

# Laura Gorla

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## EDUCATION

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### University of Milano-Bicocca

*Ph.D. in Psychology, Linguistic and Cognitive Neuroscience*

Milan, Italy

*Nov 2020 – Present*

- Supervisor: Prof. [Alessandra Santona](#)
- Research interests: communicative openness in international adoptive families, the well-being of adopted children, parent-child relations, parenthood, and family functioning.
- From January 2023, visiting scholar at the Sanford School of Public Policy, Center for Child and Family Policy of Duke University to work on the Parenting Across Cultures (PAC) and the Fast Track (FT) research projects.  
Supervisor: [Jennifer Landsford, Ph.D.](#)

### Centro Panta Rei Psychotherapy School

*Specialization in Psychotherapy for families and individuals*

Milan, Italy

*Dec 2021 – Present*

- Learning how to conduct psychotherapeutic interventions with families, children, adolescents and adults.

### Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

*Professional license as a developmental psychologist*

Milan, Italy

*Sep 2016 – Apr 2020*

- MSc in Developmental Psychology and Child Protection Processes
- Graduation grade: 110 / 110
- Final Thesis *Maternal Representations in Oncological Pregnancy*, a research project in collaboration with three Italian hospitals focused on the relationship between cancer and maternal mental representations.

### Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

*Bachelor in Psychological Sciences*

Milan, Italy

*Sep 2013 – July 2016*

- Graduation grade: 106 / 110
- Final Thesis *Social and Communicative Deficits of Children with the Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Therapeutic Play Intervention in Pre-schoolers*

## EXPERIENCE

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### Trainee Psychotherapist

*ASL, Agenzia Sanitaria Locale*

Novara, Italy

*Jun 2022 – Present*

- Psychotherapy with adults patients
- Conducting psychological support groups for fathers

### Counselor with Learning Disabilities

*CSE- Centro Servizi Educativi Milano*

Milan, Italy

*Jun 2019 – Present*

- School support and tutoring for children with Dyslexia, Dysorthographia, Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia
- Parenting Training activities
- Assessment of learning difficulties

### Trainee psychologist in neuropsychology

*Elice Onlus*

Milan, Italy

*Apr 2019 – Sep 2019*

- Treatment and support of children with severe physical and cognitive disabilities
- Administration of WISC-IV and other intelligence tests

### Trainee psychologist in international adoptions

*CIAl Onlus - Centro Italiano Aiuti all'Infanzia*

Milan, Italy

*Oct 2018 – Apr 2019*

- Selection and training of potential adoptive families, subsequent matching of child and family, post-adoption support and help
- Theatrical therapy on emotional regulation with adopted children

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Santona, A., Vismara, L., **Gorla, L.**, Tognasso, G., Ambrosini, C., Luli, A., & Rollè, L. (2023). The Relationship between Attachment, Dyadic Adjustment, and Sexuality: A Comparison between Infertile Men and Women. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 20(4), 3020
- Tognasso, G., **Gorla, L.**, Ambrosini, C., Figurella, F., De Carli, P., Parolin, L., Sarracino, D. and Santona, A. (2022) Parenting Stress, Maternal Self-Efficacy and Confidence in Caretaking in a Sample of Mothers with Newborns (0-1 Month). *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 2022; 19(15):9651
- Tognasso, G., Trombetta, T., **Gorla, L.**, Ramon, S., Santona, A. and Rolle, L. (2022) Romantic Attachment, Internalized Homonegativity, and Same-Sex Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration Among Lesbian Women in Italy. *Frontiers in Psychology* 13:870921
- Santona, A., Milesi, A., Tognasso, G., **Gorla, L.** and Parolin, L. Anxiety in Attachment and Sexual Relationships in Adolescence: A Moderated Mediation Model. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 2022; 19(7):4181
- Santona, A., **Gorla, L.**, Tognasso, G. (2022) Psychological implications of the “Back to Origins” journey for intercountry adoptees. *Adoption and Fostering* 46 (1), 60-72
- Santona, A., Tognasso, G., Miscioscia, C.L., Russo, D., and **Gorla, L.** (2022) Talking about the birth family since the beginning: the communicative openness in the new adoptive family. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 2022; 19(3):1203.
- Santona, A., Vecchi, A., **Gorla, L.**, and Tognasso, G. (2021) Parenthood desire in Italian homosexual couples. *Journal of Family Issues*, 2021; 43(4), 974–992

## CONFERENCES ATTENDED

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- Gorla, L.**, Santona, A. and Tognasso, G. How adolescents perceive homosexuality: an overview of the Italian context. *Symposium at 8th International Congress of Clinical and Health Psychology in Children and Adolescents*, Elche, Spain, 16-19 November 2022
- Gorla, L.** Adoption as social parenthood: the social representations of adoptive families in the Italian context. *Poster at XXX National Congress of Associazione Italiana Psicologia*, Padova, Italy, 27-30 September 2022
- Gorla, L.**, Santona, A. and Tognasso, G. Homonegativity and mentalization: an intervention to improve the adolescents' attitudes towards homosexuality. *Symposium at the XXX National Congress of Associazione Italiana Psicologia*, Padova, Italy, 27-30 September 2022
- Santona, A., Tognasso, G., Beck, G., **Gorla, L.** and Miscioscia, C. Adoption outcomes. How the events experienced before adoption could affect the adaptation to new contexts. *Symposium at International Conference on Adoption Research 7 ICAR7*, July 2021, Milan, Italy
- Tognasso, G., Santona, A., **Gorla, L.**, Sechi, C., Trombetta, T. Minority stress, adult attachment and same-sex intimate partner violence in Italy. *Symposium at XXVII National Congress of Associazione Italiana Psicologia*, Lecce, Italy, 20-22 September 2021
- Gorla, L.**, Santona, A., Chistolini, Raymondi, M., Tognasso, G. “Psychological implications of the “Back to the Origins” journey for adoptees”. *Poster at XXII National Congress of Associazione italiana Psicologia*, Lecce, Italy, 20-22 September 2021

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** Italian (Native), English (Fluent)  
**IT:** SPSS, Microsoft Office (Advanced), R, Jamovi, Qualtrics