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Dear Dr. de Haan, Dr. Nelson, and Dr. Quinn,

We hereby submit a paper entitled “Infants’ preference for speech sounds: A meta-analysis” to *Developmental Science*. Speech is the main medium for human vocal communication, and investigation infants’ preference for speech over non-speech sounds is of crucial importance for understanding how infants build cognitive representations of speech sounds. Our study gathers all the available literature on this topic, which allowed us unprecedented power to statistically test previous claims based on non-statistical comparisons, often done by interpreting p-values across papers. This practice is now openly considered as incorrect (as expressed in Gelman & Stern, 2012: “the difference between ‘significant’ and ‘non-significant’ is not itself statistically significant”). We demonstrate results are extremely stable across the first year of life; and do not statistically differ depending on whether native or foreign speech is used, or whether the competitor sound is artificial or natural, vocal or non-vocal. Based on the methodological and theoretical significance of our findings, we make targeted recommendations for future data collection and reporting endeavors.

Regarding ethical guidelines, our is a meta-analytic study and therefore does not rely on newly collected data, nor does it contain personal identifying information. We make our meta-analytic data and reproducible analysis scripts publicly accessible online; links provided in manuscript.

Cécile Issard collected the meta-analytic data, with input from Alejandrina Cristia. Cécile Issard, Sho Tsuji, and Alejandrina Cristia analyzed data. Cécile Issard and Alejandrina

Cristia wrote the manuscript. Cécile Issard, Sho Tsuji and Alejandrina Cristia reviewed the manuscript.

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Best regards,

Cécile Issard