

II W A R S A W – J E N A
W o r k s h o p

**VICTIM / PERPETRATOR
RELATIONS IN A
CHANGING EUROPE:
Prejudice escalation and
prejudice reduction**



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II Warsaw - Jena Workshop.
VICTIM / PERPETRATOR RELATIONS IN A CHANGING EUROPE:
Prejudice escalation and prejudice reduction

Friday 13 April 2007 (Old Library)

Keynote Session: The nature of prejudice: Personal perspectives

- 8:30 *Registration at the Registration Desk*
9:00 *Welcome and introduction*
9:50 *Break*

Part 1. The nature of prejudice: Basic issues.

Convener: **Janusz Grzelak**

- 10:00 **John F. Dovidio, Yale University, Samuel L. Gaertner, University of Delaware, & Kerry Kawakami, York University**
Contemporary Prejudice: Interpersonal Dynamics and Intergroup Relations
- 10:50 **Samuel L. Gaertner, University of Delaware, John F. Dovidio, Yale University, Rita Guerra, ISCTE, Blake M. Riek, University of Delaware**
Combating Contemporary Prejudice: The Potential of Common Ingroup Identity.
- 11:40 *Break*
- 12:00 **Kai Jonas, Jena University**
Early Stage Determinants of Prejudice: Categorization and Automatic Behavior
- 12:50 **Yona Teichman, Daniel Bar-Tal, & Meir Teichman, Tel-Aviv University**
Acquisition and Development of Stereotypes and Prejudice in Conflict.
- 13:40 *Lunch*

Part 2. The nature of prejudice: Social contexts.

Convener: **Janusz Reykowski**

- 15:00 **James M. Jones, Shelly Engleman, Santiba Campbell, University of Delaware, & Carl E. Turner, Jr, Palio Communications**
Worlds Apart: Divergent effects of Racism Salience for Blacks and Whites
- 15:50 **Maria Lewicka, Warsaw University**
The Lost History: How to Overcome Ethnic Bias in Collective Memory of Cities.
- 16:40 *Break*
- 17:00 **Mirosław Kořta, Warsaw University Grzegorz Sędek, Warsaw School of Social Psychology**
On Tenacity of Prejudice: Conspiracy Theories of Jews in Contemporary Poland.
- 17:50 *General Discussion. Discussant: John Dovidio*
- 20:00 *Dinner at Nowy Swiat Restaurant*

Saturday 14 April 2007 (Senate Room, Casimir's Palace)

Session 1: Guilt and infracumanization

- 9:00 **Ana Figueiredo, Bertjan Doosje, University of Coimbra**
Shared past and common future: the Portuguese colonial war and feelings of collective guilt
- 9:30 **Patrycja Slawuta, Mirosław Kořta, Warsaw University & New School for Social Research, NY**
Awareness of own group' crime, affinity with the victimized group, and intergroup relations: Implications for management of historical conflicts
- 10:00 **Aarti Iyer, University of Exeter**
Predicting participation in social justice efforts: The limits of group-based guilt
- 10:30 *Coffee*

Session 2: Intergroup contact and communication

- 11:00 **Elena Mendez, Angel Gomez, Linda R. Tropp, UNED, Madrid**
When a friend is not enough: limitations of extended contact in prejudice reduction
- 11:30 **Michał Bilewicz, Warsaw University**
History as an obstacle in effective encounter: The content of intergroup contact and its effect on prejudice reduction

12:00 **Piotr Rycielski, Milka Rycielska, Warsaw University**

Conflict resolution and deliberative debates

12:30 *Coffee*

Session 3: Perspectives on infrahumanization

13:00 **Tomasz Baran, Warsaw University**

Infrahumanization of outgroup members in intergroup relation: The role of social categorization, co-operation and competition

13:30 **Flavia Albarello, Monica Rubini, University of Bologna**

If we have something in common, I consider you more human: crossed categorisations and super-ordinate self-categorisations as moderators of de-humanisation

14:00 **Monika Miroslawska, Mirosław Kofta, Warsaw University**

The message from minimal groups: Infrahumanization is unrelated to ingroup favoritism

14:30 *Lunch*

Session 4: Prejudice and language

16:00 **János László, Tibor Pólya, Institute for Psychology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest**

Level of abstraction versus subjectivity-objectivity in Linguistic Intergroup Bias

16:30 **Marco Boffi, Paolo Cherubini, Monica Colombo, Università di Milano Bicocca**

Xenophobic reasoning: how we justify and argue anti-immigrant stances in discourse. A preliminary study

Session 5: Ingroup favoritism and ingroup projection

17:00 **Magdalena Stec, Alicja Samarcew, Warsaw University**

Personal standards contra in-group favoritism. On the possibilities of limitations of the impact of unconscious affect

17:30 **Sven Waldzus, Claudia Meirele, CIS/ISCTE, Lisboa**

Scope and complexity of superordinate categories as determinants of ingroup projection

18:00 **Poster session/wine reception**

20:00 *Dinner at Pod Samsonem Restaurant*

Sunday 15 April 2007 (Senate Room, Casimir's Palace)

Session 6: Stereotyping and prejudice

9:00 **Monika Grzesiak, Warsaw University**

Descriptive forms of social identity and propensity for stereotypization

9:30 **Małgorzata Styśko, Warsaw University**

On unbiased and favorably biased judgements towards harmdoer belonging to the negatively stereotypized category

10:00 **Maria-Antoneta Popa-Roch, Florian Delmas, Pierre Mendes France University, Grenoble**

When the prejudice target responds: The case of a French/North-African Implicit Association Test

10:30 **Władysław Narkiewicz-Jodko, Warsaw University**

Control deprivation, cognitive load and stereotyping.

11:00 *Coffee*

Session 7: Identification and orientations

11:30 **Eva Selenko, Karl-Franzens-University, Graz**

Justice in the European Union: A study on identification and justice perceptions among citizens of Poland and Slovenia

12:00 **Agnieszka Golec de Zavala, Middlesex University, UK /Warsaw School of Social Psychology,**

Religious orientations and belief in cultural superiority and intergroup hostility in times of threat

12:30 **Małgorzata Kossowska, Marcin Bukowski, Jagiellonian University, Krakow**

Impact of submissive vs. dominant orientation and emotions on outgroup attitudes

13:00 *Coffee*

13:30 **Workshops/small group meetings**

14:30 *Lunch at Pierogarnia na Bednarskiej*

16:00 Optional Walking Tours: Old Warsaw / Jewish Warsaw

Keynote Session

ABSTRACTS

John F. Dovidio (Yale University, USA)

Samuel L. Gaertner (University of Delaware, USA)

Kerry Kawakami (York University, Canada)

Contemporary Prejudice: Interpersonal Dynamics and Intergroup Relations

This presentation explores how contemporary, subtle intergroup biases, in general, and aversive racism in the United States, in particular, influences the outcomes and intergroup interactions for minority group members. Specifically, data will be presented that show how aversive racism adversely affects the ways that Whites evaluate Blacks in making judgments about them and influences interracial interactions in ways that produce miscommunication and intergroup distrust. Thus, even bias that is subtle and unintentional can systematically contribute to racial disparities and tensions. Understanding the nature and consequences of subtle bias, however, can inform interventions that can combat its effects. The presentation thus examines the effectiveness of techniques aimed at addressing implicit (unconscious) negative feelings and beliefs to conform to conscious nonprejudiced attitudes.

Samuel L. Gaertner (University of Delaware, USA)

John F. Dovidio (Yale University USA)

Rita Guerra (ISCTE, Lisbon)

Blake M. Riek (University of Delaware, USA)

Combating Contemporary Prejudice: The Potential of a Common Ingroup Identity

One basic argument we have made in our research on aversive racism is that the negative feelings that develop toward other groups may be rooted, in part, in fundamental, normal psychological processes. One such process, identified in the classic work of Allport, Tajfel, and others, is the categorization of people into ingroups and outgroups, "we's" and "they's." People respond systematically more favorably to others whom they perceive to belong to their group than to different groups. Thus, if bias is linked to fundamental, normal psychological processes, such as social categorization, then attempts to ameliorate bias should be directed not at eliminating these processes entirely, but rather at redirecting the forces of ingroup bias to produce more harmonious intergroup relations. By shifting the basis of categorization from race to an alternative dimension, shared by Blacks and Whites who may be interacting, it may be possible to alter who is a "we" and who is a "they," through recategorization, and thereby undermine a potentially contributing force to aversive racism and other biases. In this presentation, we summarize research on a prejudice reduction strategy, the Common Ingroup Identity Model. This work has found converging evidence across a variety of laboratory and field experiments, as well as cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys involving participants ranging in age from elementary school children to adults. In addition to reviewing some early findings, this presentation will explore the potential of a common ingroup identity to decrease perceived intergroup threat and to generalize its benefits beyond the contact situation and over time.

