

Supporting Material for Anxiety Reduces Empathy Toward Outgroup Members But Not Ingroup Members

A1. Study Recruitment

Study 1. Between March 28 and April 4, 2011, 238 adult whites living in the United States who identify as white were recruited from the *Amazon Mechanical Turk* Internet panel to participate in a “Public Opinion Study.” Participants in this study were compensated \$0.50 in Amazon.com credit for completing the brief five-minute study. The *Mechanical Turk* panel has become a staple in psychology experiments (Buhrmester, Kwang, and Gosling 2011) and increasingly in political science. The panel is more diverse than typical college student convenience samples and, more important, scholars have replicated canonical experiments with *Mechanical Turk* subjects (Berinsky, Huber, and Lenz 2012). Consequently, it possesses internal validity comparable to a laboratory experiment, while offering a bit more external validity.

Study 2. Between September 14 and September 19, 2016, Survey Sampling International (SSI) recruited 588 adult whites living in the United States to participate in the “Opinions and Perspectives Study.” SSI provides members of its Internet Panel incentives in return for completing surveys. For this study, it used a quota-based sampling frame that was census balanced to age, gender, region, and household income.

Study 3. Between January 29 and March 11, 2013, 1,264 adult whites living in the United States were recruited from the *Amazon Mechanical Turk* Internet panel to participate in an “Information Assimilation Study” in exchange for \$0.50 in Amazon.com credit.

A2. Descriptive Statistics

Variable	Study 1		Study 2		Study 3	
	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N
Age	36.436 (11.559)	227	51.577 (16.710)	586	35.026 (12.656)	1256
Education	4.156 (1.294)	237	4.007 (1.423)	588	4.031 (1.287)	1257
Income	4.324 (2.147)	238	4.927 (2.501)	588	4.233 (2.333)	1260
Conservatism	2.751 (1.220)	233	4.092 (1.642)	588	2.582 (1.166)	1260
Modern Racism	NA		4.661 (1.425)	588	NA	
Democrat	0.315	238	0.406	588	0.429	1264
Republican	0.252	238	0.413	588	0.184	1264
Female	0.567	238	0.568	588	0.542	1264
Prefer Trump	NA		0.415	520	NA	

Across all three samples: age was measured in years; education is coded as 1 = less than high school, 2 = high school, 3 = some college, 4 = currently a college student, 5 = college graduate, and 6 = post-college degree; family income is coded as 1 = under \$15k, 2 = \$15k-\$25k, 3 = \$24k-\$35k, 4 = \$35k-\$50k, 5 = \$50k-\$65k, 6 = \$65k-\$80k, 7 = \$80k-\$100k, 8=\$100k-\$150k, 9=\$150k-\$200k, 10 = over \$200k; conservatism is coded as 1 = very liberal, 2 = liberal, 3 = somewhat liberal, 4 = moderate, 5 = somewhat conservative, 6 = conservative, 7 = very conservative; Democrat is coded as 0 = Republican or Independent, 1 = Democrat; Republican is coded as 0 = Democrat or Independent, 1 = Republican; female is coded as 0 = male, 1 = female.

Study 2 included two additional measures. The modern racism scale was developed by Henry and Sears (2002) and I drew four commonly used questions from the scale. 1) “Irish, Italians, Jews, and many other minorities overcame prejudice and worked their way up. Blacks should do the same without any special favors.” 2) Generations of

slavery and discrimination have created conditions that make it difficult for Blacks to work their way out of the lower class.” 3) Blacks are demanding too much from the rest of society.” 4) Over the past few years, blacks have gotten less than they deserve.”

Answers to these questions were placed on a seven-point scale where 1 = strongly agree and 7 = strongly disagree. Items 1 and 3 were reverse coded and then all of the items were averaged to generate one score ($\alpha = 0.83$). Because the survey was conducted in September 2016, participants were also asked whom they planned to vote for as President of the United States. It is coded as 0 = Hillary Clinton or someone else, 1 = Donald Trump.

