

Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination

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Overview of Research:

Research in this social psychology laboratory focuses on prejudice and social stigma from the perspective of those who experience discrimination (i.e., target perspective) and those who act in discriminatory ways (i.e., perpetrator perspective). More specific topics of exploration include: Consequences of perceiving discrimination for intergroup relations and academic performance, as well as, how lay people perceive (or fail to perceive prejudice) prejudice.

Research Objective:

Our current project objective is to explore strategies for effectively confronting prejudiced remarks. While past research suggests that targets who stand up to prejudice suffer interpersonal costs, such as being labeled a complainer or a whiner, our research focuses on ways that targets can approach perpetrators in a way that can help to improve intergroup relations and decrease prejudicial attitudes.

Students involved with this research will aid in various ways, such as development of study materials, recruiting and running participants through the study protocol, and entering, coding, and analyzing data. Students may also have the opportunity to attend and present research at national and/or regional psychology conferences.

Prerequisites:

Students must have taken Introductory Psychology and should be interested in becoming a Psychology major.

For more information, please email Dr. O'Brien at lobrien2@tulane.edu or visit my website:

<http://www.tulane.edu/~lobrien2/>