

GENDER, SEX, AND DECEPTION



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—*— RESEARCH QUESTION

How does one's biological sex play a role in the way that one deceives and detects deception?

- Developmental stages and gender (18–21)
- Theory of mind
- Strategies
- Skills

—*— STUDY RATIONALE

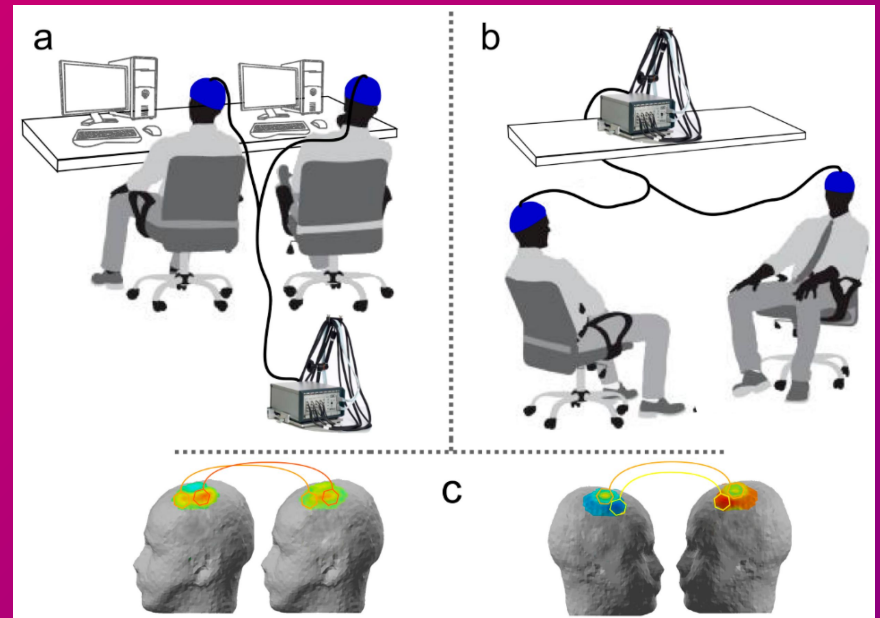
- Deception is a part of everyone's life
- Understanding how a person's biological sex influences lying/detection abilities could impact people's relationships with others.
- Gather information on the 18–21 age group

PRIOR RESEARCH



The Psychology of Deception in Relation to Gender

- Men had a harder time lying about personal information compared to women
- Gambling Game—men were more intimidated by eye contact than women who used it as a deception tactic
- Women were better at deceiving and detecting lies



hyperscanning functional
near-infrared spectroscopy

PRIOR RESEARCH



Lying and Deception in Children

- Gender differences in children's lying habits
- Lying in boys was significantly more frequent than girls
- Girls immediately identified gaze aversion with lying



PRIOR RESEARCH



Lying After Adolescence

- Males and females both lied when they knew they would have a future interaction
- Males and females used lying differently as a strategy for self-presentation
- Deceptive self-presentation is a popular theme in dating
- Lying is more common in male dominated fields

—*— EXPERIMENT

- Are males or females better at detecting deception?
- Are males or females better at deceiving others?
- Is there any difference in the results of each identified sex?
- What were some factors that the individuals noticed about the deceiver?

—*— HYPOTHESIS

Biological sex does play a role in deception;
females are better at deceiving and detecting
deception than males.

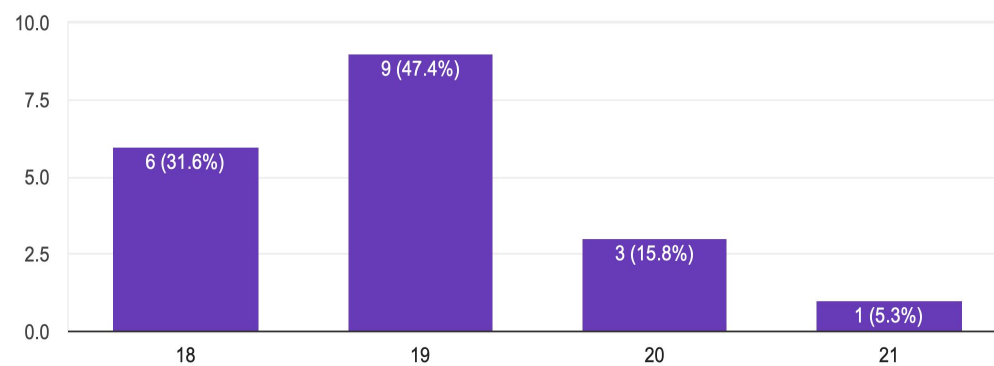
—*— PROCEDURE DETAILS

- Location: Library Media Room
- Male liar: Max
- Female liar: Mackenzie
- 20 total participants
- 7 male participants
- 13 female participants

— ✕ — DEMOGRAPHICS

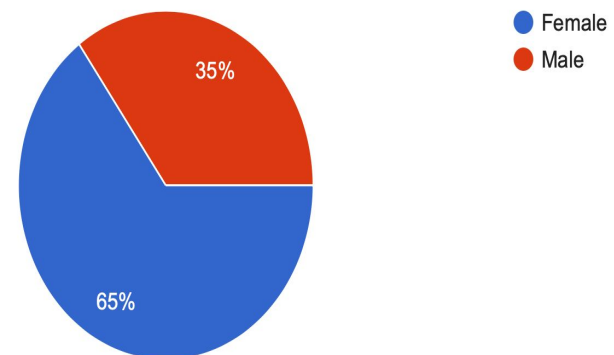
What is your age?

