

Entitlement, prestige & dominance motivation, and envy (#885)

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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?

Entitlement will produce increases in prestige motivation and benign envy, and prestige motivation will mediate between entitlement and benign envy. Entitlement will produce increases in dominance motivation and malicious envy, and dominance motivation will mediate between entitlement and malicious envy.

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

Dependent variables: state benign and malicious envy, as directed to a particular target and situation (Lange, Weidman, and Crusius, in prep.)
Mediators: Prestige and dominance motivation scales, adapted from Cheng and colleagues prestige and dominance scales (2013, 2010).

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

One of two: entitlement or control. We will use an entitlement manipulation in which participants are asked to give reasons for three statements that either induce entitlement or not (Zitek & Vincent, 2015). All participants will then be exposed to an envy induction: to imagine a situation in which they are outperformed by a Caucasian same-gender target in an academic setting. The envied target person will always display pride, using a picture from the UCSEE (Tracy et al., 2009).

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

We will examine our predicted mediation effects with a structural equation model. In the model, entitlement condition will serve as independent variable. Benign and malicious envy will serve as dependent variables. Prestige and dominance motivation will serve as parallel mediators. We will include paths only from prestige to benign envy (but not from dominance) and from dominance to malicious envy (but not from prestige). We will compare model fit with and without direct effects (from entitlement to malicious and benign envy). The error terms of the mediators and the error terms of the envy forms will be free to covary. We will test for mediation with 5,000 bootstrap resamples and bias-corrected confidence intervals.

6) Any secondary analyses?

Participants in the entitlement condition should score higher on the Psychological Entitlement Scale (PES) than those in the control condition, so we will use a t-test with condition (entitlement vs. control) as the independent variable and the PES as the dependent variable. The entitlement condition should result in higher scores on the PES.

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.

We will collect data from Amazon Mechanical Turk, posting the study for 800 participants.

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

Based on a previous study, we expect to exclude participants for noncompliance to the manipulation instructions. We will exclude participants who do not follow the instructions for the manipulation, e.g., by entering random words and letter strings, by writing general statements about people instead of writing about themselves, or by failing to provide reasons in their answers (as instructed). The responses will be coded for noncompliance by two independent coders. Participants for whom the coders agree will be excluded from data analysis.