A3. Modified Reading Mind in the Eyes Test and Group Empathy Index

Participants in Study 1 were asked to complete a shortened, modified version of the Reading the Mind in the Eyes Test (RMET; see Baron-Cohen, et al. 2001). The RMET presents subjects with a series of photos of human faces closely cropped around the eyes. Four emotional terms accompany every photo and, for each one, subjects are asked to select the term that “best describes what the person in the picture is thinking or feeling.” Only one of the options is correct (as unanimously judged by eight independent raters) and getting the correct answer demonstrates the ability to accurately infer the mental states of others from facial expressions. Seven photographs were selected from the original test (4 in which the correct answers are positive mental states and 3 in which the correct answers are negative mental states; the positivity of the mental state does not interact with the treatments). The gender of the individuals in the pictures was held constant (all are men) in order to avoid confounding the mindreading task with the gender of the target. The skin tone of the faces in the photos was modified with the help of a graphics software package. For each photo, subjects were randomly assigned to view either a white face or a non-white face. This procedure is similar to the one employed by (Adams et al. 2010), but differs in one important respect. In the Adams, et al. study, the researchers compared subjects’ performance on the original RMET to their performance on a version of the RMET that featured newly selected pictures of Asian faces, whereas in this study, the faces are held constant while the race of the face is randomly manipulated. In doing so, the studies presented here do not confound the outgroup picture with different faces. The response set for each photo is the same as the response

set in the original RMET. These photos along with the response set for each is shown in Figure S1.

[Figure S1 about here]

In Study 2, I measured outgroup empathy with the Group Empathy Index developed by Sirin, Valentino, and Villalobos (2016). Participants completed the following battery:

We are interested in how you feel about people from other groups in our society in general. For each item below, please indicate how well it describes you. Please read each item carefully and answer as honestly as you can.

1. I believe that there are two sides to every question and try to look at them both, including for issues involving other racial or ethnic groups.
2. I sometimes find it difficult to see things from the “other person’s” point of view, particularly someone from another race or ethnicity.
3. When I’m upset at someone from another racial or ethnic group, I usually try to “put myself in their shoes” for a while.
4. I try to look at everybody’s side of a disagreement (including those of other racial or ethnic groups) before I make a decision.
5. I sometimes try to better understand people of other racial or ethnic groups by imagining how things look from their perspective.
6. If I’m sure I’m right about something, I don’t waste much time listening to the arguments of people, particularly those of other racial or ethnic groups.
7. Before criticizing somebody from another racial or ethnic group, I try to imagine how I would feel if I were in their place.
8. I often have tender, concerned feelings for people from another racial or ethnic group who are less fortunate than me.
9. The misfortunes of other racial or ethnic groups do not usually disturb me a great deal.

10. I would describe myself as a pretty soft-hearted person towards people of another racial or ethnic group.
11. When I see someone being treated unfairly due to their race or ethnicity, I sometimes don't feel very much pity for them.
12. Sometimes I don't feel very sorry for people of other racial or ethnic groups when they are having problems.
13. When I see someone being taken advantage of due to their race or ethnicity, I feel kind of protective towards them.
14. I am often quite touched by things that I see happen to people due to their race or ethnicity.

Participants placed their answers on a 5-point scale that ranged from 1 = does not describe me at all to 5 = describes me well. The items loaded on a single factor using the principal factors method (Eigenvalue = 4.799). Confirmatory factor analysis was used to model the latent affective and cognitive dimensions of outgroup empathy, (affective items are 8-14 and cognitive items are 1-7). Although results for the single factor scores and the two-factor scores (affective and cognitive dimensions) are reported in the paper, the data supported the single-factor model as superior to the two-factor model ($AIC_{\text{single}} = 22988.417$, $AIC_{\text{two}} = 22865.604$, LR test = 124.81, $p < 0.001$).

