Research

My research interests are in understanding the psychological and neuroscientific processes underlying social decision-making, and in the application of these findings to address real-world societal issues. I am particularly interested in the impact of poverty on decision-making, and applying scientific insights to the development of actual policy interventions aiming to alleviate poverty in the Netherlands and abroad.

To this end, I currently combine two jobs. Since 2017, I have been an assistant professor at the Social, Economic and Organisational Psychology department, at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences of Leiden University. Additionally, since 2017, I have been a senior researcher at the Poverty Interventions research group of the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. Combining these two positions allows me to apply insights from academia to the development of poverty interventions in the field, while, at the same time, translating questions from the field to my research in the lab.

Previously, I was a postdoctoral researcher in the department of Psychology at Stanford University, collaborating with Prof. Brian Knutson, prior to working at Stanford University, I held a postdoctoral position at the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition, and Behaviour at Radboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands, collaborating with Prof. Alan Sanfey. I obtained my PhD at Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands, under the guidance of Prof. Ale Smidts, and I obtained my Master’s degree in Cognitive Science (*cum Laude*) at the University of Amsterdam.

My research has been published in leading journals such as *The Journal of Neuroscience*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science in the United States, Psychological Science,* and more. I have presented my work at numerous academic conferences, including the *Annual Meeting of the Society of Neuroeconomic*s and the *Psychological Science Annual Convention.* Additionally, I have presented my research at a large number of venues for non-academic audiences, including workshops for policy makers and professionals aiming to alleviate poverty in the Netherlands and abroad.