Early Stage Determinants of Prejudice: Categorization and Automatic Behavior

Prejudice is usually defined as negative beliefs about an attitude object – in most cases a social group - that are fused by affect and turned into potentially discriminatory behavior. Thus, central to this view, and as a differentiation from stereotypes, prejudice contains affect on top of the cold cognitive attributes stored in the stereotypic representation. There is a lot of evidence for this distinction, yet it may be questionable to stress the importance of affect as the driving and differentiating force too much.

Based on two threads of own research, we are going to argue, that prejudice and prejudiced behavior can occur (a) on the basis of overlearned behavioral response associations towards a social category and (b) can be the result of mere categorization. In the first line of research presented, we are going to introduce the Automatic Response Priming paradigm (Jonas & Sassenberg, 2006) and explain its explanatory value for the field of prejudice research. Automatic Response Priming denotes the automatic activation of response behavior targeted at a social category in a perceiver. Several studies show the automatic activation of category specific prejudice behavior – without the need for an affect-driven or motivational process. Furthermore, these priming effects correlate with explicit measures of prejudice towards the respective groups. In sum, prejudice can occur if prejudiced response behavior is overlearned and stored with the representation of the category itself.

The second line of research relates to the Ingroup Projection Model, we are going to show that for fairly chronic ingroup/majority and outgroup/minority relations a mere categorization is sufficient to induce prejudiced attitudes towards the outgroup and that is effect solely depends on how close the outgroup is seen to the superordinate category prototype. The distance of the majority ingroup to the superordinate category prototype is invariant in this context and does not impact on the prejudice itself.

Taken together, the presentation seeks to point to cognitive effects, category activation and categorization, that can induce prejudice without the need for controlled, and hot, affective processes. Clearly, the research presented does not seek to speak against the affective component in prejudice, it seeks to point to rather strong cognitive preconditions that are sufficient in itself and may become even stronger if driven by affect, too!

James M. Jones (University of Delaware, USA)
Shelly Engleman (University of Delaware, USA)
Santiba Campbell (University of Delaware, USA)
Carl E. Turner, Jr. (Palio Communications, USA)

Worlds Apart: Divergent effects of Racism Salience for Blacks and Whites

The symbolic images and salient historical facts of America's racial history are selectively remembered. Racial inequality is a fact of life in America, but its causes and manifestations reflect cognitive representations and psychological consequences that diverge for Blacks and Whites. This divergence in historical representation of contemporary psychological processes plays a major role in the perpetuation of racial misunderstanding and impedes progress in race relations.

When racial interaction occurs in situations where race is relevant and fairness is ambiguous, the Black narrative is more likely to place racism at the center of an explanatory framework, while the White narrative is more likely to place individual merit and character at the center. The inertia to overcome these default tendencies often requires Blacks to see a race-relevant situation as race-*neutral* in order to perceive "fairness," and Whites to see it as race-*dependent* in order to see "unfairness." Our research explores this basic paradigm from both Black and White perspectives, seeking to understand what factors might influence Whites to see things as *less* fair, and Blacks to see things as *more* fair; for Blacks to see events as *less* about race, and Whites to see them as *more* about race.

I will describe briefly four studies that explore racial divergence in the perceptions of race and racism. The first two studies investigate the conceptions of racism for Blacks. Study 1 activates the Universal Context of Racism by having participants sort and evaluate 20 pictures physical and psychological discrimination directed at Blacks. The assumption is that the images will make more accessible the constructs of racial discrimination and lead blacks to employ this frame of reference in evaluating an ambiguous example of racial injustice. The second study explores the structure of chronic representations of the Universal Context of Racism and shows some linkages of these structures to each other and other constructs. The second set of two studies explores the implication of activating the Universal Context of Racism for Whites. The second explores the structure of the Universal Context of Fairness and its linkage to racial judgments and behaviors.

By exposing people to the unfairness of racial discrimination and oppression we might expect that it could expand perspectives of both Blacks and Whites to see the world differently—that Blacks might be *empowered* by the facts of overcoming the historical racism legacy and Whites would be *enlightened* by knowing that their conceptions of fairness are not universally available to Blacks in either the past or present.

However, the Universal Context of Racism and the Universal Context of Fairness seem generally to produce reactions that drive Blacks and Whites further apart. Blacks assimilate past discrimination to a current reality of racial injustice. Whites contrast past discrimination with the present to reach the conclusion that racial discrimination is no longer a problem and a colorblind approach to social justice is warranted. Two trains passing in the night.

Mirosław Kofta (Warsaw University, Poland)

Grzegorz Sędek (Warsaw School of Social Psychology, Poland)

On Tenacity of Prejudice: Conspiracy Theories of Jews in Contemporary Poland.

The longevity of anti-Semitism remains one of history's most mysterious phenomena, a real challenge for the social sciences. A particularly striking manifestation of its tenacity is the so called "anti-Semitism without Jews", still noted in Eastern and Central Europe (the phrase refers to persistence of anti-Jewish prejudice in countries where Jews disappeared from the social landscape as a result of the Holocaust).

We assume that the phenomenon is basically due to the fact that a highly robust conspiracy theory of Jews occupies the center of an anti-Semitic belief system. The conspiracy theory (a) ascribes to Jews an inborn tendency to achieve power over the world in general (and on the perceiver's ingroup in particular), and (b) assumes actions of a secret (hidden, covert) nature intended to fulfill this basic aim. The theory is dynamic: It is activated by societal threats to the ingroup power (as perceived by those who share conspiracy views). In democratic society, a prototypical example of such a threat is free elections, because their results are unpredictable (e.g., representatives of the allegedly conspiring outgroup – for instance people of Jewish origin – may come to power!).

Within the described group schema, Jews are portrayed as a self-contained collective entity acting in a very coherent way to accomplish common group goals. We hypothesize that it is precisely the saliency of a conspiracy (paranoid) component that makes prejudiced attitudes toward Jews so robust. On logical grounds, one cannot disprove general conspiracy theory once it has been established, because any observable counter-evidence, addressing visible (not covert) happenings, is totally irrelevant.

To analyze the meaning of the conspiracy theory of Jews and its role in social cognition, we carried out a series of studies including (a) surveys on representative samples, (b) naturalistic and laboratory experiments, and (c) cross-sectional research. Results reveal that such a conspiracy theory is still shared by some of Polish respondents and exerts a noticeable impact on attitudes and opinions.

However, anti-Semitism – as measured in our studies – has a rather passive (hidden) nature. Conspiracy beliefs might be "frozen" for a longer period of time (months, years) until some societal (e.g., parliamentary elections) or personal event (e.g., experience of collective guilt or shame) sets them into motion, making those beliefs an active source of affect, opinions, and actions (e.g., voting decisions).

Maria Lewicka (Warsaw University, Poland)

The lost history: How to overcome ethnic bias in collective memories of cities

After World War II, agreements between members of the anti-Nazi coalition changed the pre-war borders of Central and Eastern Europe: some states were annihilated, other changed their territories. Due to the agreements, one third of Polish territories was annexed to the Soviet Union, while in exchange obtained an equivalent in the form of lands that previously were a part of the German state. This shift meant massive migrations of people evicted from their cities, towns and villages: Poles, Ukrainians, Germans etc., and population changes that most often led to the total replacement of the cities nationalities. For many years after the war the newly acquired territories, both in Poland and in the Soviet Union were subject to massive propagandistic efforts which aim was to reinterpret the lands' history in the way that would justify their present political status. First after 1989, along with the upsurge of interest in the history missing pages, attempts were undertaken to restore the lost history of Polish, Ukrainian, Lithuanian etc. cities.

