Registration document

Intended sample size: 100 subjects across two cells

Method: Study is a 2 (Condition: Gun and Tool targets, Gun and miscellaneous Not-Gun targets) design.

Participants will be randomly assigned to one of two conditions.

**In condition 1**, participants will perform the typical Weapons Identification Task. Cues will be Black and White faces, while targets will be guns and tools. Participants are asked to ignore the cues and to push one of two buttons to indicate whether the target is a gun or a tool.

In this condition, consistent with the typical WIT effect, it is expected that the activation of stereotypes relating Blacks to violence will cause participants to make more errors on Black-Tool trials relative to other trials and to respond faster to Black-Gun trials. Also consistent with previous research, we expect to see participants make more errors on White-Gun trials relative to White-Tool trials and to respond faster to White-Tool trials, a possible sign of a latent White-Tool association, but what we suspect is evidence of the response-mapping contrast effect.

**In condition 2**, participants will perform a modified Weapons Identification Task. Cues will again be Black and White faces, while targets will be guns and a miscellaneous “not-gun” group. “Not-gun” targets include a banana, a giraffe, a grip-strength tool, and an abstract neutral image from the IAPS set.

In this condition, consistent with the typical WIT effect, it is expected that the activation of stereotypes relating Blacks to violence will cause participants to make more errors on Black-Tool trials relative to other trials and to respond faster to Black-Gun trials.

We furthermore expect to see participants make more errors on White-Gun trials relative to White-Not-Gun trials and to respond faster on White-Not-Gun trials. We expect that this phenomenon would be unusual under the typical interpretation of WIT behavior as a straightforward measure of implicit associations, as surely Whites are not associated with bananas, giraffes, grip-strength trainers, and abstract neutral images. However, our Response-Contrast Model predicts that these four disparate stimuli will form a “not-gun” category, and furthermore, that they will be contrasted away from the gun-priming Black faces, becoming apparently associated with the White faces.

**Current Data**

With apologies, I am filing this preregistration document late. At present, 36 subjects have been collected. Nobody has looked at their data. Data will not be inspected until 100 subjects have been collected or the spring semester ends, whichever comes first.