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On or Off Track: Study S2b (#28202)

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1) Have any data been collected for this study already?

No, no data have been collected for this study yet.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?

Participants with a broken streak (i.e., 3 games and then 1 miss) will be less likely to play the same games that they started with, relative to participants with a recent miss but no streak preceding it (i.e., 1 game and then 1 miss).

Participants with a broken streak will feel a lower sense of accomplishment, relative to participants with a recent miss but no streak preceding it.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.

Choice of game after the miss.

10 item sense of accomplishment scale (1-11 point items): How motivated, compelled, driven, pushed, determined to continue behavior, and how successful, effective, proud, accomplished, sense of achievement in playing the games. All items will be averaged together for 1 measure of sense of accomplishment.

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?

2 conditions: no streak condition (1 game then 1 miss) vs. broken streak condition (3 games then 1 miss). They will be randomly assigned to condition via qualtrics.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.

Chi square analysis of condition and game choice (main DV).

Independent t-test of condition predicting sense of accomplishment measure.

Mediation (process v1 model 4) with condition (no streak = 0, broken streak = 1) as the dependent variable, sense of accomplishment as the mediator variable, and choice (same game = 1, other game = 0) as the independent variable.

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.

We do not expect to exclude any participants.

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.

Sample size is determined by lab recruitment. We expect approximately 200 participants.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)

We will also ask a manipulation check.