EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION

1

Eyewitness Identification

Eyewitness identification is a very powerful source of evidence in criminal law.

It represents direct evidence of guilt.

2

Eyewitness Identification

Fact:

In a sample of 347 cases in which the ONLY evidence was eyewitness evidence, 74% of defendants were found guilty.

3

Eyewitness Identification

Fact:

The #1 cause of wrongful conviction in the U.S. is mistaken eyewitness identification.

4

Eyewitness Identification

- A Lineup:

A procedure in which a criminal suspect is placed among other people (foils or fillers) and shown to an eyewitness to see if the witness identifies the suspect as the perpetrator.

5

Eyewitness Identification

Types of Lineups:

Simultaneous Lineup:

The lineup members or their photos are presented in a group. One lineup member is the suspect, others are foils.

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Eyewitness Identification

Types of Lineups:

Sequential Lineup:

The lineup members or their photos are presented one at a time to the witness.

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Eyewitness Identification

Relative vs. Absolute Judgments:

Simultaneous Lineups:

Result in relative judgments: Witnesses compare each lineup member to one another.

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Eyewitness Identification

Relative vs. Absolute Judgments:

Simultaneous Lineups:

Relative judgments encourage witnesses to identify the person who looks most like the perpetrator relative to (or in comparison to) other people in the lineup.

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Eyewitness Identification

Relative vs. Absolute Judgments:

Simultaneous Lineups:

Works pretty well if perpetrator in the lineup.

10

Eyewitness Identification

Relative vs. Absolute Judgments:

Simultaneous Lineups:

The problem is when the lineup contains all innocent people. In this case, an innocent look-a-like has a good chance of being wrongly identified as the perpetrator.

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Eyewitness Identification

Relative vs. Absolute Judgments:

Sequential Lineups:

Result in absolute judgments: Witnesses compare each lineup member to their memory of what the perpetrator looked like.

(Discourage relative judgments)

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Eyewitness Identification

Lindsay & Wells (1985)

Procedures:

1. Participants brought to cubicle.
2. Experimenter leaves to get some 'forms'.
3. A man walks in, acts surprised to find somebody in the room, rifles through some drawers, takes a calculator, and leaves.

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Eyewitness Identification

Procedures:

4. Experimenter returns and explains that the participant just witnessed a mock crime.
5. Five minutes later, the participant is shown a lineup and asked to identify the thief, with cautionary statement.

Lindsay & Wells (1985)

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Eyewitness Identification

Procedures:

5. After making an identification, participants reported how confident they were that their identification decision was correct.

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Eyewitness Identification

Design:

	Type of Lineup:	
Target Presence:	Simultaneous	Sequential
Target-present		
Target-absent		

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Eyewitness Identification

Hypothesis:

The sequential lineup procedure results in fewer misidentifications than the simultaneous lineup procedure.

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Eyewitness Identification

Actual perpetrator identified significantly more often than innocent look-a-like.

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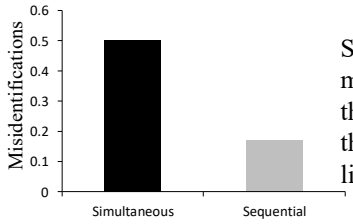
Eyewitness Identification



Significantly fewer misidentifications in the sequential lineup than simultaneous lineup.

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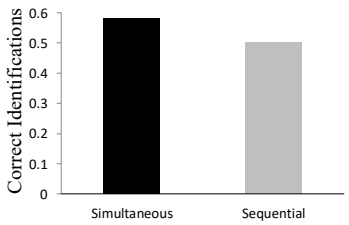
Eyewitness Identification



Correct identify-cations did not differ across sequential and simultaneous lineups.

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Eyewitness Identification

Confidence:

Witnesses who correctly identified the guilty thief were more confident in the accuracy of their identification decision than witnesses who identified the innocent look-a-like. Correlation = .30.