The research presented in this paper aimed at investigation of collective memory of city past, shared by present inhabitants of two cities that were subject to population changes after WWII: Wrocław (Poland, previously Breslau, Germany) and L'viv (Ukraine, previously Lwów, Poland). The study focused on memory of residence place and on its relationship with place identity and place attachment. Of particular interest was the amount of manifested ethnic (national) bias in representation of the city history and the role of psychological (place identity and place attachment) and environmental (presence of historical "urban reminders") factors in overcoming the bias. Drawing from Fiske and Neuberger's (1990) continuum model of perception, it was predicted that construction of a place either as a national symbol (higher order category) or as a local entity (lower order category) will influence the amount of ethnic bias in social memory and the role that the place's unique features (urban reminders) will play both in place attachment and in restoration of the place memory.

A sample of 301 participants from four districts of Wrocław and 200 participants from three districts of L'viv, differing in the presence of historical "urban reminders", were investigated on a number of issues, including reported place identity, place attachment and place memory. Collective memory showed a powerful ethnic bias, equally strong in both cities, but with different underlying mechanisms. Place (city) was constructed as national symbol most often in L'viv, and as an autonomous entity in Wrocław. Some evidence was also obtained that the degree to which place attachment is associated with the higher order (national) or lower order (local) identity predicts the amount of ethnic bias in perception of the pre-war past of the two cities.

In conclusion I will present a brief overview of other research carried in several other cities (Gdańsk/Danzig, Warsaw, Łódź) and offer suggestions on how to overcome ethnic biases in place memory and how to encourage integration of the places' discrepant histories.

Yona Teichman (Tel-Aviv University, Israel)

Daniel Bar-Tal (Tel-Aviv University, Israel)

Meir Teichman (Tel-Aviv University, Israel)

Acquisition and Development of Stereotypes and Prejudice in Conflict.

Recent years have seen an increase in theoretical and empirical interest in the acquisition and development of stereotypes and prejudice in children. Based on research regarding the acquisition and development of intergroup representations and attitudes in the context of the Israeli – Arab conflict, we propose an integrative developmental contextual theory (IDCT) and present some relevant findings.

The components included in the integrative theory are: Context, affect, cognitive development, and identity development. The theoretical propositions are examined tracing the developmental trajectory of in- and out-group preference/rejection, and touching upon issues such as children's age, experience of threat, social categorization, identity acquisition, and majority/minority status. Results of studies reviewed indicate that developmental trajectories of stereotypes and prejudice are context related, influenced by affect, cognitive and identity development and that their expression may vary on implicit and explicit measures. Implications for prevention and intervention within the educational system are proposed.

Paper Sessions

ABSTRACTS

Flavia Albarello (University of Bologna, Italy)

Monica Rubini (University of Bologna, Italy)

If we have something in common, I consider you more human: crossed categorizations and super-ordinate self-categorizations as moderators of de-humanisation phenomena

Historical events of the Nineteenth Century showed how destructive prejudice and discrimination may be, leading social scientists to consider in depth such degenerated intergroup relations. The study presented here, although not confronting directly prejudice from the perspective of victims and perpetrators, was aimed at shading light at the processes underlining a particularly dramatic form of prejudice which involves the denial of humanness to the Others, that is to say de-humanisation.

As argued by several scholars, de-humanisation might be deeply related to "aggravated" forms of discrimination, prejudice and devaluation of individuals and groups, thus leading to or enabling aggression and violence against other human beings (cf. Bandura, Underwood, & Fromson, 1975; Kelman, 1973; Staub, 1989; Struch & Schwartz, 1989).

More in details, this contribution was intended to underline a few conditions within the intergroup frame of analysis under which prejudice might assume heavy connotations such as de-humanisation against the Others, as well as conditions under which prejudice might be diminished.

This study tested the joint effects of crossed categorizations and salience of super-ordinate level of self-categorization as human beings (cf. Turner, Hogg, Oakes, Reicher, & Wetherell, 1987) as moderators of de-humanisation, measured through a subtle measure such as the attribution of uniquely human emotions (i.e., infra-humanisation, Leyens et al., 2000) and a more explicit one such as the attribution of some of the Human Rights stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Crossed categorizations were operationalized as two orthogonal category memberships, that is Religion (Christian vs. Muslim) and Skin Colour (White vs. Black) of a generic target. Super-ordinate level of self-categorisation as human beings was primed asking participants to answer an identification scale with the human group. Participants were asked to attribute uniquely human emotions and human rights to the target.

In the no prime condition, the classical infra-humanisation pattern of results, as well as a corresponding de-humanisation one, was found: that is to say, participants fully humanized only the target closer to their ingroup (i.e., White Christian). Whereas, in the super-ordinate categorization salience condition results showed the hypothesized joint effect of crossed categorizations and of super-ordinate categorization salience in moderating infra-humanisation and de-humanisation of targets accepted within the human ingroup. More in details, in the super-ordinate salience condition, the Black Christian target was "super-humanized", in comparison with the White Christian one, representing participants' ingroup.

Implications regarding the architecture of the social categorizations structure, both in vertical and horizontal fashion, as a means of reducing prejudice and discrimination. would be discussed.

Tomasz Baran (Warsaw University, Poland)

Infracommunication of outgroup members in intergroup relation: The role of social categorization, co-operation and rivalry

The studies on intergroup relation, conducted so far concentrated mainly on in-group bias effects. Only recently researchers started to prove that tendency to infracommunication of out-group members could be an equally important after-effect of social categorization. It means that outgroupers are not only evaluated worse than ingroupers but unlike ingroupers they are not recognized as fully humans. Studies of Leyens and his team (Leyens et al., 199, 200, 2001) prove a tendency to attribute specifically human, positive and negative secondary emotions more to the ingroup than to outgroups, without parallel differences on primary emotions. The experiments presented in this presentation show that the infracommunication of outgroup member and in-group bias could be modified in a different way by the type of intergroup relation. Among other things it turned out that members of rivalry group are very negatively evaluated but not infracommunicated.

Michał Bilewicz (Warsaw University, Poland)

History as an obstacle in effective encounter: The content of intergroup contact and its effect on prejudice reduction

Perceptions of intergroup history have received little attention from psychologists until quite recent theorizing concerning its consequences for collective guilt (Branscombe, Doosje, & McGarty, 2002). There has been no research focusing on the role of intergroup history on the effectiveness of intergroup contact. Placing two groups who lack previous contact together does not always lead to improved relations. Memories of their conflicted past may be of key importance for understanding why this would be the case. Two studies examined the role of temporal-based social categorizations for attitude change during intergroup contact between Polish and Jewish students. In study 1 ($N=190$ Polish students), a cross-sectional analysis showed that contact focused on contemporary issues had positive effects on both out-group attitudes and perceived similarity to the out-group. No such effects were observed when groups talked about past issues. Study 2 ($N=97$ Jewish students) demonstrated this effect experimentally when 'historical' and 'contemporary' issues were discussed during contact. Contact about the present generated more positive attitudes toward contact partners and (unlike contact about the past) toward the generalized out-group. The present findings are discussed in the context of common ingroup identity model and collective guilt research.

Marco Boffi (University of Milano – Bicocca, Italy)

Paolo Cherubini (University of Milano – Bicocca, Italy)

Monica Colombo (University of Milano – Bicocca, Italy)

Xenophobic reasoning: how we justify and argue anti-immigrant stances in discourse. A preliminary study

The spread of certain forms of xenophobia – either explicit or implicit – is being more and more documented in international research studies both in relation to the emergence of social and political movements assuming an anti-immigrant stance, and, more generally, in relation to the sharing of such a stance on the part of the general European public. Our general aim is to develop a multidisciplinary and multilevel analysis to the study of xenophobic thinking which integrates cognitive and discourse analysis. In his cognitive analysis of xenophobia Rydgren (2004) takes into account:

1) illusory correlations, that is perceiving associations between variables that are not associated; 2) analogical strategies; 3) fallacious logical schemata. In this study we enlarge Rydgren's framework by considering many potentially relevant reasoning tendencies, including various sorts of "focusing" and "mechanization" effects (Cherubini, Mazzocco, Rumiati, 2003; Cherubini, Castelvechio, Cherubini, 2005) as well as the constraints of human hypothesis testing and belief revision strategies. In this study our purpose is to evaluate their contribution to the genesis of xenophobic ideas which support anti-immigrants stances. We argue that people discursively justify and explain these prejudicial stances through the same thought processes which have been described in laboratory experiments.

In order to explore how 'foreigners' are represented and which definitions of the issue of immigration emerge in citizens' discourse we conducted two focus groups, one with Italian participants and the other with foreign ones; the topic discussed in the two focus groups was the multicultural transformation which is involving the city of Milan.

