

The experiment leveraged the tendency for commuters to ride the same train every day. I treated certain trains by assigning pairs of Spanish-speaking persons to visit the same train stations at the same time every day. Within each train station, these experimental confederates were the same persons every day. Other trains were randomly assigned to the control condition and had no intervention at the stations. Subjects were surveyed about their socio-political attitudes before and after the treatment. With this design, subjects were exposed to the same Spanish-speaking persons in a location near their homes for an extended period, as would be the situation if immigrants had moved into their neighborhood and used the public transportation. With this design, I experimentally manipulated the conditions of demographic change and, by comparing changes in survey responses before and after the treatments, I identified the effect of exposure to these Spanish-speaking persons.