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Welcome to this experiment!

It is very important that you read all instructions carefully.

All information obtained in this study will be strictly confidential and will only be viewed by research personnel.

<Press the spacebar to continue>

This study is about impression formation under suboptimal conditions. We ask you to quickly form impressions of various people. We will show you blurred drawings of various people, each at a time. The drawings will be flashed very quickly and then covered by a grey pattern mask.

Your task is to quickly form an impression of each person: Is this person threatening?

In particular, we want you to indicate whether this person is **more or less threatening than the other people you are seeing during this task**. Thus, you are asked to make a relative (not an absolute) judgment. This means that you would respond to half of the people with "less threatening" and to the other half of the people with "more threatening".

Rely on your first impression and go with your **“gut” feelings**. There are no correct or wrong answers. Respond as quickly as possible.

- If you feel the person is **less threatening** than the other people press **‘D’**.
- If you feel the person is **more threatening** than the other people press **‘K’**.

You can practice this task now. Please, press the spacebar.

This study is about impression formation under suboptimal conditions. We ask you to quickly form impressions of various people. We will show you blurred drawings of various people, each at a time. The drawings will be flashed very quickly and then covered by a grey pattern mask.

Your task is to quickly form an impression of each person: Is this person threatening?

In particular, we want you to indicate whether this person is **more or less threatening than the other people you are seeing during this task**. Thus, you are asked to make a relative (not an absolute) judgment. This means that you would respond to half of the people with "less threatening" and to the other half of the people with "more threatening".

Rely on your first impression and go with your **“gut” feelings**. There are no correct or wrong answers. Respond as quickly as possible.

- If you feel the person is **less threatening** than the other people press **‘D’**.
- If you feel the person is **more threatening** than the other people press **‘K’**.

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Now, you can practice a variation of the impression formation task.

At the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your main task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings**:

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**D**'.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**K**'.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

You can practice this task now. Please, press the spacebar.

Variation of the impression formation task

At the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your main task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings**:

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**D**'.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**K**'.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Studies on perceptual readiness have shown that a certain mental exercise helps increase one's reactivity. If you make a resolution to respond in a

particular way to a specific type of face, you will be able to change your reaction.

On the previous trials you may have noticed that a picture of a person's face, or a face-like shape appeared before the face drawings appear.

We would like you to commit yourself to responding to the Black faces by thinking the word "accurate." By thinking the word "accurate," you are reminding yourself on each trial that you should accurately judge the faces that appear after the Black and White faces.

In order to firmly commit yourself to responding to the Black face by thinking 'accurate,' please say to yourself silently

“I definitely want to respond to the Black face by thinking ‘accurate.’”

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'D'**.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'K'**.

Rely on your immediate “gut” feeling when forming an impression!

But from now on, be sure to think “accurate” when you see Black faces.

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Studies on perceptual readiness have shown that a certain mental exercise helps increase one's reactivity. If you make a resolution to respond in a

particular way to a specific type of face, you will be able to change your reaction.

On the previous trials you may have noticed that a picture of a person's face, or a face-like shape appeared before the face drawings appear.

We would like you to commit yourself to responding to the Black faces by thinking the word "quick." By thinking the word "quick," you are reminding yourself on each trial that you should quickly judge the faces that appear after the Black and White faces.

In order to firmly commit yourself to responding to the Black face by thinking 'quick,' please say to yourself silently

“I definitely want to respond to the Black face by thinking ‘quick.’”

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'D'**.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'K'**.

Rely on your immediate “gut” feeling when forming an impression!

**But from now on, be sure to think “quick” when you see
Black faces.**

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Studies on perceptual readiness have shown that a certain mental exercise helps increase one's reactivity. If you make a resolution to respond in a particular way to a specific type of face, you will be able to change your reaction.

On the previous trials you may have noticed that a picture of a person's face, or a face-like shape appeared before the face drawings appear.

We would like you to commit yourself to responding to the Black faces by thinking the word "safe." By thinking the word "safe," you are reminding yourself on each trial that you are just as safe interacting with a Black individual as with a White individual.

In order to firmly commit yourself to responding to the Black face by thinking 'safe,' please say to yourself silently

“I definitely want to respond to the Black face by thinking ‘safe.’”

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**D**'.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**K**'.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

But from now on, be sure to think "safe" when you see Black faces.

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

EXPERIMENT 2

Studies on perceptual readiness have shown that a certain mental exercise helps increase one's reactivity. If you make a resolution to respond in a particular way to a specific type of face, you will be able to change your reaction.

On the previous trials you may have noticed that a picture of a person's face, or a face-like shape appeared before the face drawings appear.

We would like you to commit yourself to responding to the Black faces by thinking the word "quick." By thinking the word "quick," you are reminding yourself on each trial that you should quickly judge the faces that appear after the Black and White faces.

In order to firmly commit yourself to responding to the Black face by thinking 'quick,' please say to yourself silently

"I definitely want to respond to the Black face by thinking 'quick.'"

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press 'D'.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press 'K'.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

But from now on, be sure to think "quick" when you see Black faces.

Additionally, we would like you to remember the number 29

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings**:

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'D'**.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'K'**.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

But from now on, be sure to think "quick" when you see Black faces.

Additionally, we would like you to remember the number 81418244

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Studies on perceptual readiness have shown that a certain mental exercise helps increase one's reactivity. If you make a resolution to respond in a particular way to a specific type of face, you will be able to change your reaction.

