CONFIDENTIAL - FOR PEER-REVIEW ONLY

AS PREDICTED

Confirmatory Test of Self-Enhancement of Abilities and Adjustment (#19604)

Created: 02/14/2019 12:33 PM (PT)
Shared: 04/08/2020 08:04 AM (PT)

This pre-registration is not yet public. This anonymized copy (without author names) was created by the author(s) to use during peer-review.
A non-anonymized version (containing author names) will become publicly available only if an author makes it public. Until that happens the contents of this pre-registration are confidential.

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?
The hypothesis is that the more individuals self-enhance their emotional and cognitive abilities—that is, the more individuals' self-views about their abilities exceed their actual levels of abilities—the better adjusted they are.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.
We will administer three measures of adjustment:

Satisfaction with life (Diener et al., 1985)
In most ways my life is close to my ideal.
The conditions of my life are excellent.
I am satisfied with my life.
So far I have gotten the important things I want in life.
If I could live my life over, I would change almost nothing.

Career satisfaction (Greenhaus et al., 1990)
I am satisfied with the success I have achieved in my career.
I am satisfied with the progress I have made toward meeting my overall career goals.
I am satisfied with the progress I have made toward meeting my goals for income.
I am satisfied with the progress I have made toward meeting my goals for advancement.
I am satisfied with the progress I have made toward meeting my goals for the development of new skills.

Relationship satisfaction (Impett et al., 2013)
I feel satisfied with my relationships.
I feel close to my relationship partners.
I feel there is tension between my relationship partners and me. (reverse scored)
My relationship partners and I experience conflict. (reverse scored)

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?
There are no conditions.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.
We will use exactly the condition-based regression approach developed by Humberg et al. (2018) to test self-enhancement. In six separate analyses (i.e., two dimensions of abilities and three facets of adjustment), adjustment will be regressed on abilities and self-views. Support for self-enhancement will be inferred if the derived coefficient abs is positive and significant, and the coefficient for self-views is larger than the coefficient for abilities. We will draw separate inferences for each of the six analyses.

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.
We will conduct exploratory analyses to explore the following potential mediators of any relationship between self-enhancement and adjustment: self-esteem, belief that one evaluates one's own abilities the way they should, belief that one evaluates one's own abilities the way other people do, defensiveness, and distraction.

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.
We will collect responses from 1100 participants with full-time employment (i.e., who have indicated that they work at least 26 hours a week) from MTurk Prime. A sample size of 1100 for analyses of each dimension of ability will provide .80 power to test the incremental prediction of self-views over abilities, and the incremental prediction of abilities over self-views, based on effect sizes from a previous project (He & Côté, under revision). We will only analyze data once we have recruited 1100 observations. If we cannot recruit 1100 participants who work full-time, we will then recruit participants who work part-time.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)
Emotion recognition ability will be measured with a 72-item emotion recognition task that we developed using pictures from the Montréal Set of Facial Displays of Emotion. Participants will be shown each target for two seconds, then will be asked to indicate the emotion that the target expressed. Self-estimated emotion recognition ability will be measured by asking participants to estimate how many of the 72 expressions they believe they identified correctly.

Cognitive ability will be measured with a shortened version of Raven's advanced progressive matrices (Humberg et al., 2018; Denissen et al., 2011). Participants will be given 20 minutes to complete 15 perceptual problems. Self-estimated cognitive recognition will be measured by asking participants to estimate how many of the 15 expressions they believe they identified correctly.

For both tests, participants must have completed at least half of the ability items for their data to be included in the analyses. We will remove observations pairwise.

We will follow procedures we described in a previous registered report to process the data. The accepted Stage 1 document for this registered report can be found at: https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/BSUNGB (entitled "Full Stage 1 Registered Report Proposal.docx"). This document describes, for example, procedures we will follow if the reliability of any measure is low.

We recruited 21 "pilot" participants before launching this study to make sure that the survey was functioning correctly. These participants will not be included in the final sample.

We will record MTurk Prime ID numbers and remove every participant who was in our previous exploratory study on self-insight and adjustment, because in the current project we conduct a confirmatory test of the results we found in that previous study.