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Eyewitness Identification

Conclusions:

1. If the actual perpetrator is in a lineup, chances are the witness will pick her/him.

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Eyewitness Identification

Conclusions:

2. Sequential lineups reduce the rate of misidentifications, but not the rate of correct identifications.

23

Eyewitness Identification

Conclusions:

3. Accurate witnesses are somewhat more confident than inaccurate witnesses.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Confidence ≠ Accuracy

Just because a witness is confident does not mean the witness is accurate.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Confidence ≠ Accuracy

Certain factors, if present during a lineup, can artificially increase a witness' confidence.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Post-Identification Feedback

Confirming feedback given to a witness after an identification has been made.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Post-Identification Feedback Effect

Inflating a witness' confidence that an accurate identification has been made via confirming feedback.

"Yeah, that's the guy we thought it was."

28

Eyewitness Identification

Tested three hypotheses:

1. Does confirming feedback inflate a witness' confidence that a correct identification was made?

Wells & Bradfield (1998)

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Eyewitness Identification

Tested three hypotheses:

2. Does confirming feedback inflate other eyewitness testimony – like perceived view of the perpetrator or willingness to testify?

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Eyewitness Identification

Tested three hypotheses:

3. Can witnesses accurately report how strongly the confirming feedback influenced their judgments?

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Eyewitness Identification

Experiment 1 Procedures:

- Watched videotape of man entering Target.
- Told the man murdered a security guard moments later.
- Asked to identify gunman from photo array.

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Eyewitness Identification

Experiment 1 Procedures:

- Target-absent lineup.
- Every participant made a false identification followed by either confirming feedback, disconfirming feedback, or no feedback:

33

Eyewitness Identification

Experiment 1 Manipulations:

Confirming Feedback:	Disconfirming Feedback:	No Feedback:
"Good. You identified the actual suspect."	***"Actually, the suspect was number _____"***	Nothing said after identification.

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Eyewitness Identification

Experiment 1 Procedures:

- Following the feedback manipulation, participants were asked about confidence, view, willingness to testify, etc.

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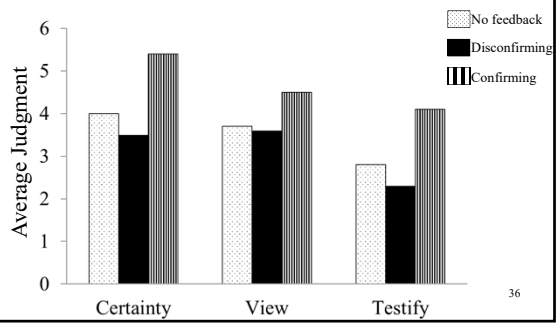
Eyewitness Identification



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Eyewitness Identification

1. Does confirming feedback inflate a witness' confidence that a correct identification was made?

2. Does confirming feedback inflate other eyewitness testimony –like perceived view of the perpetrator or willingness to testify?

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Eyewitness Identification

3. Do witnesses accurately report how strongly the confirming feedback influenced their judgments?

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Eyewitness Identification

Experiment 2 Manipulations:

Confirming Feedback:	Disconfirming Feedback:
"Good. You identified the actual suspect."	***"Actually, the suspect was number _____"***

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Eyewitness Identification

Post-identification feedback effect replicated:

Confirming feedback inflated confidence, view, and testify relative to disconfirming feedback.

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Eyewitness Identification

Did participants believe that the feedback affected their judgments?

Certainty: 58% said no.

View: 78% said no.

Testify: 55% said no.

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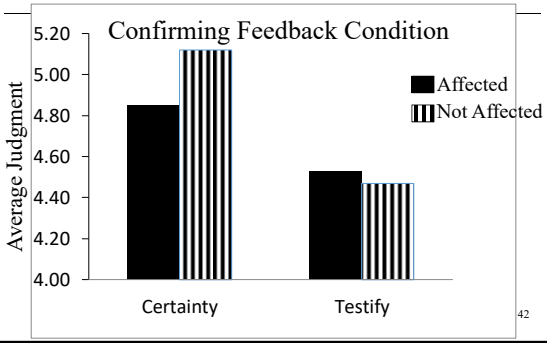
Eyewitness Identification



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Eyewitness Identification

- Post-Identification Feedback

Jurors evaluate witnesses' credibility by relying on cues, such as:

- Stated confidence.
- Stated view.

The very same things that are inflated by post-identification feedback!

