

## Editorial

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The International Journal of Developmental Science (IJDS) is pleased to announce the addition in July 2014 of a new Section: “Target Article” and “Invited Peer Commentary to a Target Article”.

Target articles are original manuscripts that should be novel, substantive and contribute a significant understanding on topics devoted to developmental science. The purpose of the invited peer commentary model of publication is to provide an interaction between different experts - whose expertise is widely recognized in the respective field of knowledge - and the authors of a target article. The goal of a commentary is to highlight important or novel issues, methodological features, results, or conclusions of the target article. Commentators should provide criticism and should discuss the results and implications of the respective target article with regard to their expertise. Commentaries will be co-published with the target article; the authors’ response usually will be published in one of the upcoming issues of IJDS.

The target article “Bullying, Romantic Rejection, and Conflicts with Teachers: The Crucial Role of Social Dynamics in the Development of School Shootings – A Systematic Review” by Sommer, Leuschner, and Scheithauer (2014) in this issue of IJDS presents readers with an opportunity to find out, whether the argument that perpetrators of school shootings had experienced intense conflicts and problematic relations with peers

and teachers on their developmental pathway towards committing a violent act at their respective school turns out to be true. In a further manuscript, Bondü and Scheithauer (2014) analyze the peer and teacher relationships in German school shooting cases. Several commentaries on Sommer et al.’s target article are provided by experts from different disciplines. Authors’ responses to those commentaries will be published in the next Issue of IJDS.

We, the editors of IJDS, are sincerely appreciative of the many commentaries we have received and hope that you will enjoy reading this issue of IJDS.

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### References

- Bondü, R., & Scheithauer, H. (2014). Peer and teacher relationships in German school shooters. *International Journal of Developmental Science*, 8, 57-63.
- Sommer, F., Leuschner, V., & Scheithauer, H. (2014). Bullying, romantic rejection, and conflicts with teachers: The crucial role of social dynamics in the development of school shootings – A systematic review. *International Journal of Developmental Science*, 8, 3-24.