A4. Affect-Inducing Images

International Affective Picture System (IAPS) database, housed by the Center for the Study of Emotion and Attention (CSEA), includes hundreds of images that have been rated for emotional content (valence and arousal) and validated through numerous studies (<http://csea.phhp.ufl.edu/media/iapsmessage.html>). Researchers may receive the image database from CSEA in return for agreeing not to publish them. Consequently, researchers may only report the IAPS identification number for images. In Studies 1, 2 and 3, the anxiety-inducing images have been shown in norming studies to cause elevated arousal and negative valence (IAPS identification numbers: 1300, 1930, and 6370). In Study 1, the happy-inducing images have been shown in norming studies to cause medium arousal and positive valence (IAPS identification numbers: 1710, 5825, and 7502). In Studies 2 and 3, the neutral images caused low arousal and neutral valence (IAPS identification numbers: 7004, 7010, and 7175) These arousal and valence states are associated with anxiety, happiness, calmness respectively (see Lang 1995).

A5. Covariate Balance

Study 1: Anxiety Manipulation

Variable	Anxiety Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	37.119 (1.134)	35.697 (1.024)	-1.421 t=-0.925, p=0.356	227
Education	4.024 (0.115)	4.306 (0.122)	0.282 t=1.683, p=0.094	237
Income	4.142 (0.189)	4.532 (0.205)	0.390 t=1.4, p=0.163	238
Conservatism	2.691 (0.113)	2.818 (0.113)	0.127 t=.793, p=0.429	233
Democrat	0.283	0.351	0.068 z=1.125, p=0.261	238
Republican	0.244	0.261	0.017 z=0.304, p=0.761	238
Female	0.551	0.586	0.034 z=0.534, p=0.593	238
		Joint Test	$\chi^2(7)=7.06,$ p=0.423	221

*Study 1: Outgroup Manipulation**Picture 1*

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	35.798 (1.108)	36.019 (1.110)	0.221 t=.141, p=0.888	227
Education	4.061 (0.124)	4.243 (0.117)	0.182 t=1.063, p=0.289	237
Income	4.351 (0.208)	4.286 (0.202)	-0.065 t=-0.225, p=0.822	238
Conservatism	2.670 (0.116)	2.750 (0.116)	0.080 t=0.49, p=0.625	233
Democrat	0.272	0.366	0.094 z=1.519, p=0.129	238
Republican	0.254	0.223	-0.031 z=-0.549, p=0.583	238
Female	0.579	0.536	-0.043 z=-0.654, p=0.513	238
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=5.00,$ p=0.66	209

Picture 2

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	36.089 (1.111)	36.846 (1.043)	0.757 t=0.491, p=0.624	227
Education	4.200 (0.111)	4.103 (0.129)	-0.097 t=-0.575, p=0.566	237
Income	4.305 (0.201)	4.346 (0.189)	0.040 t=0.144, p=0.885	238
Conservatism	2.724 (0.100)	2.783 (0.129)	0.059 t=0.364, p=0.716	233
Democrat	0.328	0.299	-0.029 z=-0.482, p=0.63	238
Republican	0.237	0.271	0.034 z=0.608, p=0.543	238
Female	0.550	0.589	0.039 z=0.607, p=0.544	238
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=2.08,$ p=0.955	221

Picture 3

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	36.632 (1.056)	36.239 (1.119)	-0.393 t=-0.255, p=0.799	227
Education	4.161 (0.122)	4.151 (0.117)	-0.010 t=-0.058, p=0.954	237
Income	4.370 (0.200)	4.277 (0.194)	-0.092 t=-0.332, p=0.741	238
Conservatism	2.790 (0.119)	2.711 (0.106)	-0.079 t=-0.496, p=0.621	233
Democrat	0.328	0.303	-0.025 z=-0.419, p=0.676	238
Republican	0.286	0.218	-0.067 z=-1.194, p=0.232	238
Female	0.521	0.613	0.092 z=1.439, p=0.15	238
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=3.25,$ p=0.861	221

Picture 4

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	37.558 (1.137)	35.325 (1.026)	-2.233 t=-1.459, p=0.146	227
Education	4.263 (0.114)	4.050 (0.123)	-0.212 t=-1.264, p=0.207	237
Income	4.415 (0.193)	4.233 (0.201)	-0.182 t=-0.653, p=0.514	238
Conservatism	2.853 (0.114)	2.650 (0.112)	-0.204 t=-1.277, p=0.203	233
Democrat	0.297	0.333	0.037 z=0.61, p=0.542	238
Republican	0.246	0.258	0.013 z=0.223, p=0.823	238
Female	0.576	0.558	-0.018 z=-0.279, p=0.78	238
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=6.19,$ p=0.518	221

