

Discrepancy Between Explicit Shyness and Implicit Shyness: Its Relation to Narcissism

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Background Information

- ▶ Using Implicit Association Test (IAT : Greenwald et al., 1998, *JPSP*);, Jordan et al. (2003; *JPSP*) propose two kinds of self-esteem (SE) patterns: secure SE and defensive SE.
- ▶ Specifically, individuals with secure SE denote those who hold high SE at explicit level as well as implicit level, whereas individuals with defensive SE denote those who hold high explicit SE but are low in implicit SE, namely, discrepant in SE.
- ▶ Jordan et al. argue that narcissism is one of the characteristics in defensive SE holders.

Aim, Methods & Materials

- ▶ Following their research paradigm, we investigate the effect of discrepancy in shyness, which has been shown negatively associated with SE (e.g., Cheek & Buss, 1981; *JPSP*), on narcissism.
- ▶ Seventy-seven Japanese college students completed a computerized task which included shyness IAT and 5-point Likert-type scales of shyness and narcissism.

Results

- ▶ We conducted ANOVAs with two types of shyness (split at median) being independent variables and each subcategory of narcissism being a dependent variable.
- ▶ Among the three subcategories (“need for attention and praise,” “sense of superiority and competence,” and “self-assertion”), the results revealed a significant interaction effect only on self-assertion ($F(1,73) = 7.84$, $p < .001$).

- ▶ We found a significant simple main effect which showed that, among those with low implicit shyness, those with high explicit shyness were low in self-assertion ($M = 3.45$) than those with high explicit shyness ($M = 2.52$).

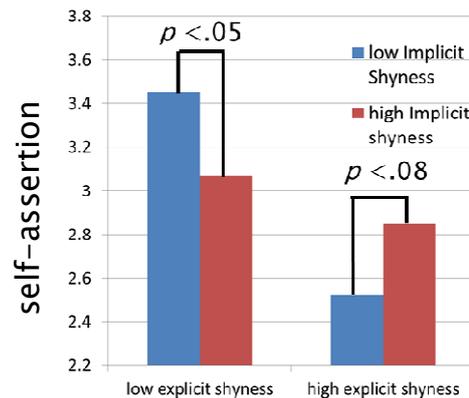


Fig1. Interaction between implicit and explicit shyness

Conclusion

- ▶ Considering Jordan et al.'s work, this result appears counterintuitive, but it is implicative that the discrepancy in shyness can play a different role from that of SE.



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