July 14th, 2025

Antonia Hamilton, PhD

University College London

London, United Kingdom

Dear Dr. Hamilton:

My colleagues and I are submitting our manuscript entitled “ ‘They all look the same.’ Participant Ethnicity Moderates the Cross-Race Effect on Judgments of Learning” to be considered for publication as an original research article in the *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*.

The Cross-Race Effect (CRE) refers to the repeated finding that individuals show a recognition memory advantage for same-race faces. We tested whether judgments of learning (JOLs) were sensitive to this effect. Additionally, because JOLs can be influenced by participants’ beliefs, we also assessed participants’ racial attitudes and biases. Across two experiments, we replicated the classic CRE memory pattern using a sample of Black and White participants. Importantly, we found that participants’ JOLs are also sensitive to the CRE, suggesting that differences in processing fluency may partially drive this effect. Experiment 2 provided stronger evidence of this account, as the CRE effects observed on JOLs were greater for high ethnic prototypicality targets compared to when participants studied low typicality targets. Interestingly, all CRE patterns on JOLs were moderated by participant ethnicity, as only Black participants’ JOLs demonstrated this effect. For White participants, JOLs did not differ as a function of target ethnicity, even though the standard CRE pattern was observed on recognition memory for this group. Analyses of racial attitude measures suggested that these differences may be partially due to differences in motivations to appear non-prejudiced between Black and White samples.

We believe that our findings make substantive empirical and methodological contributions to the literature through our use of JOLs to investigate the CRE and our manipulation of ethnic prototypicality in Experiment 2. This work is original and not under review elsewhere, and we have no conflicts of interest to disclose. We look forward to hearing about the suitability of our manuscript in the *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*.

Sincerely,

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