Picture 5

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	36.648 (1.082)	36.244 (1.089)	-0.404 t=-0.263, p=0.793	227
Education	4.114 (0.115)	4.195 (0.123)	0.081 t=0.481, p=0.631	237
Income	4.184 (0.194)	4.452 (0.199)	0.267 t=0.96, p=0.338	238
Conservatism	2.709 (0.114)	2.789 (0.113)	0.080 t=0.496, p=0.621	233
Democrat	0.325	0.306	-0.018 z=-0.3, p=0.764	238
Republican	0.289	0.218	-0.072 z=-1.273, p=0.203	238
Female	0.588	0.548	-0.039 z=-.612, p=0.541	238
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=10.02,$ p=0.187	221

Picture 6

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	36.349 (1.124)	36.512 (1.054)	0.163 t=0.106, p=0.916	227
Education	4.167 (0.116)	4.146 (0.121)	-0.020 t=-0.121, p=0.904	237
Income	4.272 (0.209)	4.371 (0.187)	0.099 t=0.355, p=0.723	238
Conservatism	2.634 (0.118)	2.860 (0.108)	0.226 t=1.413, p=0.159	233
Democrat	0.333	0.298	-0.035 z=-0.58, p=0.562	238
Republican	0.263	0.242	-0.021 z=-0.377, p=0.706	238
Female	0.579	0.556	-0.022 z=-0.35, p=0.726	238
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=5.91,$ p=0.550	221

Picture 7

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	36.349 (1.124)	36.512 (1.054)	0.163 t=0.106, p=0.916	227
Education	4.167 (0.116)	4.146 (0.121)	-0.020 t=-0.121, p=0.904	237
Income	4.272 (0.209)	4.371 (0.187)	0.099 t=0.355, p=0.723	238
Conservatism	2.634 (0.118)	2.860 (0.108)	0.226 t=1.413, p=0.159	233
Democrat	0.333	0.298	-0.035 z=-0.58, p=0.562	238
Republican	0.263	0.242	-0.021 z=-0.377, p=0.706	238
Female	0.579	0.556	-0.022 z=-0.35, p=0.726	238
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=5.33,$ p=0.619	221

The emotion manipulation did not interact with the skin tone manipulation in influencing participants' racial categorization of the faces on the RMET ($z = -0.59, p = 0.56$).

Study 2

Variable	Anxiety Manipulation		Difference	N
	Control	Treatment		
Age	50.338 (0.986)	52.742 (0.963)	2.404 t=1.743, p=0.082	586
Education	4.049 (0.084)	3.967 (0.082)	-0.082 t=-0.699, p=0.485	588
Income	4.968 (0.152)	4.888 (0.140)	-0.081 t=-0.39, p=0.696	588
Conservatism	4.056 (0.097)	4.125 (0.095)	0.069 t=0.511, p=0.61	588
Modern Racism	4.631 (0.086)	4.690 (0.080)	0.059 t=0.502, p=0.616	588
Democrat	0.361	0.449	0.087 z=2.157, p=0.031	588
Republican	0.425	0.403	-0.022 z=-0.539, p=0.59	588
Female	0.579	0.558	-0.021 z=-0.518, p=0.604	588
Prefer Trump	0.440	0.392	-0.049 z=-1.126, p=0.26	520
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (9)=14.59,$ p=0.103	518

Study 3

Variable	Anxiety Manipulation			N
	Control	Treatment	Difference	
Age	35.027 (0.488)	35.026 (0.522)	-0.001 t=-0.001, p=0.999	1256
Education	4.108 (0.051)	3.952 (0.051)	-0.157 t=-2.161, p=0.031	1257
Income	4.305 (0.093)	4.158 (0.093)	-0.147 t=-1.121, p=0.263	1260
Conservatism	2.602 (0.046)	2.561 (0.047)	-0.041 t=-0.621, p=0.535	1260
Democrat	0.415	0.443	0.028 z=1.007, p=0.314	1264
Republican	0.195	0.172	-0.023 z=-1.068, p=0.286	1264
Female	0.534	0.551	0.017 z=0.607, p=0.544	1264
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=7.68,$ p=0.362	1241

