



# Interpersonal Relationships

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*Psych 1A – Social Psychology*



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We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Kaurna people,  
the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we gather on.

We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of the  
Kaurna people to country and we respect and value their past, present  
and ongoing connection to the land and cultural beliefs.

Length: 13m

# Introduction

This presentation discusses how we form friendships.

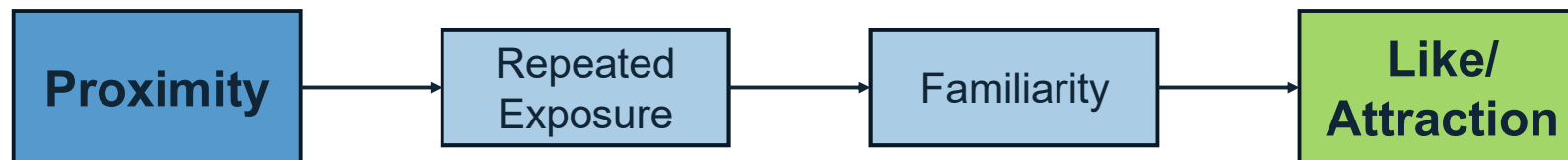
## Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn about some of the ingredients necessary for friendships to form



# Forming Friendships: Before We Meet

- Proximity
  - [Bossard 1982](#)
  - Proximity leads to [repeated exposure](#) and we tend to like people more when we are familiar with them



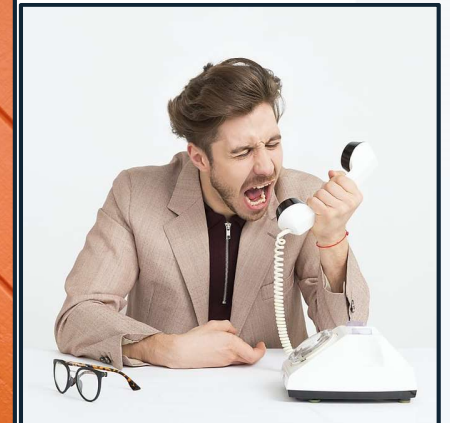
# Forming Friendships: When We Meet

The mood of the other person affects our initial evaluations/ attraction toward another person.

Our mood also influences how we evaluate people.



"I want to be friends with this person, they seem nice"



"I do not want to be friends with this angry man!"



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# The Effect of Appearance

We ascribe positive traits to people we think are good looking. Attractiveness is associated with good outcomes:

- More positive perceptions/ evaluations from others
- More career opportunities and better grades
- Greater leniency from punishments

But, there isn't actually a correlation between looks and personality/ ability/ IQ.

- Evolutionary explanation: more attractive = healthier = better mate



# Forming Friendships: When We Interact

Once we start talking to a person, what is needed for a friendship to form

- **Reciprocity Principle:** More likely to like a person who likes us back
- Idea that “birds of a feather flock together”: The more similar we are to a person, the more likely we are to like them
  - **Social Comparison Theory:** We hang around with people who are similar to ourselves to validate ourselves



# Summary

- Proximity helps interpersonal relationships form
- Our mood, the mood of the other person, and the appearance of the other person can affect how we evaluate them
- Reciprocated interest and similarity often influence if we keep talking to a person





make  
history.

