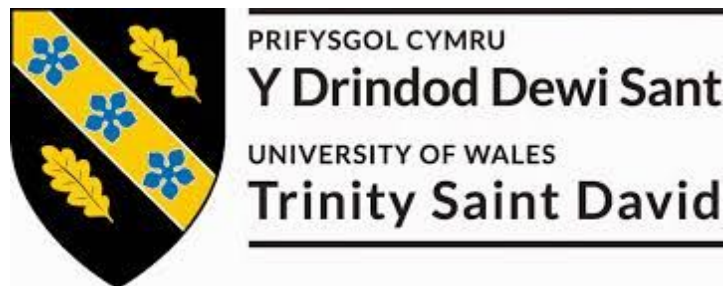


Shauna Speakman



A report following the recognition of faces
following a distractor test

Abstract

The aim of this study has been focused upon own race bias. There has been many studies focused upon this paper and possibly many more in due future, the aim was to find out if own races would recall their own race due to memory and recognition. 29 participants from a lecture class had completed the study 22 female and 7 male. Possibly Issues with the study has been that the majority of participants were all white British completing the study this can cause interruption later in the results. For future studies it has been suggested to get an even amount of mixed within race and gender. The results shown that participants had recalled many more black faces than white and that the original hypothesis that was set must be rejected.

Introduction

R, Malpass & J, Kravitz (1969) said that Race is used as a way of referring to differences in physiognomy that correlate with and can be used for cues to the race of the stimulus person. Own race bias is said to be easier to recall recognition of human faces with the same race compared to remembering faces of another race. There has been many studies conducted on this topic with the hypothesis of an individual being more likely to recognise the same race. In the same study conducted by R, Malpass & J, Kravitz (1969) it is stated that "all blacks and arabs look the same" this would make an assumption that could be the reason why it is more easier for races to recall their own race because they look rather similar to one another. Facial expressions can be something to trigger when recalling and be familiar with. Own race bias can sometimes cause what is known as the "mirror effect" where individuals see people similar to how they would look or how they think they look and recall just because of that reason. For participants to recall faces they are familiar with can be for other reasons as well as race, the way they look for attractiveness, do they recall them because they are drawn in by the look. Also eye colour, face structure and maybe gender or age. Own race bias may always not have white recalling white and vice versa because the individuals who participate may recall people more similar to who they spend more time with and that can be opposite to their race. A rationale to conduct this study is because it is thought and can mostly be seen in many other studies that white people should be able to recall white faces better than white people recalling black faces as well as black faces recalling black instead of white. The hypothesis for this study is that white individuals will recall more faces than recalling black faces.

Method write up

Participants

To complete the study there was 29 participants all together, there was 22 females and 7 males in the group. The group was joined together by a lecturer who was conducting the study. The whole of the group was white and the majority of the groups ethnicity was white British.

Design

The design of the study has been within the subject. The IV was the race and ethnicity of white faces and black faces. The DV was the number of faces that were recognised correctly at the end of the study and the test that has been carried out is a paired sample t test.

Masterials

To begin in a lecture room everyone was sat at desks in a group setting, then told what would happen by the lecturer and told to be quiet for people to concentrate. A PowerPoint was shown, and it stated on the screen what was going to happen. Part 1 was 12 faces shown on the screen 6x black and 6x white all mixed up one after another they were on the screen for 1-2 seconds each on a separate slide. Part 2 had shown 36 faces they were in a block of 6 at a time together for 12 seconds. The faces on the screen were mixed with one another black and white faces. Then was given a sheet that participants can recall answers and their responses on to the sheet.

Procedure

First was a consent form given to the participants, in a group setting and was asked to quieten down to start the study. Additional instructions came up onto the screen to tell participants what was needed to be done. There was a distraction from the lecturer for 1 minute introducing the study to the group then the participants were given a recall sheet for the feedback. The PowerPoint started it showed 12 faces black and white at different times all each on an individual slide each for 1-2 seconds with mixed black and white after one another. After part 1 had finished part 2 started and it had 36 faces some from part 1 mixed up with other faces. The faces were 6 photos in each slide lasting for 12 seconds each, when

each slide was shown they had to recall what faces they had recognised from part 1 to show if they could remember and who they were more likely to remember.

Results

A paired-samples t-test was conducted to determine whether participants were able to recall more white faces than black faces following a period of distraction. The results show that participants recalled significantly more black faces ($M = 3.34$, $SD = 2.42$) than white faces ($M = 2.67$, $SD = 1.97$); $t(29) = 3.12$, $p < 0.05$. The original hypothesis for this study that participants would recall significantly more white faces must be rejected.

Discussion

The outcomes are showing that the hypothesis was not supported and it must be rejected. The findings of the study did not correlate to any literature previously. Outlining limitations of the study there are a few that can be mentioned. The group was very big and all quite close together, this could have been changed by having the study done in smaller groups or individually the group may have answered the response sheet similarly when sitting next to peers. Another implication for the study would be that the ethnic of the participants were all white and this could have been a barrier. To further this study to the next step would be to get more participants but in smaller groups so there are more with a broader range. Also another positive reason would be with a mix of ethnicity to make the results even not just all white british participants. A positive statement that has come from this study is that the results didn't show any discrimination.

Reference

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Appendices

SHAUNA SPENKMAN

$$\frac{\sqrt{59 - \frac{(60)^2}{N}}}{\sqrt{N-1}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{59 - \frac{(21)^2}{N}}}{\sqrt{N-1}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{59 - \frac{441}{N}}}{\sqrt{N-1}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{59 - \frac{15.207}{N-1}}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{43.793}}{\sqrt{N-1=28}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{1564}}{\sqrt{29}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{1.564}}{\sqrt{29} = 1.251}$$

$$5.385$$

$$SE = 0.232$$

$$T = \frac{D}{SE}$$

$$T = \frac{mean}{21 - 29 = 0.724}$$

$$T = \frac{0.724}{0.232}$$

$$T = 3.12 \quad p < 0.05$$

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Study Consent Form

I understand that taking part in this research study will involve me viewing a number of faces and attempting to recall the faces I have already seen.

I understand that this study consists of two parts. Part one will take approximately two minutes and will consist of me viewing a number of faces. For part two, I understand that I need to pay attention to the faces being presented and record which faces were shown in part one.

I understand that participation in this study is entirely voluntary and I am free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason. I am aware that if I have concerns about the study I can discuss these concerns with the researcher at any time during or after the study.

I understand that the information provided by me will be used for the purpose of providing data for analysis, but that this data will be held confidentially and anonymously, with a code assigned in place of my name. These data will be stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

I also understand that at the end of the study I will be provided with a debrief form and the opportunity to discuss any issues with the researcher.

I, _____ (NAME) consent to participate in the study conducted by Stacy Coleman, School of Psychology, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Swansea.

Participant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name and signature of researcher taking consent: _____