Variable	Outgroup Manipulation			N
	Control	Treatment	Difference	
Age	34.413 (0.506)	35.621 (0.503)	1.208 t=1.692, p=0.091	1256
Education	4.021 (0.051)	4.041 (0.051)	0.020 t=0.27, p=0.787	1257
Income	4.110 (0.094)	4.352 (0.092)	0.243 t=1.847, p=0.065	1260
Conservatism	2.556 (0.046)	2.607 (0.046)	0.052 t=0.786, p=0.432	1260
Democrat	0.442	0.416	-0.026 z=-0.942, p=0.346	1264
Republican	0.178	0.188	0.010 z=0.46, p=0.646	1264
Female	0.516	0.567	0.051 z=1.816, p=0.069	1264
Joint Test			$\chi^2 (7)=8.63,$ p=0.280	1241

A6. Full Regression Models

Study 1: Effects of Outgroup Treatment and Anxiety on Correct Responses to Modified Reading Mind in the Eyes Test

Variable	Correct Response	Correct Response
Outgroup Treatment	-0.010 (0.032)	-0.007 (0.034)
Anxiety Treatment	0.029 (0.034)	0.035 (0.035)
Outgroup × Anxiety	-0.077 (0.047)	-0.078 (0.048)
Age		0.002 (0.001)
Education		0.013 (0.010)
Income		-0.001 (0.006)
Conservatism		0.005 (0.014)
Democrat		-0.066 (0.032)
Republican		-0.098 (0.036)
Female		0.034 (0.026)
Constant	0.668 (0.023)	0.563 (0.067)
Total N	1654	1535
Number of Subjects	238	221
σ_u	0.064	0.056
σ_e	0.470	0.468
ρ	0.018	0.014
R ² Within	0.004	0.005
R ² Between	0.002	0.07
R ² Overall	0.004	0.02
χ^2	6.72	22

Note: Standard errors in parentheses. The models were estimated using a random effects model in which responses for each picture were cluster by subject.

Study 2: Effect of Anxiety on Explicit Outgroup Empathy

Variable	Coefficient	Standardized Coefficient
Anxiety Treatment	-0.162 (0.076)	-0.085
Age	0.000 (0.002)	-0.003
Education	0.004 (0.030)	0.006
Income	0.041 (0.017)	0.106
Conservatism	-0.032 (0.031)	-0.056
Modern Racism	-0.239 (0.033)	-0.358
Democrat	-0.055 (0.123)	-0.029
Republican	-0.092 (0.130)	-0.048
Female	0.267 0.078	0.140
Prefer Trump	-0.024 0.111	-0.027
Constant	1.067 (0.276)	
N	513	
R ²	0.195	
F	13.44	

Note: OLS coefficients in cells and standard errors in parentheses.

Study 3: Effects of Outgroup Treatment and Anxiety on Empathy toward and Willingness to Help Alleviate Youth Homelessness

Variable	Empathy		Willingness to Help		Substantive Effects
Outgroup Treatment	0.010 (0.105)	0.113 (0.106)	0.023 (0.110)	0.027 (0.104)	0.009 (0.036)
Anxiety Treatment	0.193 (0.107)	-0.068 (0.105)	0.166 (0.112)	-0.066 (0.103)	0.038 (0.037)
Outgroup × Anxiety	-0.209 (0.150)	-0.106 (0.149)	-0.432 (0.157)	-0.270 (0.146)	-0.085 (0.052)
Age		0.012 (0.003)		0.015 (0.003)	
Education		-0.014 (0.030)		-0.058 (0.029)	
Income		-0.005 (0.016)		-0.050 (0.016)	
Conservatism		-0.051 (0.044)		-0.309 (0.043)	
Democrat		0.071 (0.092)		0.063 (0.091)	
Republican		-0.241 (0.118)		-0.338 (0.116)	
Female		0.399 (0.076)		0.364 (0.074)	
Constant	5.701 (0.076)	5.330 (0.215)	5.111 (0.079)	5.755 (0.211)	0.708 (0.026)
N	1229	1206	1226	1203	1226
R ²	0.002	0.05	0.01	0.168	0.001
F	1.64	7.34	4.66	25.25	1.45

Note: OLS coefficients in cells and standard errors in parentheses.

