

Prejudice, Threat, Environment, and Cognition: Do Differences in Cognitive Style Explain Prejudicial Attitudes Towards Ethnic Outgroups?

A Partnership Project with The Mosaic Institute and:

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SYNOPSIS

Focusing on prejudice towards immigrants and ethnic minorities, this project asks the question: Do differences in cognitive style affect the development of prejudicial attitudes?

The objective of this project is to identify, at an individual level, if there are differences in the cognitive processing of, or response to environmental stimuli that may bias individuals' perception of different groups and lead to the development of prejudicial attitudes.

Using two original studies, this project conducts advanced research on the causes of prejudice by investigating whether prejudicial attitudes are a by-product of an interaction between the sensitivity to negativity and self-regulatory control, enhancing our theoretical understanding of why people develop and express prejudice. The study will also contribute to policy recommendations for more effective evidence-based anti-prejudice policies.

This research project is currently pending SSHRC funding.

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