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Pre-Registration made easy

Decline Effect - UVA Wave 2 - Orientation (#13023)

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1) Have any data been collected for this study already?

No, no data have been collected for this study yet.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?

Participants who read about people who have same-sex sexual encounters will judge the people they read about to be more "gay" (relative to straight) if the people they read about are men rather than women.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.

Response on a 7-point scale judging the target's sexual orientation:

1 = Completely straight/heterosexual

2 = Mostly straight/heterosexual

3 = Slightly straight/heterosexual

4 = Bisexual (equally attracted to both genders)

5 = Slightly gay/homosexual

6 = Mostly gay/homosexual

7 = Completely gay/homosexual

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?

Participants will be randomly assigned to one of two conditions. In each condition, participants will read 12 short stories about people who engage in same-sex sexual behavior. The short stories will have the same content in the two conditions, but the genders will be reversed between the conditions. Specifically, in condition 1 scenarios 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 will be about a man and scenarios 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 will be about a woman. In condition 2, scenarios 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 will be about a woman and scenarios 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 will be about a man.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.

For the primary decline effect analysis we will create an average score of participant responses to scenarios 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 and test for a mean difference in sexual orientation ratings between condition 1 and 2.

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.

We will include two exclusion criteria. One requires participants to correctly respond to a Captcha question. The other will be an attention check that requires participants to correctly select a specific color as their favorite color.

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.

This study will be the first in a 20-minute session. We will continue collecting data until there are 1500 participants who have completed all the studies in the entire 20-minute session and who have successfully passed both of our exclusion criteria. This means the sample size will be a minimum of 1500 participants. However, because participants typically drop out during the course of the 20-minute session, and because this is the first study in the session, it is likely that there will be more participants who complete this study than who completed the entire 20-minute session. Thus, it is likely that more than 1500 participants will complete this study, but there will be no fewer than 1500 participants in the final sample.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)

We will also test a more complicated 2 X 2 mixed design. The within-subjects factor will be the gender of the person participants are rating in each scenario and the between-subjects factor will be the version that participants complete. We will conduct a repeated measures ANOVA on this design with 6 responses nested within each gender.

This mixed design can also be conceptualized as a difference-in-difference design. This means the difference between average score for men and women in version 1 (i.e., avg for men - avg for women) will be significantly different than the difference between average score for women and men in version 2 (i.e., avg for women - avg for men).

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