19 responses



What is your gender?

20 responses





MALE SESSION (MAX)

- Chose to lie about biggest fear
- Some male participants asked follow up questions to challenge the deceiver
- Answered all questions quickly and gave minimal details/information which made it difficult for participants to know when he was lying
- Males were better at detecting his lies compared to females
- When lying - avoiding eye contact/minimal eye contact, fidgeting in chair
- Familiar with some participants

—*—

FEMALE SESSION (MACKENZIE)

- Chose to lie about travel destination
- Inconsistent with lies – with some participants she gave a long in depth answer and with others she gave one word responses
- She tried to disguise her lie by hesitating with her truthful answers to deceive the participant
- Females were better at detecting her lies compared to males
- When lying – gave too much detail, answering quickly, fidgeting, minimal eye contact
- Familiar with some participants



Behavior Telling a Lie













Behavior Telling the Truth

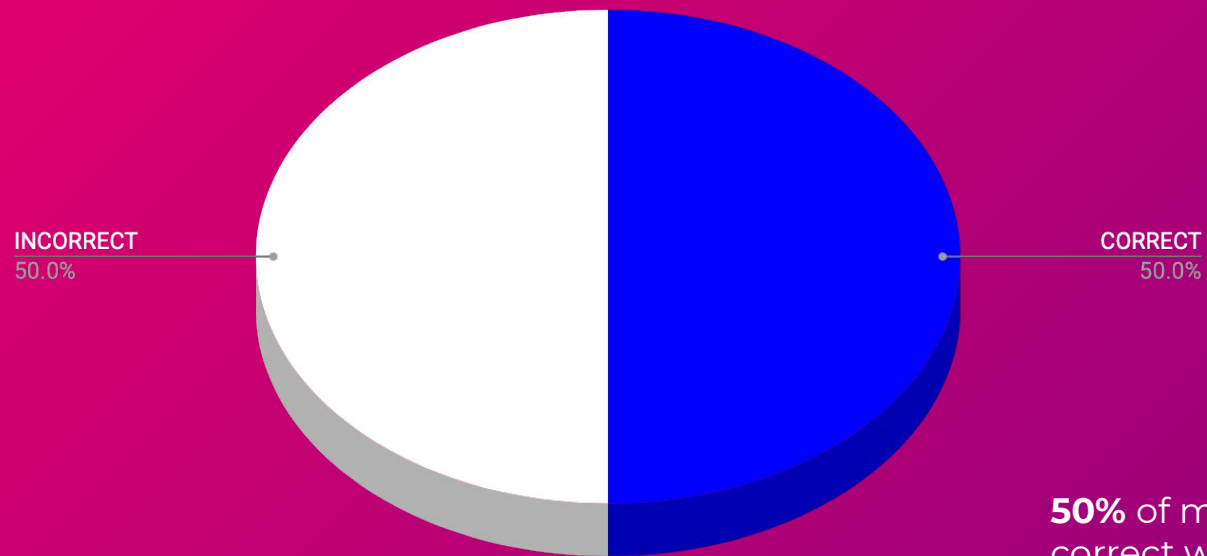






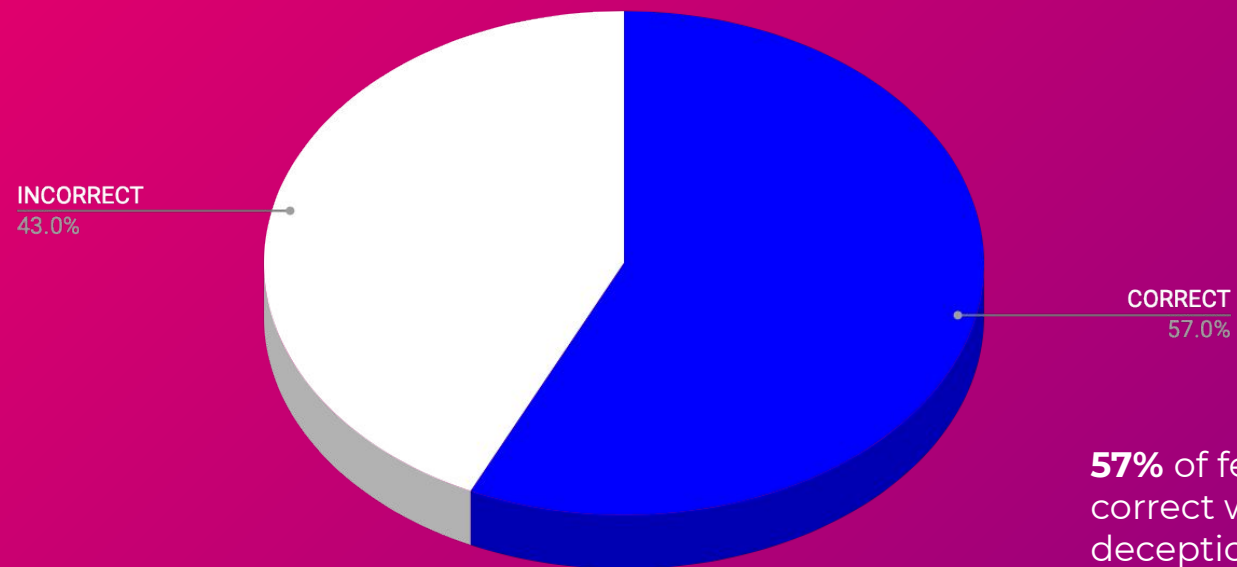
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MALE V MALE DATA: WHEN DETECTING DECEPTION



