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Gender Bias in Story Recounting

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Abstract

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Cognitive Psychology

Abstract

Gendered language permeates sections of our lives in ways that we may not even know. There is a subconscious act to it when thinking about the relationships between gender and other aspects of society. In this study, we aimed to investigate those differences and see how there can be a relationship between gendered language and implicit bias. Passages using gendered-language can alter the listener's perspective in terms of gender identification of an otherwise unlabeled protagonist. Therefore, to explore this phenomena, participants of this study were given an androgynous story with masculine and feminine phrases. Then, a multiplication timesheet was distributed following with the opportunity to recall as much of the story as they could. Afterward, they were asked true/false questions with gendered-language as an observable measure for their recall. Lastly, participants were asked to engage in an Implicit Association Test (IAT) to determine any unconscious biases that may have affected how they performed on the recall. We are using an ANOVA and a Chi Square test, and data is currently being collected and analyzed.

Keywords: gender, language, androgyny, implicit bias, recall, masculine, feminine, IAT, stereotypes