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Eyewitness Identification

- Post-Identification Feedback

Raises the question:

Does confirming feedback given to a witness have ramifications down the line, like interfering with jurors ability to discriminate between witnesses who are credible (accurate) and witnesses who are not credible (mistaken)?

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Eyewitness Identification

Phase 1 procedures:

- Witnesses viewed a "crime".
- Shown a lineup.
- Made an accurate or mistaken identification.

Smalarz & Wells (2015)

45

Eyewitness Identification

Phase 1 procedures:

Target-present lineup → Accurate identification.

84%

Target-absent lineup → Mistaken identification.

100%

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Eyewitness Identification

Phase 1 procedures:

Confirming Feedback:	No Feedback:
"Good Job. You got the guy!"	Nothing said after identification.

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Eyewitness Identification

Phase 1 procedures:

Witnesses gave videotaped testimony in response to standard questions…

"How much attention did you pay to the perpetrator's face?"

"How good was your view?"

48

Eyewitness Identification

Phase 2 procedures:

Each juror watched the videotaped testimony of several witnesses and reported whether they believed the witnesses had made accurate or inaccurate identifications.

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Eyewitness Identification

Result #1:

Replicating the post-identification feedback effect, witnesses who received confirming feedback had inflated judgments compared to witnesses who did not receive any feedback.

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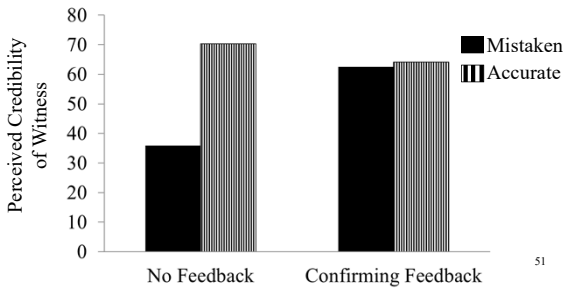
Eyewitness Identification



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Eyewitness Identification

- Post-Identification Feedback

The post-identification feedback effect may help explain why, over time, witnesses become increasingly confident in the accuracy of their identification decision.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Post-Identification Feedback

The road from an identification to trial is filled with confirming feedback!

- Arrest
- Prosecution
- Another witness who also identified suspect.
- Confession (false).
- Photo array ID – Live ID (picked same guy!)

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Eyewitness Identification

- Manson Criteria (Biggers Criteria):

A two prong inquiry guides judges' decisions regarding the inadmissibility of eyewitness testimony.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Manson Criteria (Biggers Criteria):

Prong 1

The identification procedure must be shown to have been flawed in some way.

Show-up instead of lineup.

Poor foils.

Post-identification feedback.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Manson Criteria (Biggers Criteria):

Prong 2

If the identification procedure was flawed, then the judge uses five criteria to decide whether the identification was so unreliable that is should be excluded at trial.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Manson Criteria (Biggers Criteria):

1. Witness' certainty.
2. Witness' opportunity to view.
3. Witness' level of attention.
4. Amount of time between crime and ID.
5. Accuracy of witness' previous description of offender.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Manson Criteria (Biggers Criteria):

Evolved out of a U.S. Supreme Court Case:

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

Reaffirmed in Manson v. Braithwaite (1977)

58

Eyewitness Identification

Biggers v. Tennessee (1968)

Biggers appealed on grounds that the show-up was suggestive. The TN Supreme Court agreed.

59

Eyewitness Identification

Biggers v. Tennessee (1968)

"Due process is not always violated when the police fail to assemble a lineup but conduct a one-man show-up. Plainly here, however, the highly suggestive atmosphere that had been generated by the manner in which this show-up was arranged and conducted could not have failed to affect Mrs. Beamer's judgment; when she was presented with no alternative choices, there was a strong predisposition to overcome doubts and to fasten guilt upon the lone suspect."

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Eyewitness Identification

Biggers v. Tennessee (1968)

"Petitioner is entitled to a new trial unaffected by Mrs. Beamer's station-house identification and the testimony of the police officers who were present when it took place."

61

Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

TN appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Question Addressed by Court:

Was the eyewitness identification procedure so suggestive that it violated Biggers' constitutional right to a fair trial?