A discourse analytic approach was adopted to analyse the verbatim transcripts so to give evidence to the processes of reasoning underlying participants' discourse. Our aim was to probe their effective role and explanatory power, both in terms of generating or welcoming xenophobic convictions and in terms of supporting argumentative strategies aimed at spreading xenophobic ideas. We found a strong relation between immigrants and crime, in accordance with previous studies. In xenophobic discourse this relation is reinforced emphasizing the idea of cultural differences, which are presented as incompatible. We suggest that the validity of these simplifications is supported by a tendency to establish illusory correlations and to use different kinds of heuristics. Moreover, similar processes of reasoning allow people to handle stereotypes, linking them each other into a more resistant structure.

Ana Figueiredo (University of Coimbra, Portugal)
Bertjan Doosje (University of Coimbra, Portugal)
Joaquim Valentim (University of Coimbra, Portugal)

Shared past common future: the Portuguese colonial war and feelings of collective guilt

The authors examined the levels of collective guilt among Portuguese university students ($N = 130$) in relation to the Portuguese colonial war. According to results, participants' feelings of collective guilt are below the mid-point of the scale. Still as expected, feelings of collective guilt correlate positively with compensatory behaviour intentions. There is a significant positive correlation between scores on ingroup identification and on need of knowledge of facts of the war as well as on the perceived need of public information about this topic. We can also see that ingroup glorification is positively correlated with the use of exonerating cognitions presumably to avoid responsibility from the harm committed to other groups during the war. Links between personal political orientation, human values priorities, degree of perceived similarity between the ingroup and the outgroup, compensatory behaviour intentions and collective guilt are also discussed.

Agnieszka Golec de Zavala (Warsaw School of Social Psychology, Poland)

Religious orientations and belief in cultural superiority and inter-group hostility in times of existential threat.

The main objective of this set of studies was to assess why when people resort to religious beliefs in times of existential fear, some of them may find consolation that reduces that fear and mitigates its negative inter-group consequences while others find further inspiration for inter-group violence.

The first three pilot studies explored the inter-group consequences of various religious orientations: intrinsic, extrinsic, religious fundamentalism, quest, and public and private religiosity among Americans, British participants mostly Christians or non-believers and British Muslims and Christians. It can be concluded that public religiosity and religious fundamentalism are related to greater support for inter-group coercion, whereas private, intrinsic and quest religious orientations have significant mitigating coercion effects. However, the role of fundamentalism is not clear-cut and it seems to depend on type of religion and socially acceptable responses. In American sample private religiosity had opposite effects (negative) to public religiosity (positive) in predicting support for War on Iraq and optimism related to the course of that war. In British sample religious fundamentalism was related to support for coercive actions in a conflict between French government and protesting Muslim minority, whereas intrinsic religious orientation was related to rejection of such actions and preference for cooperative methods. Religious fundamentalism was also related to negative attitudes towards immigrants (Poles, Turks) and stigmatized groups (as Blacks, homosexuals). In a separate study religious fundamentalism was related to greater preference for war as a strategy in inter-group conflict but only among British Muslim participants and to preference for all religions uniting under values of 'civilized countries' among British Christians.

In a recent study more complex relationships were tested on a sample of 160 students of Kardynal Wyszyński University (i.e. catholic university) in Warsaw. The particular venue was chosen in order to increase a chance of accessing religious students. The attitudes towards war and actions chosen in a conflict relevant to the Islam vs Western world conflict were examined after participants were randomly assigned to mortality salience vs control conditions. Their religiosity and intrinsic, extrinsic, quest and fundamentalist religious orientations were also assessed. The results indicate that quest spiritual religious orientation mitigated the inter-group negativity aroused in the experimental conditions. This interaction was more pronounced among participants high in need for cognitive closure i.e. motivated to avoid situations breeding cognitive uncertainty. The support for political violence (on all indices used in the study) was in turn the strongest when participants were put in mortality salience condition and at the same time held a belief in superiority of European culture. This belief, in turn, was best predicted by interaction on need for cognitive closure and religious fundamentalism.

The results of the last, more comprehensive studies suggest that in times of threat or uncertainty religious beliefs as well as cultural worldviews can provide either inspiration for inter-group negativity and violence or consolation that reduces negative inter-group effects of threat.

Descriptive forms of social identity and propensity for stereotypisation

Although there are many theoretical reviews and empirical investigations into the relation between social identity and stereotyping (eg. Tajfel's and Turner's social identity theory) little attention has been drawn to the descriptive content of social identity. The presented studies refer to developed by Jarymowicz and her team theory that assumes multitude of social identity forms. There are three kinds of social identity: group, categorical and attributional. The aim of the current studies was to examine the possible relationship between various forms of social identity and propensity for classical (measured both explicitly and implicitly) and conspiracy stereotypisation. The distinction between classical and conspiracy stereotype is based on a dual-component model of ethnic stereotypes (Kofta & Sedek, 2005). Whereas classical (trait-laden) stereotype is a trait theory of a typical out-group member, the conspiracy stereotype is considered as a holistic representation of the entire out-group as a collective enemy.

851 subjects were examined. The obtained results suggest that the social identity plays an important role in various kinds of stereotyping. It was observed that the categorical form of social identity is the most, whereas the attributional form of social identity is the least conducive for all kinds of stereotyping.

Predicting participation in social justice efforts: The limits of group-based guilt

Throughout history, socio-political conflicts have resulted in heinous crimes and injustices against low-status groups. When individual members of perpetrator groups acknowledge their group's role in such atrocities, they accept collective responsibility for these illegitimate acts. As such, group members can experience group-based guilt about their group's transgressions, even when they personally may not have been directly involved in these illegitimate acts (Doojse, Branscombe, Spears, & Manstead, 1998; Iyer, Leach, & Crosby, 2003, Study 2).

The expression of group-based guilt is generally heralded as a positive development in the struggle for intergroup equality (Barkan, 2000; Pedersen, Beven, Walker, & Griffiths, 2004), because such acceptance of collective responsibility for discrimination is believed to indicate a reduction of prejudice against the low-status group, as well as a willingness to work for social justice (Barkan, 2004; Brooks, 1999). Indeed, social psychological research has shown group-based guilt to predict support for the abstract goal of restitution for discrimination, whether via apology (McGarty, Pedersen, Leach, Mansell, Waller, & Bliuc, 2005) or material compensation (Doosje et al., 1998; Iyer et al., 2003).

Theory suggests, however, that guilt is limited in its ability to facilitate efforts to challenge systemic discrimination, because it is a dysphoric, self-focused emotion (see Iyer, Leach, & Pedersen, 2004; Leach, Snider, & Iyer, 2002). In this paper, we report evidence from an experiment with European Americans (Study 1, $N = 138$) and a survey with non-Aboriginal Australians (Study 2, $N = 203$), which suggests that group-based guilt experienced by perpetrator groups is limited in three specific ways.

First, individuals attempt to avoid experiencing group-based guilt by minimizing the group's responsibility for the injustice. Use of this strategy was increased in an experimental condition which highlighted in-group responsibility for injustice, compared to a control condition where no perpetrator group was identified (Study 1). Thus, the very fact that should most promote the central antecedent of guilt (i.e., in-group responsibility) is likely to encourage people to undermine this appraisal and the resulting feelings of guilt. At best, denying in-group responsibility limits the potential political benefits of guilt, and at worst, it may increase prejudice against the low-status group.

Second, although recent work shows group-based guilt to predict support for the abstract goal of restitution, emotion theory suggests that guilt is a weak explanation of the specific political action required to bring about restitution. Our results demonstrate that guilt predicted support for the abstract goal of restitution, but not political action intentions to actually bring about restitution (Study 2).

Third, guilt's narrow self-focus means that it should not be associated with more general social justice strategies that do not explicitly focus on restitution. That is, guilt did not predict political action intentions to advocate other justice strategies, such as confrontation of specific perpetrators, or helping the victimized group (Study 1). Taken together, the studies suggest that although the experience of guilt reflects a less prejudice orientation toward a low-status group, this emotion is limited in its ability to motivate political action to make amends and achieve peace in the aftermath of socio-political conflict.