50% of males were correct when detecting deception from other males

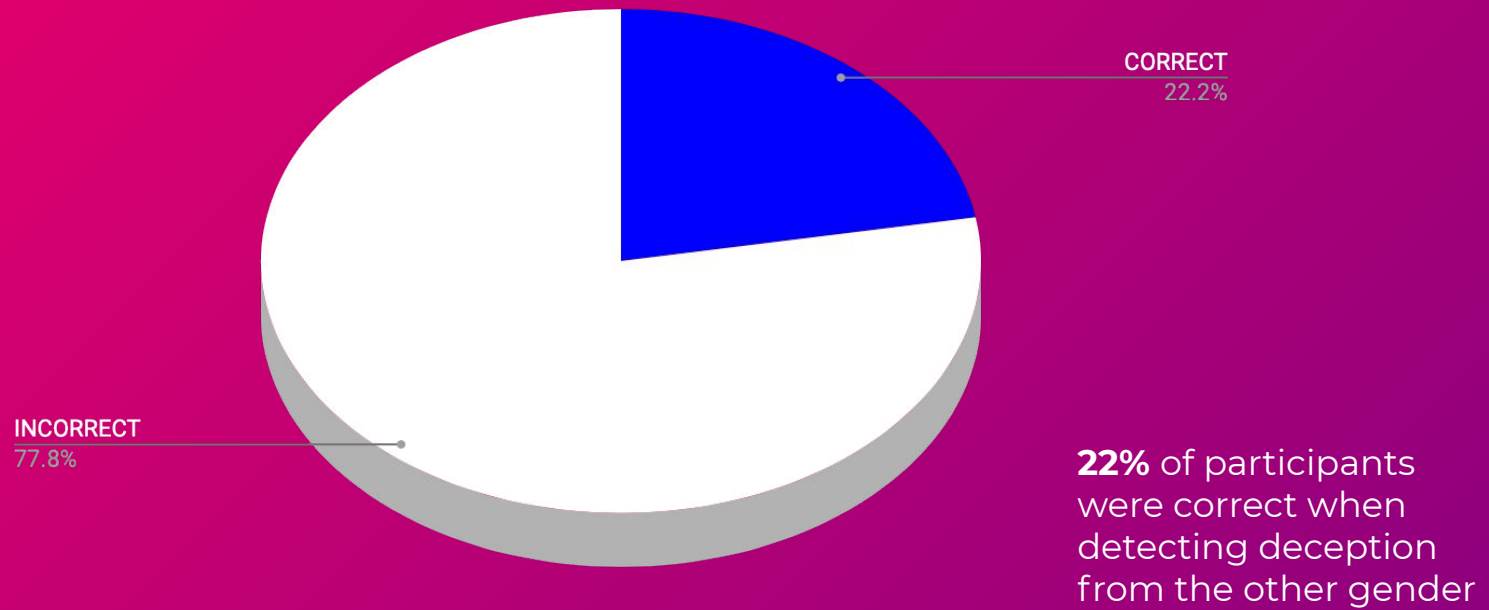
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FEMALE V FEMALE DATA
WHEN DETECTING DECEPTION



57% of females were correct when detecting deception from other females

✕

MALE V FEMALE DATA WHEN DETECTING DECEPTION



—*—
MALE V FEMALE DATA
WHEN DETECTING DECEPTION OVERALL

38.4%

FEMALES
WERE
CORRECT

42.9%

MALES
WERE
CORRECT

WHEN DETECTING DECEPTION FROM OPPOSITE GENDER

17%

FEMALES
WERE
CORRECT

33%

MALES
WERE
CORRECT

—*—
RESULTS

- Males were better at detecting deception than females overall
- Females better at detecting deception from their own gender
- Males better at deceiving opposite gender



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Larger sample size
- More questions & longer conversation to make the situation more realistic
- Make sure participants don't know each other
- Make the questions more similar in level of deception