


Stereotype Lift: Naturalistic Age Stereotype Manipulation Benefits Memory in Midlife

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ATTITUDES AND SOCIAL COGNITION

Stereotype Threat and the Intellectual Test Performance of African Americans

Claude M. Steele
Harvard University
Joshua Aronson
University of Texas, Austin

Does Stereotype Threat Affect Test Performance of Minorities and Women? A Meta-Analysis of Experimental Evidence

Hannah-Hath D. Nguyen
California State University, Long Beach

Why they leave: the impact of stereotypes threat on the attrition of women and minorities from science, math and engineering majors

Maya A. Beasley - Mary J. Fischer

Abstract This paper examines the effects of group performance anxiety on the utilization of being judged or tested independently, or of being stereotyped.

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Cabeza et al., 2018; Hertzog, Kramer, Wilson, & Lindenberger, 2004; Hess, 2014; Hummert, 2011; Nyberg & Pudas, 2019; Park & Festini, 2016; Wu & Strickland-Hughes, 2019

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Review

The Applied Implications of Age-Based Stereotype Threat for Older Adults

- ★ Age-based stereotype threat
 - ◆ Impairs cognition ($d=.36$)
 - ◆ Impairs episodic memory ($d=.25$)
- ★ Age priming and worse memory ($d=.38$)

Armstrong, Gallant, Li, Patel, & Wong, 2017; Barber, 2020; Horton, Baker, Pearce, & Deakin, 2008; Lamont, Swift, & Abrams, 2014; Rubin & Bernstein, 2006

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Brothers et al., 2017; Hess et al., 2004; Hess & Hinson, 2006; Montepare, 2009; Rubin & Bernstein, 2006; Weiss & Freund, 2012; Weiss & Lang, 2012

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Research Aims: Naturalistic replication

- ★ Examination of “real world” impact
 - ◆ Naturalistic “newspaper” materials
 - ◆ Home and community centers
- ★ Exploration of moderators and mediators
 - ◆ Age and stereotype awareness
 - ◆ Perceived threat and anxiety
 - ◆ Subjective age and memory beliefs

Bouazzaoui et al., 2016; Barber, 2020; Barber & Lui, 2020; Chasteen et al., 2006; Fernández-Ballesteros, Bustillos, & Huici, 2015; Hess & Hinson, 2006; Hess, Hinson & Hodges, 2009; Hess, Hinson, & Statham, 2004; Kang & Chasteen, 2009; Osborn, 2001; Sindi et al., 2013; Swift, Abrams, & Marques, 2013

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Methods

- ★ N=51 adults (50-88 yrs. old; M=63, SD=10)
- ★ Phone screening (15 min.) and in-person assessment (45-60 min.)
- ★ Random assignment
 - ◆ n=26 **stereotype** stimuli (13 reported awareness)
 - ◆ n=25 **control** stimuli
- ★ Episodic memory: Story recall task

West, Strickland-Hughes & Smith, 2018

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- ★ The punchline of this comic was ___.
not at all funny □□□□□□□□□□ very funny
- ★ This comic shows real life.
very untrue □□□□□□□□□□ very true
- ★ Overall, this comic was ___.
very mean □□□□□□□□□□ very nice

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- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| AVENUE | DEMENTIA | PILLOW |
| DIFFER | FRAGILE | TABLE |
| CONFUSED | INEPT | WEAK |

Instructions: For this puzzle, first solve the jumbled words. Then, use the circled letters from your answers to fill in the surprise answer at the end. The surprise answer is suggested by the cartoon.

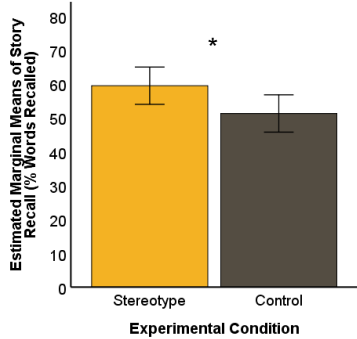
- TAREF → **TABLE**
- APTER → **TABLE**
- TROOFG → **FOUR**
- MMEARH → **HAMMER**
- ISRONE → **SENDER**
- NEDIELCD → **DECLINED**



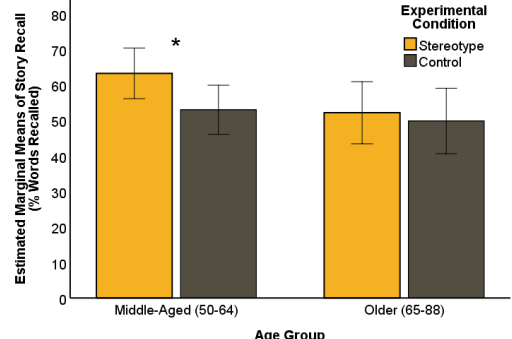
A: **FOUND** THE **TIME**

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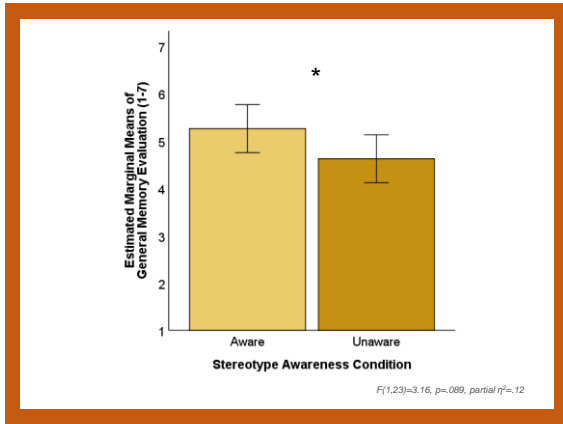
10



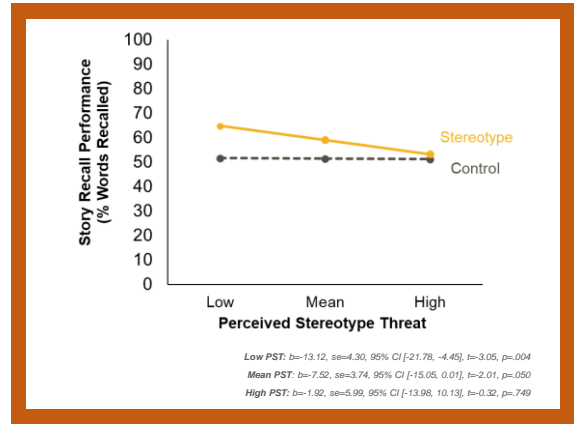
11



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Stereotype rejection


- ★ Favorable conditions “unthreatening”?
- ★ Transition into “old age”: stereotype lift?
- ★ Possible targets for training

Geraci, Hughes, Miller, & De Forrest, 2016; Geraci & Miller, 2013; Walton & Cohen, 2003


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Aging and Cognitive Training Lab



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