

# Evaluating First Impressions of Faces: A Replication Study

## How One’s Gender Affects their Perception of Others

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### Introduction

“The functional basis of face evaluation” Oosterhof & Todorov (2008)  
• Psychological Science Accelerator replication project with 100s of labs around the world

### Successful replication:

- 1) First two components with Eigenvalues > 1
- 2) First component correlates strongly with trustworthiness (>.7) and weakly with dominance (<.5)
- 3) Second component correlates strongly with dominance (>.7) and weakly with trustworthiness (<.5)

### Methods

#### 79 participants:

- Age:  $M=20.26$ ,  $SD=3.47$
- Gender: 46 female, 32 male — 1 missing
- Ethnicity: 35 white, 42 non-white — 2 missing
- Recruitment: SONA + MTCC bridge

Selection: 18 years of age, English-speaking  
Exclusion criteria: low variability across ratings of faces

#### Procedure:

- Consent → demographic questionnaire → ratings → compensation
- Random assignment to rate 120 faces on a single trait (e.g., caring)
  - Faces presented in counterbalanced order twice

### Discussion

- Limitations:** small sample size, convenience sampling  
**Implications:** implicit/explicit biases, stereotyping, relationship success, social outcomes  
**Future research:**
- Time limit on each face
  - Larger sample size
  - Happy or frowning vs. neutral expressions

## Conclusions

- 1) We partially replicated the model
- 2) Men perceived faces to be higher on dominance traits than women did
- 3) Whites perceived faces to be lower on trustworthy traits than non-Whites did

USA/IIT			
	PC 1	PC 2	PC 3
Emostable	0.78	0.06	0.05
Trustworthy	0.76	-0.06	0.19
Sociable	0.82	-0.11	0.01
Caring	0.79	-0.26	0.09
Responsible	0.47	0.03	-0.08
Confident	0.75	0.39	0.01
Attractive	0.52	0.52	-0.15
Dominant	0.56	0.49	0.31
Intelligent	0.34	0.06	-0.74
Aggressive	-0.52	0.59	0.13
Mean	-0.69	0.57	-0.19
Unhappy	-0.24	0.05	0.63
Weird	-0.6	-0.22	0.01

Table 1. Principle component loading values for this sample

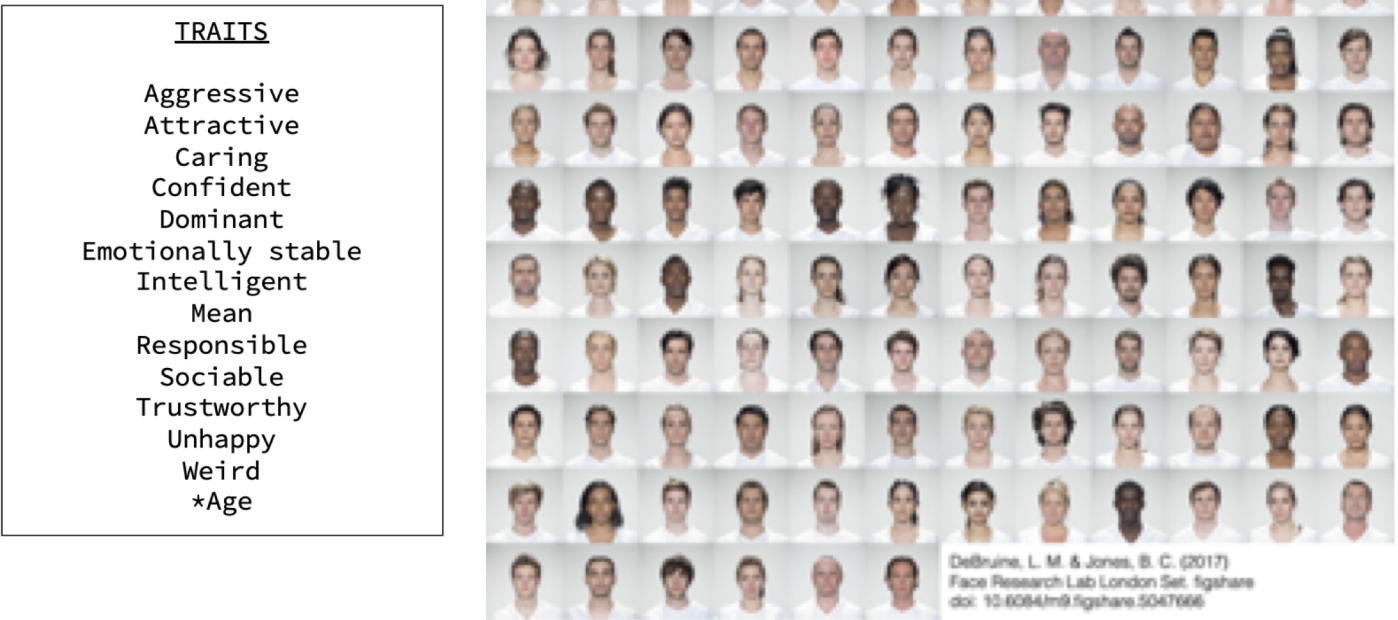


Table 2. Component loading values (predicted) for USA and Canada region

	USA and Canada	
trustworthy	0.75	-0.23
emostable	0.81	0.11
sociable	0.76	0.19
responsible	0.57	0.09
caring	0.77	-0.36
attractive	0.68	0.45
intelligent	0.59	0.12
confident	0.62	0.51
unhappy	-0.78	0.09
weird	-0.58	-0.39
mean	-0.45	0.8
aggressive	-0.54	0.66
dominant	0.03	0.77

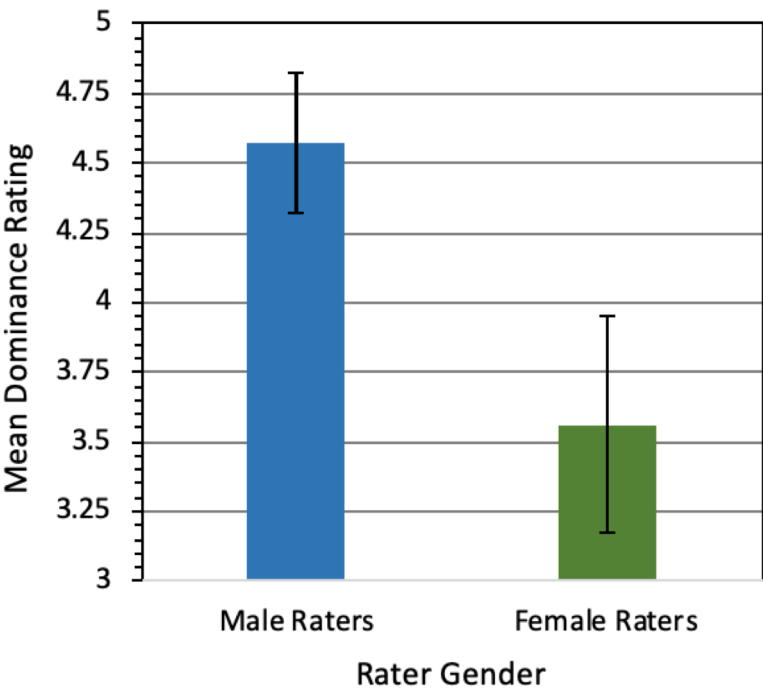


Figure 1.  
Ratings of faces  
based on rater  
gender

Figure 2.  
Ratings of faces  
based on rater  
ethnicity