A7. Mediation Analysis, Study 3

If we make assumptions about the causal ordering of empathic response and willingness to help, we can use mediation analysis (Baron and Kenny 1986) to evaluate the thesis that empathy mediates the effects of outgroup status on willingness to help individuals. It is important to note that it is not possible to test the causal ordering of these variables in a mediational analysis, because both the proposed mediator and dependent variable were measured after the experimental manipulation (Bullock, Green, and Ha 2010). Consequently, it is best to think of this as a descriptive exercise. I conducted a mediation analysis in which the randomized racial prime is modeled as the exogenous variable, empathy toward homeless youth as the mediator, and willingness to help the homeless as the dependent variable. The analysis focuses on the subset of participants assigned to the anxiety inducing condition (i.e., the condition in which ingroup biases in empathy and willingness to help were uncovered). The results displayed in Figure S2 demonstrate that empathy partially mediates the effects of outgroup membership on willingness to help *if we make the assumption that this is the correct causal pathway*.

[Figure S2 about here]

References

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Figure S1. Modified RMET (Correct Answers in Bold)*

Picture 1

A. White Face



B. Non-White Face



Response Set

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. Playful | 3. Irritated |
| 2. Comforting | 4. Bored |

Figure S1 continued**Picture 2**

A. White Face



B. Non-White Face

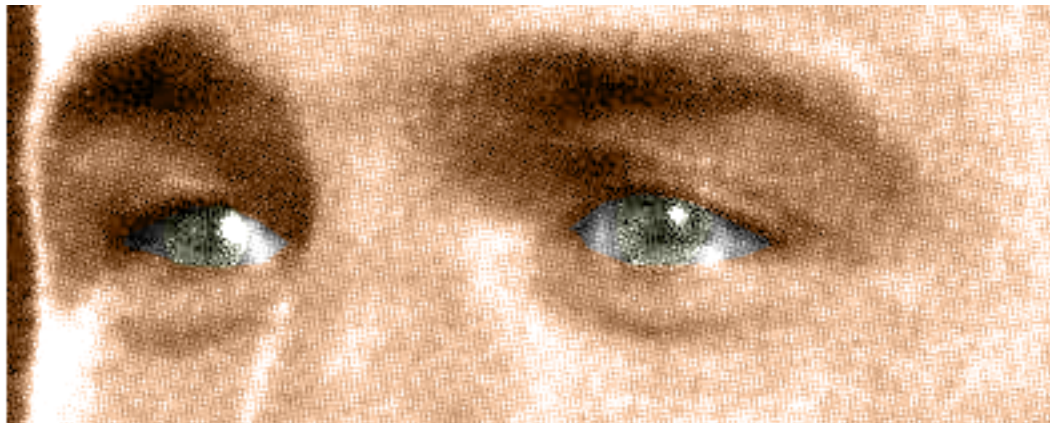


Response Set

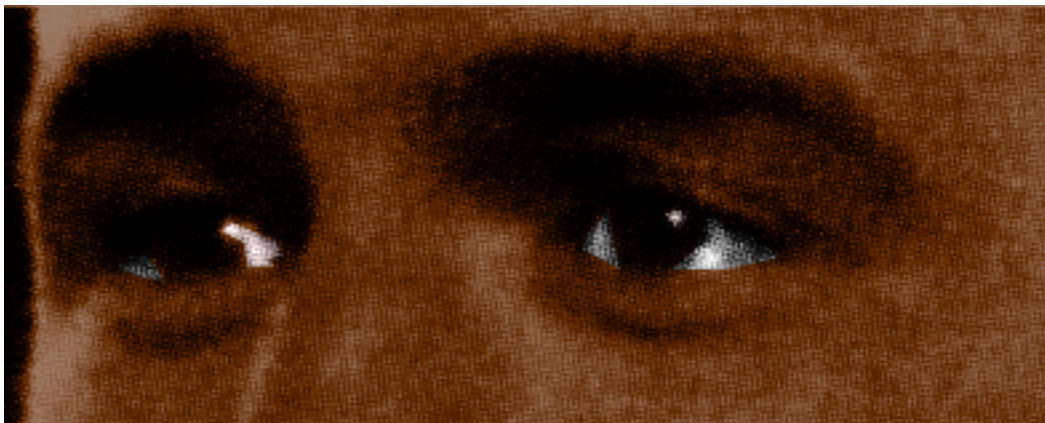
- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Cautious | 3. Bored |
| 2. Insisting | 4. Aghast |

