

Minority Perspectives

CURRENT RESEARCH IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

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Vol. 15, No. 8
Submitted: March 23, 2010
Accepted: May 25, 2010

Status Change and the Presentation of Minority Perspectives

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ABSTRACT

How does the presentation of minority perspectives in the context of group problem-solving tasks affect the relative status positions of group members? The answer seems to depend on the initial position of the minority view presenters. Results from a controlled laboratory experiment show support for the hypothesis that people lose status for presenting minority views, but only when in higher-status positions. Unexpectedly, lower-status group members gain relative status by presenting minority perspectives. Research implications and suggestions for future research are specified.

INTRODUCTION

This research investigates how the presentation of minority perspectives results in a loss of relative status position in decision-making groups. In this research, minority perspectives are views held by a numerical minority in a group. Though previous research details how groups' capacities for idea generation may be enhanced through the exposure to minority views, by presenting a minority perspective the minority view presenter's status position in a group may be compromised (Nemeth 1986).

The presentation of minority views alters group members' thought processes in potentially beneficial ways. Yet, minority perspectives are often left unstated. Although some group members may possess minority views, they may feel hesitant to express them (Janis 1982). This raises the question, "Why would people decide to withhold the minority perspectives they may have if by stating them they could potentially benefit the group's outcome?" Status characteristics theory and status violation theory both provide insights as to why some minority perspectives might be left unstated (Berger, Cohen, and Zelditch 1972; Berger Fisek, Norman, and Zelditch 1977; Wagner 1988).

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Minority Influence Theory

The foundations of minority influence theory emerged as a reaction to the historically dominant view in social psychology that influence was unidirectional, from the majority to the minority.

Third, it emphasizes the importance of understanding the differing perspectives of majority- and minority-group members on intergroup relations, and illustrates. Michael P. Dentato, PhD, MSW School of Social Work, Loyola University Chicago The minority stress perspective adds significant insight into the critical. Encounters between Native Americans/Europeans led to xenophobic reactions from both groups. Settlements were segregated culturally, either by religion or. This policy obviously harms the minority-group students who would have joined the class under the old admissions criteria. To the extent that. Abstract. In empirical and theoretical criminology references to racism and ethnicity are commonplace, although much discussion has centred. Minority and non-minority perspectives. Differences in minority compared to non-minority views were apparent within the domains of spiritual concerns. This chapter reviews and describes the experiences of the heterogeneous Black or ethnic minority community (taken to mean residents of. The author gives examples of differences between the documentation of immigrant organizations held in public and in private archives. perspective. Stating the Case for Minority Perspectives. References to 'race' and ethnicity are commonplace in empirical criminology. As key socio-demographic. Return to Article Details Minority Perspectives on Enhancing Engagement and Belonging in a Liberal Arts Environment Download Download PDF. Thumbnails. Some minority scholars present a relevant and often overlooked perspective, which pays attention to the links between the violence that is. The book Religion and Welfare in Europe: Gendered and Minority Perspectives, Edited by Lina Molokotos-Liederman with Anders Backstrom and Grace Davie.

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