Travis Hirschi’s social bonds theory was first postulated in 1969. Since then, it has spawned a significant body of literature examining why individuals do not engage in antisocial behavior. Various factors, such as sex differences, antisocial behavior type, and even the enduring effects of social bonds over time, have been examined to determine how powerful social bonds are, but within-family differences have yet to be explored.

This dissertation seeks to contribute to the body of social bonds literature by examining within-family differences in social bonds among mixed-sex sibling dyads with respect to nonviolent behavior specifically.