Figure S1 continued**Picture 3**

A. White Face



B. Non-White Face



Response Set

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Decisive | 3. Threatening |
| 2. Anticipating | 4. Shy |

Figure S1 continued**Picture 4**

A. White Face



B. Non-White Face



Response Set

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Irritated | 3. Encouraging |
| 2. Thoughtful | 4. Sympathetic |

Figure S1 continued**Picture 5**

A. White Face



B. Non-White Face



Response Set

1. Contented

2. Apologetic

3. Defiant

4. Curious

Figure S1 continued**Picture 6**

A. White Face



B. Non-White Face



Response Set

1. Pensive

2. Irritated

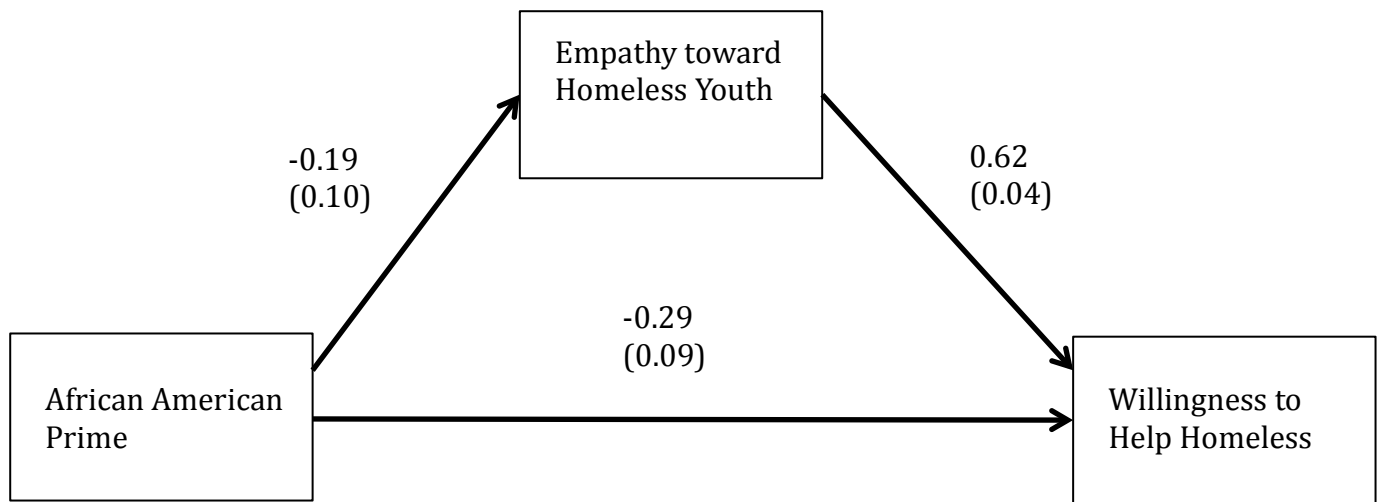
3. Excited

4. Hostile

Figure S1 continued**Picture 7****A. White Face****B. Non-White Face****Response Set**

- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| 1. Alarmed | 3. Hostile |
| 2. Shy | 4. Anxious |

*Emphasis on correct answers added here. The original instrument did not emphasize the correct answers. Response-set choices were randomly rotated.

Figure S2: Mediation Analysis, Study 2

Indirect Effect = -0.12

Total Effect = -0.41

Sobel = -1.83, $p = 0.03$, one-tailed

Proportion mediated = 0.28