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Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"What is less clear …is whether… unnecessary suggestiveness alone requires the exclusion of evidence. While we are inclined to agree [with the lower court] that the police did not exhaust all possibilities in seeking persons physically comparable to respondent, we do not think that the evidence must therefore be excluded."

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Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"We turn, then, to the central question, whether under the 'totality of the circumstances' the identification was reliable even though the confrontation procedure was suggestive."

64

Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"The factors to be considered in evaluating the likelihood of misidentification include"…

1. *"Opportunity of the witness to view the criminal at the time of the crime."*

65

Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"The factors to be considered in evaluating the likelihood of misidentification include"…

2. *"The witness' degree of attention."*

66

Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"The factors to be considered in evaluating the likelihood of misidentification include"…

3. *"The accuracy of the witness' prior description of the criminal."*

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Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"The factors to be considered in evaluating the likelihood of misidentification include"…

4. *"The level of certainty demonstrated by the witness at the confrontation."*

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Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"The factors to be considered in evaluating the likelihood of misidentification include"…

5. *"The length of time between the crime and the confrontation."*

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Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

"Applying these factors, we disagree with the District Court's conclusion."

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Eyewitness Identification

Neil v. Biggers (1972)

The lower court's ruling was reversed and Biggers' original conviction was reaffirmed.

The Manson criteria were formed.

71

Eyewitness Identification

- The Manson Criteria are suboptimal.

72

Eyewitness Identification

- System Variable:

A variable that influences the reliability of eyewitness evidence, and which is under the control of the justice system.

Examples:

Post-identification feedback

Type of lineup – simultaneous vs. sequential

73

Eyewitness Identification

- Estimator Variable:

A variable that influences the reliability of eyewitness evidence, but which is not under the control of the justice system.

Examples:

View, Distance, Lighting

74

Eyewitness Identification

- Recommended Eyewitness Reforms

Reforms can only address system variables.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Recommended Eyewitness Reforms

1. Blind lineup administration:

The person who conducts the lineup or photospread should not be aware of which member of the lineup or photospread is the suspect.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Recommended Eyewitness Reforms

2. Lineup composition:

- Foils should resemble the witness' description.
- The suspect should not stand out.
- Witnesses should not view multiple lineups with the same suspect.
- Only one suspect in a lineup.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Recommended Eyewitness Reforms

3. Instructions:

Eyewitnesses should be told explicitly that the real perpetrator might not be in the lineup or photospread and that they should not feel obligated to make identification. Should also be told that the person administering the lineup does not know which person is the suspect in the case.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Recommended Eyewitness Reforms

4. Confidence statements:

Immediately after the lineup procedure, and before any feedback, the witness should provide a statement, in her or his own words, articulating the level of confidence in the identification.

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Eyewitness Identification

- Recommended Eyewitness Reforms

5. Videotaping:

Identification procedures should be videotaped. This reduces misconduct by the lineup administrator, and helps the prosecution by showing a jury that the procedure was legitimate.

80

FALSE MEMORIES

81

False Memories

- False Memories

Memories about events that never happened, or remembering an event differently than it happened.

82

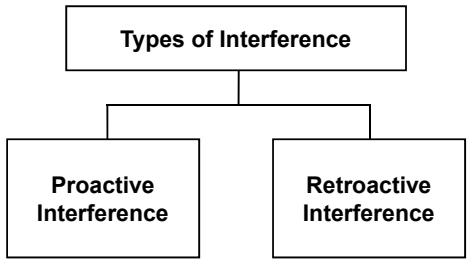
False Memories

- Interference Theory:

The idea that information (learned before or after a memory is formed) interferes with the memory and alters it.

83

False Memories



84

False Memories

- Proactive Interference:

A memory is altered by information that was encountered before the memory was formed.

85

False Memories

- Retroactive Interference:

A memory is altered by information that was encountered after the memory was formed.

86

False Memories

- Misinformation Effect

A form of retroactive interference in which the information that was encountered after the memory was formed was suggestive or misleading.

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False Memories

- Misinformation Effect Paradigm:

1. Participants observe a complex event (e.g., car crash, simulated violent crime).
2. Some participants receive misleading information about the event; Others do not.
3. All participants recall the original event.