Małgorzata Kossowska (Jagiellonian University, Poland)

Marcin Bukowski (Jagiellonian University, Poland)

Differential effects of submissive and dominative orientation on outgroup attitudes and their modification by emotions

Although Adorno, Frenkel-Brunswik, Levinson, and Sanford, (1950) stressed the importance of emotional factors that give rise to the authoritarianism syndrome, empirical tests of the relationship between authoritarianism and emotions generally generated conflicting results. Most of these studies focused on negative emotions. Moreover, these investigations generally used indirect indicators of emotions such as self-esteem and Neuroticism, which were assumed to reflect the presence of negative emotions.

The aim of the present research was twofold. Firstly, we tested whether individual differences in positive and negative emotions as well as in discrete emotions are related to authoritarian submission and dominance. Secondly, we wanted to test the interaction effect of authoritarianism and emotions on racism. In particular, we hypothesized that submissive authoritarians who generally experience negative emotions as well as dominant authoritarians who generally experience low levels of positive emotions should exhibit the highest levels of racism. In order to test these expectations, we administered various direct indicators of negative **and** positive emotions.

János László (Institute for Psychology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary)
Tibor Pólya (Institute for Psychology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary)

Level of abstraction versus subjectivity-objectivity in Linguistic Intergrup Bias

Linguistic inter-group bias (Maas et al, 1995) refers to the phenomenon that positive behaviour displayed by an in-group member is described in relatively abstract terms, whereas the same behaviour shown by an out-group member is described in relatively concrete terms. The reverse is true for negative behaviours. However, besides concreteness, and valence there are other inference inviting properties of interpersonal verbs. In our study we investigate the effects of **subjectivity** of these verbs. By subjectivity we mean, whether the interpersonal verb describes a subject's private state, his or her thoughts and emotions (subjective verb), or does not (objective verb). We expect that subjectivity relates systematically to the description of behaviours displayed by in-group and out-group members. For testing this relationship, in our study we used 46 verbs classified as subjective versus objective and as one of the five level of concreteness according to the Linguistic Category Model (Semin and Fiedler, 1989). We asked our subjects to use these verbs in depicting positive and negative deeds of in-groups, positively valued and negatively valued out-groups. Our results show that subjectivity-objectivity has a stronger effect than the level of abstraction in LCM.

Elena Méndez (UNED, Spain)
Ángel Gómez (UNED, Spain)
Linda R. Tropp (UNED, Spain)

When a friend is not enough: limitations of extended contact in prejudice reduction

The present research explores the limitations of the extended contact as an alternative strategy to the contact hypothesis in reducing intergroup prejudice. The extended contact approach stipulates that having friends from the ingroup who have outgroup members as friends will improve attitudes and reduce prejudice toward the outgroup (Shelton & Richeson, 2005; Wright, Aron, McLaughlin-Volpe, & Ropp, 1997). The positive effects of extended contact have been already tested in some natural contexts (see Cameron, Rutland & Brown, 2006; Cameron & Rutland, 2006).

The contact hypothesis has been one of the most utilized strategies for prejudice reduction and has produced hundred of publications in the last fifty years (Allport, 1954; see also Brown & Hewstone, 2005 for a review). The last meta-analysis from Pettigrew and Tropp (2006) confirmed that intergroup contact reduces prejudice, but also alert to some negative factors which could hinder its positive effects, mainly those referred to the contact situation itself or the expectancies about an interaction (intergroup anxiety, normative restraints, etc). Extended contact reduces intergroup prejudice without direct contact and it probably represents a very good option to avoid those objections pointed out by Pettigrew and Tropp (2006). However, the extended contact literature is very recent and there is still a promising research area to explore.

The present study tries to explore the effects and limitations of the extended contact in improving attitudes and reducing prejudice toward immigrants in Spain. Spain has received a large number of immigrants in the last ten years that has dramatically changed the image that Spaniards have of immigration in general and immigrants in particular. Direct contact is more common now than a few years ago and so it is also extended contact. Nowadays, having one or two Spanish friends who have an immigrant as a friend is becoming something usual. However, if extended contact does not represent a normative influence for the ingroup members, the use of extended contact as an strategy for prejudice reduction will not be effective.

Eight hundred and ten Spanish undergraduate students completed a web-based survey about their relationships with immigrants in Spain. Our goal was to test if their expectancies about interactions with immigrants and their behavioural intentions about them were affected by extended contact. Both variables could strongly affect the decision of accepting or refusing an intergroup contact and the consequences of this interaction in prejudice reduction. Amount of direct contact, gender, age, place of living, and identification with the country were also measured and introduced as covariables in our analysis.

As predicted, results showed that participants with high extended contact (more than 5 friends who have an immigrant as a friend) showed better expectancies and higher behavioural intentions about contact with immigrants than those who were low in extended contact (between 1 and 5 friends who have an immigrant as friend). This effect was produced independently of the covariables. In addition no differences between no and low extended contact were found.

Summarizing, the present research shows the potential of extended contact in reducing prejudice and improving intergroup relations when extended contact represents a normative influence for the ingroup.

Monika Miroslawska (Warsaw University, Poland)

Miroslaw Kofta (Warsaw University, Poland)

The message from minimal groups: Infrahumanization is unrelated to ingroup favoritism

People typically ascribe more secondary emotions (but not primary emotions) to the ingroup than to the outgroup (the infrahumanization effect). According to J.-Ph. Leyens' explanation, this is due to the fact that humanity is an essence of the "we" category but not the "they" category. The phenomenon was so far demonstrated for real groups. In our studies, we tested the prediction that infrahumanization should emerge in minimal groups as well and should be independent of ingroup bias. In two experiments the Kandinsky-Klee settings were used. Major findings: (1) the infrahumanization effect (on emotion attribution) emerged in minimal groups and was successfully replicated; (2) the effect appeared to be unrelated to ingroup bias (on trait ascriptions); (3) ingroup favoritism (but not infrahumanization) promoted outgroup homogeneity effect. Overall, our findings support the claim that infrahumanization is due to mere categorization and is a distinct phenomenon (irreducible to ingroup favoritism). Probably, each of the phenomena plays different role in group life and intergroup relations.

Is control deprivation increasing or decreasing reliance on stereotypes ?

We have conducted a series of three computer-aided experiments in which we studied the effects of pre-exposure to control deprivation (unsolvable discrimination problems) and cognitive load (engagement in capacity-consuming task) on the use of stereotypes.

In first two studies we examined use of stereotypes as memory cues. Following solvable or unsolvable problems, participants were sequentially exposed to trait or behavioral information consistent, irrelevant, or inconsistent with stereotype of Army Officer. Next, unexpected memory test was applied (recognition measures). During memory task, additional cognitive load was implemented: half of participants were engaged in concurrent capacity-depleting task. Major finding: Following solvable problems, cognitive load caused relative memory improvement for stereotype-consistent information and impairment for stereotype-irrelevant or inconsistent information. Following unsolvable problems, however, cognitive load resulted only in a generalized memory impairment on all information kinds. Thus, after control deprivation, people failed to use stereotypes as memory aids.

The next study concerned with information gathering and hypothesis testing. Similarly as in previous studies we manipulated control deprivation and cognitive load. Subjects' main task was to learn about some behaviors of several army officers, and to form on this basis an opinion about Officers as a group. In this task subject might ask about different traits of target persons (the set of traits included stereotype-consistent, inconsistent and irrelevant ones). After choosing a trait subjects were presented with descriptions of two behaviors: one consistent and one inconsistent with previously chosen trait. Then, subject was choosing one of these descriptions to check if target person behaved that way. Finally, an answer "yes" or "no" was displayed (randomly). This sequence was repeated until subject decided, that he or she learned enough about a target person. Major finding: subjects were interested mostly in stereotype-consistent traits, however cognitive load totally "cut off" this pattern: stereotype was no longer a cue in gathering information. We also observed strong "confirmation bias" : subjects checked behaviors consistent with traits much more often than inconsistent ones - this effect was modified by the type of trait, and was strongest for stereotype-consistent traits. However, control deprivation caused that confirmation strategy was no longer dependent on the type of trait: subjects "switched" to similar information gathering strategy, and they probably experienced difficulties with using stereotypes as a "source" of their hypothesis. In summary, unlike popular view that, under limited resources, we are more succumbed to stereotype others, our findings shows that control deprivation is not always resulting in an increased reliance on stereotypes in social information processing. Sometimes, it may decrease stereotyping - this effect is attributable to a deficit of mental modeling, engendered by control loss (Kofta & Sedek, 1998; von Hecker & Sedek, 1999).

