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Authors: Amanda Hampton Wray, Courtney Stevens, Eric Pakulak, Elif Isbell, Theodore Bell, Helen Neville



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## Development of selective attention in preschool-age children from lower socioeconomic status backgrounds

Amanda Hampton Wray<sup>1</sup>, Courtney Stevens<sup>2</sup>, Eric Pakulak<sup>3</sup>, Elif Isbell<sup>4</sup>, Theodore Bell<sup>3</sup>, & Helen Neville<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Michigan State University, Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, 1026 Red Cedar Rd., East Lansing, MI 48824

<sup>2</sup>Willamette University, Department of Psychology, 900 State Street, Salem, OR 97301

<sup>3</sup>University of Oregon, Department of Psychology, 1227 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403

<sup>4</sup>University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Greensboro, NC, 27412

Corresponding Author:

Amanda Hampton Wray

Michigan State University

Department of Communicative Sciences & Disorders

Email: ahw@msu.edu

### Highlights

- We assessed selective attention in 4-year-olds from lower & higher SES backgrounds.
- Development of selective attention over one year was evaluated in the LSES group.
- At age four, only the HSES group showed enhanced neural responses with attention.
- The LSES group developed an effect of attention on neural processing by age five.
- The LSES group showed persistent attenuation in distractor suppression at age five.

### Abstract

Although differences in selective attention skills have been identified in children from lower compared to higher socioeconomic status (SES) backgrounds, little is known about these differences in early childhood, a time of rapid attention development. The current study evaluated the development of neural systems for selective attention in

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