88

False Memories

- Misinformation Effect Paradigm:

Participants who are exposed to the post-event misleading information incorporate it into their original memory.

89

False Memories

1. Slide show of car that turns right at an intersection and hits a pedestrian.

90

Loftus, Miller, & Burns (1978)

False Memories

2. Completed 20 item questionnaire.

- Did another car pass the red Datsun while it was stopped at the ___ sign?

91

False Memories

		Slide Show: Stop Sign	Slide Show: Yield Sign
Question	Stop Sign	Consistent	Inconsistent (misleading)
	Yield Sign	Inconsistent (misleading)	Consistent

92

False Memories

Percent of participants who misreported what they had seen in the slide show:

Consistent	Inconsistent (misleading)
25%	**59%**

93

False Memories

The misinformation effect is robust:

Exposing people to post-event, misleading information alters what they report about their original memories.

94

False Memories

The misinformation effect is robust:

Exposing people to post-event, misleading information alters what they report about their original memories.

95

False Memories

- Destructive Updating Hypothesis (Loftus)
  - Misleading information overwrites or replaces old memory, creating a new memory.
  - People report new memory because old memory is no longer available.

96

False Memories

- Standard Test Procedure:
  - Allows participants to report the suggested information.
  - Did participants in misinformation condition report it because of true memory change or because they thought they should?

97

False Memories

- Demand Characteristics (McCloskey & Zaragoza)
  - People report the misleading information because of demand characteristics, not because the misinformation overwrote the old memory.

98

False Memories

Demand Characteristics: Subtle cues that communicate how people should respond.

99

False Memories

Standard Test Procedure:

Condition	Slide	Misleading Information	Standard Test
Control	Stop sign	-----	Stop sign vs. **Yield** sign
Misinformation	Stop sign	**Yield** sign	Stop sign vs. **Yield** sign

100

False Memories

Standard vs. Modified Test Procedure:

Condition	Slide	Misleading Information	Standard Test	Modified Test
Control	Stop sign	-----	Stop sign vs. **Yield** sign	Stop sign vs. **Walk** sign
Misinformation	Stop sign	Yield sign	Stop sign vs. **Yield** sign	Stop sign vs. **Walk** sign

False Memories

- Procedures:
  1. Slides: Maintenance man enters office, repairs chair, steals $20 and calculator, slides calculator under a hammer in his toolbox.
  2. (Later read):Written description of incident that manipulated misinformation.

(McCloskey & Zaragoza, 1985)

False Memories

- Procedures:

Control Condition	Misinformation Condition
Maintenance man slid the calculator under a **tool** in his toolbox.	Maintenance man slid the calculator under a **screwdriver** in his toolbox.

False Memories

Test: What did the maintenance man slide the calculator under?

Condition	Slide	Misleading Information	Modified Test
Control	Hammer	-----	Hammer vs. **Wrench**
Misinformation	Hammer	Screwdriver	Hammer vs. **Wrench**

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False Memories

- Destructive updating hypothesis

Control Condition	>	Misinformation Condition
Hammer > Wrench Without misinformation, memory of hammer in tact. Should select it at test.		**Hammer = Wrench** If misinformation changes memory, memory of hammer changed to screwdriver. Must guess at test.

105

False Memories

- Demand characteristic hypothesis

Control Condition	=	Misinformation Condition
Hammer > Wrench Memory of hammer in tact. Should select it at test.		**Hammer > Wrench** If misinformation has no effect on memory (only on reporting), memory of hammer in tact. Should select it at test.

106

False Memories

- Results: Modified Test Procedure

Control Condition	=	Misinformation Condition
75% correctly selected hammer		72% correctly selected hammer

False Memories

1. Shown a stop sign or a yield sign.

2. Answered questions.

Not Misleading	Misleading Information

(Loftus, Miller, & Burns, 1978)

108

False Memories

3. Debriefed

4. One last question:

"Please indicate which sign you think you saw and what was assumed on your questionnaire."

109

False Memories

Demand Characteristics:

"I saw the stop sign, but my questionnaire said yield."

Only 12% gave that response, meaning that only 12% could have been influenced by demand characteristics.

110

False Memories

- DRM Paradigm

Related words, all connected to another word that was not presented.

