill Cornell Medicine	Germany, United States	—
4	<a href="#">Mental Health During the First Year of the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Review and Recommendations for Moving Forward.</a> (2022)	Columbia University, Gallup Inc., Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health	Canada, United Kingdom, United States	—
5	<a href="#">Do pre-existing anxiety-related and mood disorders differentially impact COVID-19 stress responses and coping?</a> (2020)	University of British Columbia	Canada	—
6	<a href="#">A large-scale meta-analytic atlas of mental health problems prevalence during the COVID-19 early pandemic.</a> (2022)	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), University of Toronto, Democritus University of Thrace	Canada, Greece, South Korea	—
7	<a href="#">Suicide before and during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Systematic Review with Meta-Analysis</a> (2023)	—	—	—

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
Yale University	United States	SCImago #76 · THE 10 · QS 21	4
King's College London	United Kingdom	THE 38 · QS 31	3
University of California, Los Angeles	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	3
University of British Columbia	Canada	SCImago #144 · THE 45 · QS 40	3
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	Greece	SCImago #1021 · THE 801–1000 · QS =485	2
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	2
Washington University in St. Louis	United States	THE 67 · QS 167	2
Monash University	Australia	THE =58 · QS =36	2
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	2
Cook Children's Healthcare System	United States	—	1
University of Geneva	Switzerland	SCImago #830 · THE =166 · QS =155	1
La Trobe University	Australia	SCImago #1321 · THE 251–300 · QS =233	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	SCImago #41 · THE 2 · QS 1	1
Wayne State University	United States	SCImago #1290 · THE 501–600 · QS 781-790	1
Neuroqualia	—	—	1

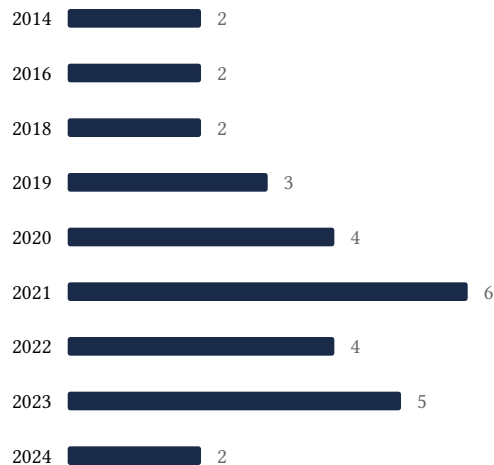
### Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	19
United Kingdom	6
Canada	5
Australia	4
China	3
Switzerland	2
Greece	2
Germany	2
Uruguay	1
Belgium	1
Hong Kong	1
Ireland	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.

<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Core paper</b>	<b>Indep. cites</b>	<b>Supports</b>
Contribution 1	Emotion regulation in depression: Relation to cognitive inhibition	11	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Cognition and depression: current status and future directions.	8	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Mental Health and Clinical Psychological Science in the Time of COVID-19: Challenges, Opportunities, and a Call to Action.	7	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)