

The formation of associations is the cornerstone of how we learn to navigate the world.¹ In psychology, this is known as **Associative Learning**.² While infrasound is a physical stimulus, these psychological theories explain the actual "software" that would be required to program a specific emotion like hatred.

Here are the three primary frameworks for how associations are formed.

1. Classical Conditioning (Pavlovian)

This is learning by **automatic association**.³ It occurs when two stimuli are repeatedly paired until a response originally elicited by the first stimulus is instead elicited by the second.⁴

- **The Components:**

- **Unconditioned Stimulus (US):** Something that naturally triggers a response (e.g., pain or a foul smell).⁵
- **Conditioned Stimulus (CS):** A neutral object or person (e.g., a specific brand or a political figure).⁶
like my grandfather for example
- **The Result:** If you pair the person (CS) with a painful experience (US) enough times, the brain creates a "shortcut." Eventually, simply seeing the person triggers the feeling of distress or anger.

Example: In the infamous "Little Albert" experiment, a child was conditioned to fear a white rat (CS) by pairing its appearance with a loud, frightening noise (US). He eventually associated the fear with anything white and furry.

2. Operant Conditioning (Skinnerian)⁷

This is learning through **consequences**.⁸ Instead of associating two stimuli, the brain associates a **behavior** with a **result** (reward or punishment).⁹

+1

- **Negative Association:** If interacting with a certain object leads to a social "punishment" (like being mocked or losing status), you develop a negative association with that object to avoid the pain of the consequence.
- **The "Hate" Link:** People can be manipulated into hating things if they are "rewarded" (with praise or belonging) for expressing that hate, or "punished" for showing any affinity

toward the target.

3. Social Learning Theory (Modeling)¹⁰

Proposed by Albert Bandura, this theory suggests we don't need direct experience to form associations; we can learn them by **observing others**.

- **Observational Learning:** If a child sees a parent or a "leader" react with disgust or hatred toward a specific group, the child forms a mental association: *Target = Bad*.
- **Narrative Framing:** Unlike the raw physical discomfort of infrasound, social learning uses **language and stories** to give the emotion a target. This is the primary mechanism used in propaganda.

Why "Hate" is Easier to Form Than "Love"

The human brain is subject to **Negativity Bias**.¹¹ From an evolutionary standpoint, it was more important to remember which berry was poisonous (negative association) than which one was just "okay."

Feature	Negative Associations	Positive Associations
Speed	Can form in a single event (One-trial learning).	Usually requires many repetitions.
Intensity	Triggers the amygdala (fear center).	Triggers the reward system (dopamine).
Persistence	Very difficult to "unlearn" (extinction).	Can fade quickly if not reinforced.

The "Hardware" of the Brain

Physiologically, these associations are stored in the **Long-Term Potentiation (LTP)** of neurons. When two neurons fire together repeatedly (e.g., "Image of Object" + "Feeling of Nausea"), the connection between them physically strengthens. This is why associations feel like "gut reactions"—the neural pathway has become a "high-speed rail" in your brain.
