**Participant Population**

Students

**Study Location**

Online

**General Checklist**

No: collaborating institutions

No: payment

No: funding

**Qualified Staff**

The study staff includes the PI and 1 research scientist who will assist with running the study and analysis. These staff will receive thorough training in all relevant aspects of the experiments.

**Training**

All researchers will have completed the required human subjects (CITI) training and will receive thorough and ongoing training relevant to their research duties and functions (e.g., administering the experiments and conducting analysis).

**Facilities**

Data collection will be conducted online.

**Time**

2 years

**Participant Access**

Yes

**Access to resources**

N/A; We do not expect that participants will require medical or psychological resources as a consequence of this research.

**Exempt Paragraphs**

3 and B

**In 3-5 sentences, state the purpose of the study in lay language.**

The purpose of this study is to understand how research participants behave when they are aware of the researcher’s hypothesis.

In one part of the study, participants will be asked to consider how they would hypothetically respond in a variety of conditions where the researcher’s hypothesis is clearly described. In the other part of the study, participants will complete a benign intervention, wherein they will pose happy and neutral facial expressions and subsequently self-report their emotions. Before the benign intervention, we will describe one of two competing hypotheses being tested in the study.

**State what you hope to learn from the study and assess the importance of this new knowledge.**

A fundamental concern in research with humans is that their responses will be biased by their awareness of the researcher’s hypothesis. Our study will ask participants about three factors we believe might help explain when and why awareness of the researcher’s hypothesis biases participants’ responses: (1) motivation to confirm the researcher’s hypothesis, (b) belief in the researcher’s hypothesis, and (c) perceived ability to adjust responses to the researcher’s measures-of-interest.

**Describe ALL the procedures human participants will undergo. Are the research procedures the least risky that can be performed consistent with sound research design?**

In study Part 1, participants will be randomly assigned to review 21 (out of approximately 120) short descriptions of psychology experiment conditions. After reading each description, participants will be asked to identify the researcher’s hypothesis and then rate the extent to which they would (1) be motivated to confirm they researcher’s hypothesis, (2) believe the researcher’s hypothesis, and (3) have the ability to adjust responses to the researcher’s measures-of-interest.

The conditions described in study Part 1 correspond to actual psychology experiments that manipulated the hypothesis communicated to participants. The effects of these manipulated hypotheses have already been calculated for a previous meta-analysis. We will use the ratings from study Part 1 to see if (a) hypothetical ratings of motivation, belief, and ability to adjust response can explain variability in (b) the effects of manipulated hypotheses observed in the previous meta-analysis.

In Study Part 2, participants will complete an experimental condition described in Part 1. Specifically, they will be asked to (a) pose happy and neutral facial expressions twice (for a total of four poses), and then (b) self-report their emotions (e.g., happiness, anger, concentration). Before completing the pose, participants will be told the hypothesis communicated in the actual experiment (i.e., that the study tests whether posed facial expressions impact emotion).

The order of Study Part 1 and Part 2 will be randomized. After completing both parts, participants will self-report their age, gender, and ethnicity. Afterwards, they will be debriefed.

**State if audio or video recording will occur. Describe how the recordings will be used, e.g., shown at scientific meetings, used for transcription. Describe the final disposition of the recordings, e.g., erased, stored.**

Audio or video recording will not occur.

**Does the study involve**[**deception?**](https://stanfordmedicine.box.com/shared/static/lolfrimbs34jq2serfo5bsoye2t46o3p.pdf)

No.

**How many participants do you expect to enroll?  What type of participants will you enroll (e.g., high school students, teachers, government officials)?**

We expect that up to 500 Stanford psychology students will participate in the study.

**What are the age range, gender, and racial or ethnic background of the participant population being targeted?**

Any Stanford psychology student who is over 18 can participate in this study regardless of gender, race, or ethnicity.

**If applicable, explain why potentially vulnerable participants are needed (e.g., children, pregnant women, students, economically or educationally disadvantaged, homeless, people with impaired decision making capacity).**

N/A

**Will any participants be your students, laboratory personnel and/or employees?  See Stanford University policy at**[**http://doresearch.stanford.edu/policies/research-policy-handbook/human-subjects-and-stem-cells-research/use-employees-or-laboratory**](http://doresearch.stanford.edu/policies/research-policy-handbook/human-subjects-and-stem-cells-research/use-employees-or-laboratory)**).**

No.

**How will you recruit participants (E.g., by: Honest Broker or other**[**Research Participation services;**](https://researchcompliance.stanford.edu/participantengagement)**ads, classroom recruitment, word of mouth, letters mailed home, email)?  Attach recruitment materials in the *Attachments* section.  YOU MAY NOT CONTACT POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS PRIOR TO IRB NOTICE OF EXEMPTION. ALL FINAL OR REVISED RECRUITMENT MATERIALS, FLYERS, ETC. MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE IRB FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BEFORE USE.**

Participants will be recruited through the Stanford Psychology SONA system.

**PAYMENT or REIMBURSEMENT.  Will participants be paid or reimbursed for participation?  If yes, how much, and explain why proposed payments/reimbursements are reasonable.  Explain how payment will be prorated, if there is more than one study session.   See**[**payment considerations**](https://stanfordmedicine.box.com/shared/static/gpbjsk4avx04zqhtynetytiyi1o9py59.pdf)**.**

Participants will not be payed, although they may receive course credit for participating in the study.

**Explain what costs will be incurred by the participant.  If none, enter 'none'.**

None

**What is the total time that each participant will spend in the entire study (e.g., 20 minutes, 2 hours, 3 days)?**

30 minutes

**Describe any reasonably anticipated potential risks(s), including risk(s) to physical, psychological, political, economic or social well-being.  If risks are not reasonably anticipated, enter 'none'.**

None

**If you are conducting international research, describe qualifications/ preparations that enable you to both estimate and minimize risks to participants.  Please review the Listing of**[**Social-Behavioral Research Standards**](https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/international/social-behavioral-research-standards)**, to ensure that your research complies with all applicable standards and complete the**[**International Research Form**](https://stanfordmedicine.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_3vzHRncyBrhUF49&P=61272&PD=Michael%20C.%20Frank&PMgr=kateri.noble@stanford.edu&ACe=jmank@stanford.edu&PDe=mcfrank@stanford.edu)**. If not applicable, enter N/A.**

N/A

**Will you be working with any Political Action Committees or other political organizations that are involved in partisan activities? If yes, describe below. See**[**Admin Guide 1.5.1**](https://adminguide.stanford.edu/chapter-1/subchapter-5/policy-1-5-1)**for restrictions on doing research involving partisan organizations.**

No

**Rest of page**

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**Benefits**

Society will benefit from this research because it will help determine when and how awareness of the researcher’s hypothesis impacts participant responses in social science research.

**Explain where the research takes place (e.g., in a lab, online, at school).  Describe how you will maintain privacy in this setting.**

The research will take place online, and participants can complete the research in any location they feel comfortable in.

**What identifiable data will you obtain from participants?  Enter 'none' if identifiable data will not be obtained.  Discuss how you will protect the participants' identity, if applicable.**

For purposes of awarding course credit, we will collect participants’ ID number from the SONA system. However, these SONA ID’s will be immediately deleted from the dataset.

To further protect participants’ identities, we will enable "anonymize responses" in Qualtrics.