January 20, 2019

Dear Dr. Carlsson and Meta-Psychology Team:

Our team is submitting a replication and extension for *Meta-Psychology* entitled “The Language of War: A Replication and Extension of Abe (2012) and Matsumoto et al. (2015).” This original manuscript has not been previously published and is not under review for publication by any other journal. The study used archival data available to the general public; therefore, IRB approval was not sought.

The OSF page can be found at: <https://osf.io/r8qp2/>. All materials can found linked on this page:

The pre-print can be found at: <https://osf.io/9fgu8/>. We note this pre-print is stored on the OSF server, as we made the pre-print before submitting to this journal. Commenting should be supported through hypothesis.is as required, but we can switch servers if necessary.

Legislative bodies have very important roles and understanding the psychology of their decision-making processes is a useful area of study. We add to this area by replicating two previous studies Abe (2012) and Matsumoto, Frank, and Hwang (2015) in the context of a legislative body. The present study hypothesized that legislators who support war measures be externally focused and less cognitively complex in their speeches while opponents of war measures would be internally focused. Speeches were obtained pertaining to the decisions for the U.S. to take military action in Kosovo, Iraq, and Libya. While we found mixed results depending on the circumstances of a specific conflict, we demonstrate how automated language analysis can be combined with voting records to better understand behavioral action, such as legislative decision. This paper will be of interest to a wide audience of psychologists investigating topics on discourse, politics, and their interaction.

Sincerely,

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