Maria Popa-Roch (France University, France)

Florian Delmas (France University, France)

Pierre Mendès (France University, France)

When the prejudice target responds: The case of a French/North-African Implicit Association Test

The prejudice pervasiveness is a well documented phenomena in social psychology through countless studies investigating majority attitudes toward minority groups. However fewer researches were devoted for examining minority's ethnic attitudes. Moreover the existing evidences on this issue are quite puzzling. In line with the inter-group processes literature, one could argue that minority group members, as most other social groups, prefer the group they belong to other groups (Mullen, Brown, & Smith, 1992). Most evidences on this topic were produced in the American social context. Hence it appears that Black people hold explicitly positive attitudes regarding their in-group (Ashburn-Nardo, Knowles, & Monteith, 2003). Nevertheless this assumption was surprisingly challenged by studies which investigated inter-group evaluation at an implicit level. For instance Nosek, Banaji and Greenwald (2002) found in their website study that the overall Black participants showed a significant relative preference for White category over the Black category. The aim of the present study was to address the question of the minority implicit attitude in the French social context. As Dambrun and Guimond (2003) pointed out, in France the North-African ethnic group is presumed the most salient minority. By consequent we assessed North-African implicit relative attitudes by the mean of the Implicit Association Test (IAT; Greenwald, Mc Ghee, & Schwartz, 1998). The target categories we employed in the IAT procedure were French and North-African (Pleasant-Unpleasant was the evaluative dimension). Even though North-African participants expressed significantly less pro-French bias relatively to French participants, their IAT effect still remain positive and different from zero. Nonetheless when taking into account the religion factor, the North-African participants declaring themselves as Muslims no longer showed the out-group bias. Consistently with some theoretical contributions, this study showed an overall minority out-group positive bias. Yet, the importance of considering factors as the religion identity for understanding the minority ethnic attitudes nature is emphasized by our findings.

Piotr Rycielski (Warsaw University, Poland)

Milka Rycielska (Warsaw University, Poland)

Conflict resolution and deliberative debates

We would like to present the democratic debate as a tool for conflict resolution and controversy reduction. Shawn Rosenberg (2004) describes the democratic understanding of a citizen as a self-directing actor who orients his initiatives in the political arena so as to realize his interests. It often happens that those interests are adverse and generate a conflict. In deliberative disagreement (for example, about legalizing abortion), citizens should try to accommodate the moral convictions of their opponents to the greatest extent possible, without compromising their own moral convictions (Gutmann & Thompson 2004). In our research we tried to construct such conditions - that would allow participants with different points of view to reach a mutual agreement. We conducted several studies concerning the process of reaching an agreement by participants with adverse interests. The first study consisted of 20 debates on the program of sexual education in schools. 195 parents of school children participated in the research. The task given to the participants was to create a widely accepted program of sexual education. In the second study, we conducted a seven debates on the same subject but the participants were politicians from two extremely different political parties. The debates were conducted by a facilitator according to specially prepared scenarios. The facilitator strongly encouraged participants to behave toward themselves with a mutual respect, to have a cooperative approach in the debate, to communicate clearly own opinions and carefully listen to other's opinions, to justify their arguments, to seek for just solutions, that could be accepted by a wide group of parents. We observed that most of the groups a mutual agreement, participants were very satisfied with the deliberative proceedings of discussion, participants were satisfied with the results of discussion, the level of satisfaction and complying the deliberative procedure was related to the variance of attitudes before the debate; if the variance was high people tended to assault others more often. As a conclusion we prepared a set of conditions that should be fulfilled in order to facilitate a deliberative process and a satisfactory mutual agreement.

Eva Selenko (Karl-Franzens-University of Graz, Austria)

Justice in the European Union: A study on identification and justice perceptions among citizens of Poland and Slovenia

In May 2004, 15 nations joined the European Union. Despite their status as full members, the treatment these countries receive from the European Union is yet far from equal to the treatment of the "old" member states. In terms of psychological justice research, the new member states are currently in a situation of distributional inequality. Under which conditions do these inequalities lead to perceptions of injustice?

In general, a situation is judged as just when people get what they feel entitled to on basis of who they are and what they have done (Lerner, 1980). Like opinions or values, entitlement expectations are derived from the currently salient group membership. (Wenzel, 2000; Turner, Hogg, Oakes, Reicher, Wetherell, 1987). According to the attribution to blame model of judgements of injustice (Mikula, 2003), two more factors besides entitlement violation play a role in judgements of justice. If persons perceive sufficient justifications of the violation of entitlement, or if they think the own group is responsible for the violation, the situation is still likely to be judged as just. Arrounding this theoretical core three main research questions were formulated:

Does the attribution to blame model of judgements of injustice predict how just Polish and Slovenian people perceive the situation of their countries in the European Union?

If this situation is perceived as unjust, what kind of reactions are likely to occur?

What role does the identification with the EU play for the justice judgement and for the reactions?

A questionnaire study with 384 psychology students of the universities of Ljubljana and Warsaw was conducted. The study contained a quasi-experimental manipulation to activate different identities of the respondent.

For the Polish as well as the Slovenian participants, violation of entitlement was found to be central to how just they perceived the current situation of their country in the European Union. Additionally, if the respondents perceived sufficient justifications or high responsibility of their own country, they judged the situation to be more just. Moderating effects of the responsibility attribution and perceived justification were found.

In a second part of the analyses, perceived justice proved to be a significant predictor of several reactions to the unequal treatment of the participants own country. These reactions resemble to a part the identity management strategies found in previous research on identity-threat and relative deprivation (Mummendey, Kessler, Klink, Mielke, 1999).

Taken together the results of this study might add to the understanding of the emergence and consequences of justice perceptions in the context of the European Union.

Patrycja Sławuta (Warsaw University, Poland)

Miroslaw Kofta (Warsaw University, Poland)

Awareness of own group' crime, affinity with the victimized group, and intergroup relations: Implications for management of historical conflicts

In the study we asked how awareness that some Poles were engaged in cruel actions toward Jews (pogroms) soon after the W W II affected Polish students' perception of the victims as well as attitudes of the former toward present-day Jews living in Israel.

We hypothesized that the effects of such awareness will depend on critical moderator: ingroupers' **feelings of cultural affinity with the outgroup**, i.e., perceived similarity of values and beliefs (see e.g. Rokeach, 1980, and Schwartz & Struch, 1989). When outgroupers are seen as culturally distant (low affinity), awareness of own group crime should promote prejudiced attitudes toward the victimized group (serving to justify own group crime). However, when outgroupers are seen as culturally close (high affinity), the reversed pattern is expected. We also hypothesized that the **momentary feelings of guilt** (see Tangney & Fischer, 1995), experienced by ingroupers when reading reports on own group crime, will mediate the effects of cultural affinity on intergroup relations.

Subjects and procedure

The study was run with 106 male and female Polish university students. National identification was first primed. Further, a report on Polish crimes against Jewish people (pogroms) was presented and stated to be written by Polish historians.

Immediately after reading the text participants were asked to indicate their **feelings of momentary guilt** (based on Lickel's scale, see: Lickel et al., 2005). Then, participants were asked to **distribute EC money** among 6 national groups. After that the participants were asked to ascribe **12 negative emotions** to the families of Jewish victims. Half of the emotions were primary (e.g. fear) and half - specifically human, secondary (e.g. melancholy). Finally, participants' attitudes to the outgroup were measured on the following dimensions: an **interest, willingness to contact, social distance**, believes in **Jewish conspiracy** and perception of **closeness/similarity** dimension.

Major findings

Manipulation of cultural affinity with Jews appeared highly effective (as evidenced by the results for the perceived closeness measure). Analysis shows that mere awareness of own group crime increased participants' beliefs in Jewish conspiracy, reduced their willingness to contact Jews, and diminished restitution tendency.

However, our study suggests that this mode of responding is not inevitable. When our participants - made aware of own group crime - were encouraged to look at the victimized outgroup as psychologically close to themselves (crime plus affinity condition), this gave rise to a substantial increase in guilt feelings with strong accompanying motivation to repair: In such circumstances, conspiracy thinking was abandoned and the need to improve contacts with outgroupers and to symbolically recompense their past pains substantially increased. A series of mediational analyses (see: Baron & Kenny, 1986) confirmed that a momentary emotion of guilt partly accounts for the effects of high vs. low affinity with Jews on all measures of intergroup relations, applied in this study.