On the previous trials you may have noticed that a picture of a person's face, or a face-like shape appeared before the face drawings appear.

We would like you to commit yourself to responding to the Black faces by thinking the word "safe." By thinking the word "safe," you are reminding yourself on each trial that you are just as safe interacting with a Black individual as with a White individual.

In order to firmly commit yourself to responding to the Black face by thinking 'safe,' please say to yourself silently

“I definitely want to respond to the Black face by thinking ‘safe.’”

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'D'**.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press **'K'**.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

From now on, be sure to think "safe" when you see Black faces.

Additionally, we would like you to remember the number 29

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**D**'.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**K**'.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

From now on, be sure to think "safe" when you see Black faces.

Additionally, we would like you to remember the number 81418244

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Experiment 2 Manipulation Check (occurring after every 2 blocks of trials)

Low Load

Please enter the 2-digit number that you were asked to remember at the beginning of the block.

High Load

Please enter the 8-digit number that you were asked to remember at the beginning of the block.

EXPERIMENT 4

Studies on perceptual readiness have shown that a certain mental exercise helps increase one's reactivity. If you make a resolution to respond in a particular way to a specific type of face, you will be able to change your reaction.

On the previous trials you may have noticed that a picture of a person's face, or a face-like shape appeared before the face drawings appear.

We would like you to commit yourself to responding to the male faces by thinking the word "quick." By thinking the word "quick," you are reminding yourself on each trial that you should quickly judge the faces that appear after the male and female faces.

In order to firmly commit yourself to responding to the male face by thinking 'quick,' please say to yourself silently:

"I definitely want to respond to the male face by thinking 'quick.'"

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**D**'.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**K**'.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

But from now on, be sure to think "quick" when you see male faces.

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Studies on perceptual readiness have shown that a certain mental exercise helps increase one's reactivity. If you make a resolution to respond in a particular way to a specific type of face, you will be able to change your reaction.

On the previous trials you may have noticed that a picture of a person's face, or a face-like shape appeared before the face drawings appear.

We would like you to commit yourself to responding to the male faces by thinking the word "safe." By thinking the word "safe," you are reminding yourself on each trial that you are just as safe interacting with a male individual as with a female individual.

In order to firmly commit yourself to responding to the male face by thinking 'safe,' please say to yourself silently:

"I definitely want to respond to the male face by thinking 'safe.'"

<Press the spacebar to continue>

Just as before, at the beginning of each trial, a picture of a person's face or a face-like shape will be presented to you immediately before the drawing of a face appears.

Do NOT respond to these pictures, but do **pay attention to them**. After you have finished the task, you will be asked questions about the people shown in these pictures.

Like in the previous trials, your task is to quickly **form an impression of the person shown in the blurred drawings:**

- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **less threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**D**'.
- If you feel the person shown in the drawing is **more threatening** than the other people shown in the drawings press '**K**'.

Rely on your immediate "gut" feeling when forming an impression!

But from now on, be sure to think "safe" when you see male faces.

Please press the spacebar to continue to the task.

Post Study Measures in all experiments (always after attention check, and exploratory questions):

1. Have you ever done a similar task in another study here in Young Hall? If yes, please describe the task as detailed as possible. (Fill-in the blank)
2. Due to computer problems a little icon (similar to the icons below) might have been presented to you in the previous task instead of the usual pictures. Did this happen? If yes, please estimate on how many trials this happened. (Fill-in the blank)
3. Do you have any comments about the previous task? (Fill-in the blank)

Demographic questions

Please respond to the following personal questions.

1. What is your gender? (female/male/other gender identity)
2. What is your ethnicity (Fill-in the blank)
3. How old are you? (Fill-in the blank)
4. Please enter the last 6 digits of your student ID number so that we may give you credit.

Experiment 1 & 3 Attention Check

1. What were you told to think whenever you saw a Black face during the task? (Fill-in the blank)

Experiment 2 Attention Check

1. At the beginning of the study we asked you to resolve to think about a word whenever you saw a Black face. What word was that? (Safe/Quick/Slow/I don't remember)¹
2. If you remember the word you were asked to think about whenever you saw a Black face – how much influence do you think this had on your responses in the task? (1 – no² influence at all, 6 – a lot of influence)
3. If you feel that thinking about the word influenced your responding: How do you feel that thinking about this word influenced your responses? For example, did you feel like you were responding differently to the faces based on the race of the faces before them? (Fill-in the blank)

Experiment 4 Attention Check

1. What were you told to think whenever you saw a male face during the task? (Think safe/Think quick/Think accurate/I do not remember).

Experiment 3 & 4 Exploratory measure: face recognition task

Following the post study measures but preceding the demographic questions. Participants were given a recognition task. This task presented faces that appeared in the task, as well as ones that were not (i.e. “foil faces”). Participants were asked to judge whether the faces were old or new. This measure occurred after the SMT, and did not have reliable findings; as such we did not mention the task in the main text of the manuscript.

¹ The attention check changed slightly across experiments because we felt that accuracy rates for reporting condition were somewhat low in Experiment 1. However, the wording of the question did not consistently influence whether participants correctly reported their condition (Proportion of the samples incorrect by experiment - Experiment 1: 8.02%, Experiment 2: 4.30%, Experiment 3: 10.00%, Experiment 4: 12.60%).

² Questions 2 and 3 were exploratory questions to better understand how participants were interpreting the implementation intention instructions. There was no notable relationship between these questions and the primary results of Experiment 2.