Psychology Department Colloquium

Dr. Nim Tottenham
Columbia University

Development of Emotion Regulation Neurobiology and the Role of the Caregiver

The neurobiological foundation of mature emotion regulation is comprised of connections between the amygdala and medial prefrontal cortex (mPFC). We have shown that this circuitry is slow to develop in humans, and age-related changes in this neurobiology underlie the maturation of affective behaviors. The current talk will present a series of behavioral and functional neuroimaging studies that characterize the development of this circuitry and begin to elucidate the mechanisms by which social environments modulate its development. The talk is dedicated to neural and behavioral findings in typical development and also to development following early caregiving adversity. Discussion will focus on possible sensitive periods of brain development and the role of the social environment in establishing the neural architecture that supports emotional behaviors in maturity.

Thursday, February 25, 4 pm
Refreshments served at 3:45
106 West Village G