CRITICAL LURE

(Critical Lure = False Memory)

111

False Memories

- DRM Paradigm

Associative Model of Memory:

Related ideas are associated mentally. When one idea is activated, it activates other related ideas.

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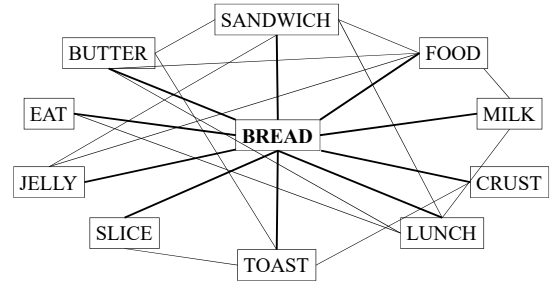
False Memories

113

False Memories



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False Memories

- DRM Paradigm

Source Monitoring Error:

Attributing a memory to the wrong source.

115

False Memories

Can events that never happened be manufactured in one's mind and "remembered" as if they had occurred?

116

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Participants read about 4 events from their childhood.

Three events were supplied by a close relative and all three were true. One event was developed by the researchers and was always false.

117

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

The false events always included five elements about the participant:

1. Lost for an extended period of time.

118

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

The false events always included five elements about the participant:

2. Crying.

119

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

The false events always included five elements about the participant:

3. Lost in a mall or large department store at about the age of 5.

120

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

The false events always included five elements about the participant:

4. Found and aided by an elderly woman.

121

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

The false events always included five elements about the participant:

5. Reunited with the family.

122

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Instructed to read each event, and write down everything they could remember about it. If they could not remember anything about it, they were to write "I don't remember this".

Interviewed about their memory for the events twice over the next several weeks.

123

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Interview 1:

Participants recalled everything they could about the events.

Bits of each event were provided to them to "cue" their memory.

124

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Interview 1:

When no more could be remembered, participants rated the clarity of their memory and how confident they were that they would be able to remember additional details if given more time.

125

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Interview 2:

Identical to Interview 1 except at the end, participants were debriefed.

126

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Results:

1. 68% of participants remembered the true events.

127

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Results:

2. 29% of participants 'remembered' the false event.

128

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Results:

3. Participants used more words to describe the true memories (138 words) than the false memory (50 words).

129

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Results:

4. Perceived clarity of the events was higher for the true memories (6.3) than the false memory (3.3).

130

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Results:

5. Participants were more confident that, if given more time, they could recall additional details about the true memories (2.5) than the false memory (1.6).

131

False Memories

Loftus & Pickrell (1995)

Results:

6. Perceived clarity of the false memory increased over time: It was more clear after the 2nd interview (3.6) than after the first interview (2.8).

132

False Memories

- Imagination Inflation

Imagining events that never happened increases people's confidence that the event did happen.

Gary et al. (1996)

133

False Memories

- Participants completed a survey that asked them how likely it was 8 events had happened to them during childhood.

Events:

Found $10 in parking lot	**Saved by lifeguard**
Gave someone a bad haircut	**Went to emergency room late**
Got stuck in tree	**Broke window with hand**
Won stuffed animal at fair	**Got in trouble for calling 911**

134

False Memories

- Participants returned to lab 2 weeks later and imagined that they had experienced some (but not other) events that they earlier said never happened.
- Afterwards, the experimenter feigned having lost their original survey and asked them to complete it again.

135

False Memories

Percent of participants in each condition who became more confident that an event that they earlier said never happened had actually happened.

Not Imagined	Imagined
24%	34%

136

False Memories

- Definitions

Repressed & Recovered Memories

- Repressed memories: Memories of traumatic events that are blocked from consciousness.
- Recovered memories: Repressed memories that entered consciousness.

137

False Memories

- Repressed/Recovered Memories

Associated with trauma such as child sexual abuse, kidnapping, being a witness to murder.

138

False Memories

- "Theory" of Repressed Memories
  - Events that are too distressing to cope with on a conscious level get buried into the unconscious, causing amnesia for the traumatic event.
  - Repressed memories, though unconscious, influence behavior, emotions, relationships.