Also, using regression models, we found that momentary guilt, accompanying info on own group' crimes, was unrelated to emotions attributed to the victims' families in the crime condition, but appeared a significant positive predictor of families' secondary emotions in the crime-plus-affinity condition. This means that in the latter context feelings of guilt led to "humanization" of outgroupers, i.e., to the ascription of uniquely human emotions to them.

Magdalena Stec (Warsaw University, Poland)

Alicja Samarcew (Warsaw University, Poland)

Personal standards contra in-group favoritism. On the possibilities of limitations of the impact of unconscious affect

Content: The question about how to oppose biases caused by automatically activated negative attitudes toward members of out-groups is one of the most important ones in psychology. How can we overbear the disadvantageous and harmful consequences of the use of social categorization that – on the one hand – helps us to deal with the great number of stimuli received by our receptors, but – on the other hand – it limits the flexibility of our mind?

We know that the real challenge is not to avoid or change the explicit attitudes (towards race or gender for instance), but to control the automatically activated implicit attitudes. Bargh (1999) thought we cannot do anything to overcome the "cognitive monster" inside us. However, our studies give reason to hope that we are not slaves of our own cognitive system.

The four presented studies deal with interactions between conscious and unconscious processes (implicit attitudes). Their assumptions and methodology are based on LeDoux's neurobiological model of emotions and the neurobiological data regarding functioning of the amygdala. Most research in this area reported the primacy of affect over cognition and suggested that the impact of unconscious affect on the conscious functioning can be hardly controlled. These claims undermined the notion of a human being as an independent subject.

However, there are neurological evidence (the existence of numerous neural connections between the amygdala and the cortex as well as the hippocampus; evidences of the learnability of the amygdala – LeDoux & Phelps 2005; Damasio 2004) that let us argue that the counter influences are possible as well.

The research team at the Warsaw University collected evidence of impact of reflective evaluative system on the affect evoked beyond consciousness. The mere, nonspecific activation of reflective system limited the impact of the affect on the conscious processes.

The presented studies pose further questions: may there be an interplay between the reflective system and the attitudes (towards race and gender) measured on the implicit level such that the implicit attitudes reflect the explicitly assessed beliefs.

Over 500 participants were exposed to the subliminal exposure (the subliminal affective priming paradigm was used) of gender (Samarcew) or race (Stec) related stimuli. Additionally their explicit beliefs on gender and racial relations were activated and assessed.

Results show that reflective system may not only limit impact of unconscious affect but also steer it in a way that makes it compatible with the explicit beliefs (concerning the same objects). Moreover, the study by Samarcew shows that the reflective beliefs did not need to be priorly activated to exert impact on functioning. This may suggest the existence of some kind of pre-conscious substitutes of the explicit beliefs which operate permanently on the implicit level.

Maybe, like Kawakami (2000) claims, by rejecting of the stereotypical (automatically activated) associations we are able to produce a permanent change in the stereotypes and prejudice. We believe that the way to this purpose may lead through the reflective system and chronic tendency to perceive world by the "filter" of own personal standards.

Małgorzata Styśko (Warsaw University, Poland)

On unbiased and favorably biased judgments towards harmdoer belonging to the negatively stereotyped category

Existing research and theories suggest that negative stereotype of the harmdoer should increase tendency to blame him (biased processing, biased dispositional attributions, aversive racism). However, in some research negative stereotype of the perpetrator led people to judge him similarly or even more favorably in comparison to someone out of the category. According to the model based on defensive attribution of blame and stereotype theories and on my past research (Styśko 2004, 2005), in some circumstances the unbiased or favorably biased judgments can be explained by lowering the likelihood of meeting the member of that category in life of the social observer (together with engaging in info processing or blaming the victim) as serving to reduce high threat and to restore the lost control. Till now I found evidences that similarity to the victim favors described effects.

In this paper I present further research based on the assumptions of the model and show that favorably biased judgments also occur when the victim is not similar but equally emotionally engaging (a child).

Sven Waldzus (CIS/ISCTE, Portugal)

Claudia Meireles (CIS/ISCTE, Portugal)

Scope and complexity of superordinate categories as determinants of ingroup projection

According to the ingroup projection model (Mummendey & Wenzel, 1999), outgroups that are different from the ingroup will be negatively evaluated if (a) both ingroup and outgroup are included in a superordinate category providing dimensions of comparison between both groups and (b) if members of the ingroup tend to generalize distinctive ingroup attributes to the prototype of this superordinate category (ingroup projection). The model also hypothesises that ingroup projection can be reduced by inducing of a prototype of the superordinate category that is less clearly defined, for instance if the definition is vague, complex or just covers few prescriptive dimensions (small scope). Although it has been shown already that a vague and a complex representation can reduce ingroup projection of higher status groups (Waldzus et al., 2003, 2005), it has not yet been clarified which processes are responsible for the effect of complexity. Moreover, the effect of reducing the scope of the prototype of the superordinate category has not yet been tested empirically. In this presentation, we conceptualize complexity and scope in an integrative approach as dependent on the number of dimensions used in information processing and the degree of orthogonality between these dimensions.

In an experiment with 106 Portuguese students of business management (higher status group) and of accountancy/administration (lower status group), scope and complexity of the representation of the superordinate category (students of business sciences) were manipulated in a 2 x 2 design by means of an apparently unrelated task priming the number and the orthogonality of dimensions used in information processing. Relative ingroup prototypicality was measured as an indicator of ingroup projection by a more subtle measure using attribute lists and two more blatant measures asking direct questions for typicality. Ingroup projection was negatively related to attitudes towards the outgroup. More importantly, as predicted, ingroup projection was reduced when participants were primed to use fewer dimensions (small scope) or to use dimensions orthogonally (high complexity). However, this effect was only found for the higher status group and only on the subtle measure. Blatantly measured prototypicality was instead predicted by relative status, indicating reality constraints. Consequences for the reduction of prejudice will be discussed.

Poster Session

ABSTRACTS

Magdalena Cieniuch (Warsaw University, Poland)

Łukasz Jochemczyk (Warsaw University, Poland)

Think unconsciously if you wish to escalate a conflict, Escalation and de-escalation under circumstances of thinking consciously and unconsciously.

The aim of the study was to verify if unconscious thought (Dijksterhuis, Nordgren, 2006), deliberation – without – attention effect (Dijksterhuis, Bos, Loran, Baaren, 2006) may be helpful in reducing the level of aggression in conflict escalation. N=40 participants of the age from 19 to 27 in study. The obtained results point out that unconscious thought made participants behave more aggressively than control group (regardless of who is involved in – the close and important person or not).

Katarzyna Growiec (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw University, Poland)

Mirosław Kofta (Warsaw University)

Bridging Social Capital and Intergroup Relations

The notion of social capital refers to resources embedded in social networks and accessed and used by actors for actions. Putnam (2000) proposed that social capital is heterogenous in nature and includes: **bridging capital** (social ties with people in a different socio-economic position) and **bonding capital** (ties with people in a similar socio-economic position and close to us). Putnam hypothesized that it is bridging social capital which is specifically responsible for the development of positive intergroup relations.

The study had two major purposes:

- methodological (development of a reliable measure of bridging capital, so far nonexistent), and
- theoretical: (1) testing Putnam's hypothesis about the positive effect of bridging social capital on intergroup relations, and (2) examining the relationships between three forms of social capital: bridging capital, social engagement, and interpersonal trust.

In line with Putnam's expectations, we found that bridging capital (1) made general attitudes toward other nations more positive (in a survey study, on measures of liking, trust, and similarity), and (2) interfered with ingroup bias (in experiment, on measures of Polish vs. Russian doctor's responsibility for patient's sudden death). Also interpersonal trust capital appeared to predict positive intergroup attitudes (only on survey, not experiment, however). Moderation analysis showed a significant interaction of bridging and interpersonal trust capitals suggesting that they operate in "either-or manner": positive intergroup attitudes are either grounded in bridging capital (a tendency to transcend social barriers between groups) or in generalized trust in people (a tendency to assume the other persons' good will, or positive intentions).

Katarzyna Gusztyla

Michał Bilewicz (Warsaw University, Poland)

The impact of perspective taking and quantitative contact on the evaluation of historical role of Jews and Ukrainians: A study of Polish borderlands.