139

False Memories

- Repressed Memories Uncovered Everywhere!

Throughout the late 1980s and early 1990s, repressed memories were being recovered across the United States.

140

False Memories

- Reasons for Skepticism

1. False memories have proven to be fairly easy to induce.

141

False Memories

- Reasons for Skepticism

2. Repressed memories are typically recovered only after people have been exposed to suggestive psychological treatment.

142

False Memories

- Reasons for Skepticism

<u>Recovered-Memory Therapy</u>

Hypnosis

Guided Imagery

Sedative Drugs (e.g., sodium amytal)

143

False Memories

- Reasons for Skepticism

3. People who have suffered trauma tend to have very strong memories of the event, with intruding thoughts.

144

False Memories

Hypothesis:

People who experience repressed/recovered memories are highly susceptible to developing false memories.

Clancey et al. (2002)

145

False Memories

1. Participants recruited through newspaper:

146

False Memories

2. Participants interviewed to ensure proper classification into abducted and control groups.

147

False Memories

Typical abduction experience involved waking to:

- Full body paralysis.
- Intense fear.
- Sensations of being touched.
- Visual hallucinations of hovering figures.

148

False Memories

- Abducted individuals frightened, sought psychological help involving hypnosis.
- Memories of alien abduction were recovered.

149

False Memories

Abductees split into two groups:

Recovered Memory	Repressed Memory
Recalled events from the abduction. (e.g., medical exam)	No recall of events from the abduction. (only symptoms)

150

False Memories

Hypothesis for False Memory Rate:

Recovered Memory > Repressed Memory > Control

151

False Memories

Procedures:

1. Completed battery of psychological tests at home, prior to lab visit.
   - Magical ideation
   - Lapses in consciousness
   - Depersonalization

152

False Memories

Procedures:

2. Presented with 24 word lists at lab visit.

Sour	Good	Honey	Cake
Candy	Taste	Soda	Tart
Sugar	Tooth	Heart	Pie
Bitter	Nice	Chocolate	

153

False Memories

Clancy et al. (2002):

Procedures:

Critical Lure = _____

Sour	Good	Honey	Cake
Candy	Taste	Soda	Tart
Sugar	Tooth	Heart	Pie
Bitter	Nice	Chocolate	

154

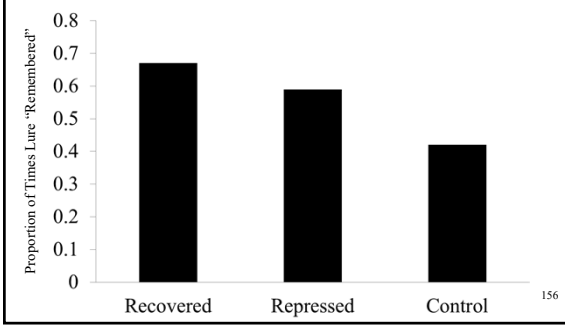
False Memories

Procedures:

3. Filler task.
4. Memory test (recall and recognition).
5. DV = Rate at which critical lures were falsely remembered as being on the lists (e.g., sweet)

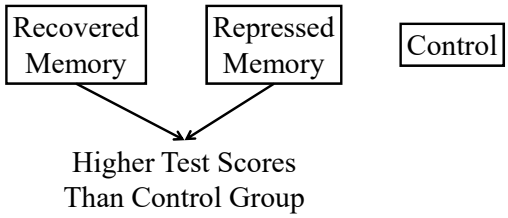
155

False Memories



156

False Memories



157

False Memories

Correlated false memory rate with psychological test scores:

People who scored higher on tests (e.g., higher magical ideation) had greater number of false memories.

158

False Memories

Conclusion:

One cause of repressed/recovered memories may be personality traits that make one highly vulnerable to the development of false memories through suggestion.

159

False Memories

- Source monitoring:

Remembering how, when, and where a memory is acquired.

Highly suggestible people may have deficits in source monitoring.

160

False Memories

- Source monitoring error:

Person might watch a movie about alien abductions as a child and then – years later – believe the events in the movie actually happened because the person has forgotten the 'source' of the memory (which was the movie).

161

False Memories

- Misinformation Effect

When leading or suggestive information that was encountered after an event changes a person's memory of the event.

162

False Memories

- Misinformation Effect

Age is a risk factor for the misinformation effect:

Younger children are more susceptible to the misinformation effect than older children or adults.

163

False Memories

- Research Examples:

1. Participants watched a film of a theft.
2. Asked series of questions about the film, some misleading.

Cohen & Harnick (1980)

164

False Memories

- Research Examples:

1. Participants watched a film of a theft.
2. Asked series of questions about the film, some misleading.

165

False Memories

- Research Examples:

1. Participants watched a film of a theft.
2. Asked series of questions about the film, some misleading.
3. Later, participants' memory of the film was tested with recognition task.

166

False Memories

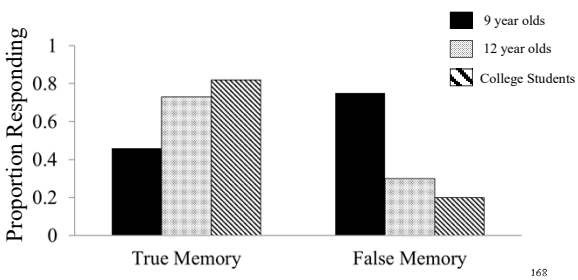
- Research Examples:

Three age groups:

- 9 years old.
- 12 years old.
- College students.

167

False Memories



168

False Memories

- Research Examples:

1. Children (3 & 6 yr.) routine doctor visit.

Ornstein et al. (1992)

169

False Memories

- Research Examples:

2. Interviews: Immediate and 1-week delay.

170

False Memories

- Research Examples:

Interviewers began by asking general, open-ended questions:

"Tell me what the doctor did to you."

171

False Memories

- Research Examples:

Moved to more specific questions:

"Did the doctor check any parts of your face?"

172

False Memories

- Research Examples:

If the child indicated 'yes', but provided no additional information, question became even more probing:

"Did the doctor check your eyes?"

173

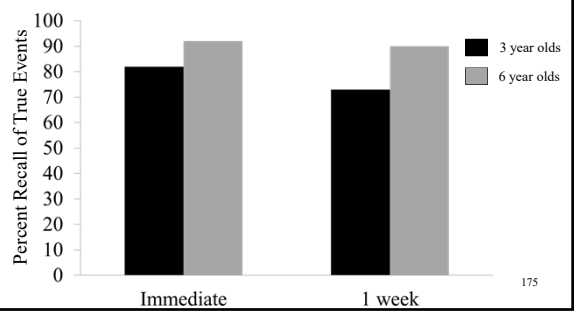
False Memories

- Research Examples:

4. Some questions were misleading, and asked about events that did not occur.
5. Interviews were videotaped and coded for true and false memories.

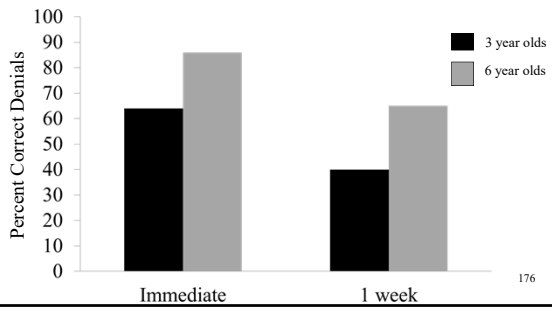
174

Eyewitness Identification



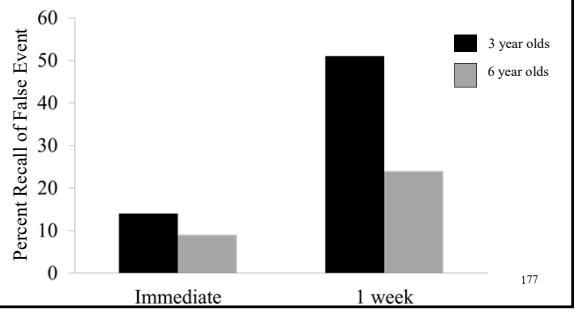
175

Eyewitness Identification



176

Eyewitness Identification



177

False Memories

- Conclusion

Young children are very susceptible to misinformation and can develop false memories when exposed to misinformation.

178