The study was conducted in Przemyśl, the town that shares common history of Poles, Ukrainians, and Jews. The goal of the study was to test the impact of perspective taking (Galinsky & Moskowitz, 2000) and quantitative intergroup contact (Islam & Hewstone, 1993) on the evaluation of the role of Jews and Ukrainians in the history of the town and the world as well. The participants were 172 Polish students who live in the region of Przemyśl.

The results showed that perspective taking increased the positive evaluations of the historical role of Jews and Ukrainians. Intergroup contact was also correlated with the perception of the role of Ukrainians. Both effects were mediated by the perception of these groups as similar to self. The finding suggests that both methods of prejudice reduction: perspective taking and quantitative intergroup contact, are based on personalization mechanism (Miller, 2002) – on perceptions of outgroups as similar to self.

Łukasz Jochemczyk (Warsaw University, Poland)

Michał Ziembowicz (Warsaw University, Poland)

Scale-free nature of shared reality

Analysis of distribution of centrality measures leads to assumption that the structure of the semantic network representing shared reality has the properties of scale free models introduced by Barabassi. There exist very highly connected nodes in the network – hubs – and they form central, most important structure. This structure plays crucial role in producing the outcome of negotiations and is resistant to change.

Karolina Lisiecka (Warsaw University, Poland)

Andrzej Nowak (Warsaw University, Poland)

How come I know that I will fail? an intellectual helplessness model of gender differences in spatial abilities

In our study we stress the importance of *quality of learning experience* in the emergence of gender gap in spatial abilities. On the basis of the intellectual helplessness model (Kofta, Sędek) we suspect that high-difficulty training may evoke the state of cognitive exhaustion experienced when a person is not able to solve a task despite the cognitive resources invested. The state of cognitive exhaustion, characterised by deterioration of a person's cognitive functioning, may result in inhibition of improvement normally gained in the learning process. In other words: if the task is too difficult, the person simply decides about own inability to learn the task and withdraws his/her cognitive resources.

Taking into consideration factors of both biological and social nature, we claim that women may be prone to intellectual helplessness training in the area of spatial abilities. Successful training should be designed to fit to their actual skill level so they can maintain cognitive control over the task.

In our two experiments we trained male and female participants in mental rotation ability using a computer training device. In the first experiment the training was difficult and devoid of any clues that could help participants in the learning process. What's more, the difficulty of pretest and posttest of mental rotation task was varied (easy – difficult v/s difficult – easy). In these conditions only men managed to benefit from training and their improvement was noticeable both in difficult-priming and easy-priming situation. Females did not improve significantly and their benefit was limited to easy-priming situation.

In the second experiment the training was easier and hints about the effective strategy of solving the task were provided. In these conditions improvement of both genders was noticeable, although females' improvement reached only trend significance.

Norbert Maliszewski (Warsaw University, Poland)

The impact of implicit vs. explicit attitudes on in-group favoritism and out-group derogation

The aim of this study was to explore the conditions in which implicit and explicit attitudes influence behavior towards Jews and Poles. The implicit attitude of 76 Polish students was measured using an Implicit Association Test (Greenwald, Mc Ghee, Schwartz, 1998). Explicit attitudes were measured with a pen-and-paper questionnaire. Then students were asked to imagine that they were participants in an international "art workshop". They evaluated three paintings presented on a computer screen. Paintings were labeled by name and nationality (Polish, German and Jewish). The computer recorded not only their final evaluation of each picture (a mouse click) but also spontaneous movements of the mouse during the presentation of the picture. The results showed that implicit attitudes influenced only spontaneous behavior (movements of the mouse). There was no such relationship for the final mouse click. Implicit attitudes predicted those evaluations of the picture labeled as Polish (in conditions, when participants could not think about their behavior because they were performing additional tasks that absorbed cognitive resources). Explicit attitudes influenced ratings of the painting labeled as Jewish. Implicit

attitudes influenced only the ratings of painting labeled as Polish: this might be interpreted as a familiarity effect created by the Implicit Association Test. It might also suggest that in-group favoritism is more automatic than out-group derogation.

Ariadna Rokujžo (Warsaw University, Poland)

Mirosław Kofta (Warsaw University, Poland)

Interpersonal Trust, Former Contacts with Homosexuals, and Intergroup Anxiety as Determinants of Attitudes Toward Gay Men.

We studied the effects of having former contact with male homosexuals, degree of intergroup anxiety, and the level of a generalized interpersonal trust, on attitudes toward gay men. A case of blatant discrimination of a gay person named Marek was presented to participants. Depending on experimental condition, the target person either disclosed his private feelings and cognitions accompanying discriminatory experience (group with personalization), or not (group with no personalization). Immediately after that, attitude toward Marek was measured on the dimensions of perceived similarity, understanding, empathy, interest, and willingness to contact. Then, participants' attitude to male homosexuals in general was measured on the dimensions of discrimination approval, emotional rejection, acceptance of equality between homosexuals and heterosexuals, tolerance, willingness to act in favor of homosexuals, and a general positive evaluation of homosexual persons.

Major findings: As shown by multiple regression analyses (1), each of three predictors: former contact, intergroup anxiety, and interpersonal trust, had strong effects on attitudes towards a single gay person Marek; (2) only intergroup anxiety and interpersonal trust had considerable impact on generalized attitudes toward gay men (in this case, former contact appeared to be void of importance); (3) exposure to personalized information about Marek considerably strengthened the size of positive effect of an acquaintance with homosexuals on attitudes toward Marek. We briefly discuss the theoretical meaning of our findings.

Magdalena Stec (Warsaw University, Poland)

Paulina Giersz (Warsaw University, Poland)

Kamila Dobrenko (Warsaw University, Poland)

Paralyzing Effect of Negativity. About how Negative Affect Make Us “Blind” While Information Processing

Hitherto studies proved increased sensitivity while processing negative information. Our studies lead to somewhat different conclusions. Evoking negative affect may make us blind to incoming information. This may be additional explanation of why it is so hard to change negative stereotypes and prejudice.

In studies conducted in our team at the Warsaw University we wanted to examine the impact that positive and negative emotions may exert on the unconscious processing. Studies conducted by Giersz and Stec consisted of two phases. In the first one participants were concentrated on optimistic vs. pessimistic (Giersz) or tolerant vs. xenophobic statements (Stec). The participants' task was to estimate the probability of events mentioned (Giersz) or indicate, to what extent they agreed with the presented statements (Stec). Subsequently, the subliminal affective priming paradigm (Zajonc, 1985) was applied. We hypothesized that neutral stimuli would be judged more positively when primed with faces expressing positive emotions or faces of the own race representants than when primed with faces expressing negative emotions or faces of other races representants. The hypothesis was confirmed. Yet, only in the conditions where participants concentrated on positive events or statements.

Further evidence supporting this conclusion derive from results obtained by Dobrenko (2005, 2006), who used a transformed version of the semantic priming paradigm. The results show that when the subliminal cue-word was negative the correctness of choices decreased to the chance level (0,5).

The studies presented above show that the negative affect (even situationally activated) is so prevailing that it can make us blind to all kinds of information. This result may explain why it is so hard to integrate new information into social representations such as stereotypes.

Mikołaj Winiewski (Warsaw University, Poland)

How Poles see Germans: Exploring content of national stereotypes.

The aim of this study was to explore the descriptive component of the German stereotype in Poland. In two surveys conducted on representative samples of Poles in 2004 (N=891) and in 2007 (N=931) using open ended questions we asked about characteristic traits of people representing different national groups living in Poland. Using semantic coding and cluster analysis we try to create a picture of "the stereotypic German" in the eyes of Poles and assess its stability.

Adrian Wójcik (Warsaw University, Poland)

Who are „we”, who are the perpetrators? analysis of the newspapers discourse after the pogrom in Kielce

The Kielce pogrom refers to the events that occurred on July 4, 1946, in the Polish town of Kielce. 37 Polish Jews were murdered and 82 wounded. The events related to pogrom were then intensively discussed in Polish newspapers. The question of responsibility for the pogrom became one of the main controversies between newspapers representing the independence and communists parties. Main discursive positions of the political actors will be identified with reference to their ideological attitudes. The assignment of perpetrators' status to adverse political group became powerful rhetorical strategy. Different perpetrators' identities (the Poles, the Soviets, the rabble) appearing in particular newspapers will be explained by logic of political struggle.