



PSYCHOLOGY

# WELCOME TO PSYC 110

**brotip #3116**

in most situations,  
“you were in my  
dream,” sounds way  
less weird than,  
“i dreamt about you.”

brotips.com

## **PSYC 110 (General Psychology)**

### **Module 7:** Social Psychology

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# Choose your Collab Project groups by Friday!

## Collaborative Project: FYP or die (20%)

- Choose groups of two to four in your Discussion Section
- Creative media demonstration (i.e., content) of *anything* in the course, for example:
  - PSA (e.g., a commercial)
  - Video (e.g., IG Reel, TikTok, YouTube Short)
  - Podcast “clip”
  - If you have a different idea but are unsure of its relevance, check with your TA
- 60 to 180 seconds (maximum three minutes)
- Group Selection (1%) due **March 14**;  
TA Check-In (3%) due **April 4**;  
Final Submission (12%) + Reflection (4%) due **April 30**
- Full assignment guidelines are posted on Canvas





# The Friday QuizTerm is this Friday!

## Friday QuizTerm (5%)

Think about it as a 20-question Friday Quiz

Online, open-book

- Complete it alone or with the homies

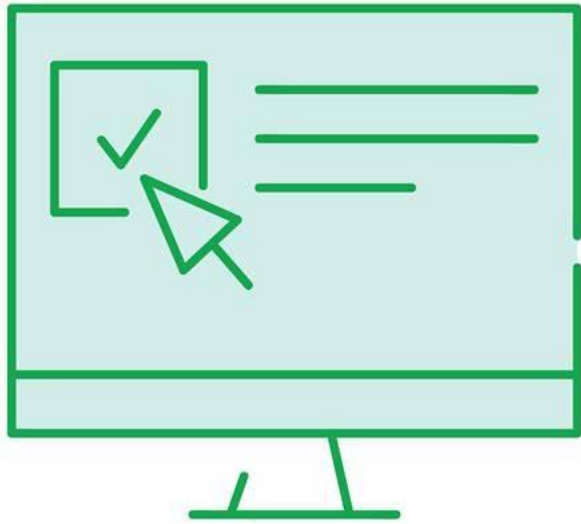
Lecture and textbook content

- Modules 1 to 7 (including this week!)

Opens Friday 12am, closes 11:59pm

One attempt, 40 minutes

No make-ups since we have a full 24 hours to complete





# What should we get out of today?

## THE PLAN

### **SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY AS A SCIENCE**

### **FORMING IMPRESSIONS: • ATTRIBUTIONS**

### **RELATIONSHIP FACILITATORS**



# Social Psychology is the study of interpersonal dynamics

Social Psychologists study the ways by which people think about, relate, and interact with others

For example:



Attitude



Attraction



Aggression



Group Behavior





# Social Psychology is *human interaction*



To *curse* you...  
...by making you see social psychology  
everywhere!



# Interactions involve *attribution*

**Inference**

A conclusion drawn from available information

**Attribution**

An inference regarding the cause of a person's behavior or an interpersonal event

**Disposition**

A recurrent behavioral, cognitive, or affective tendency that distinguishes an individual from others

**Situation**

Circumstances, conditions, states, or entities in the environment that have the potential to exert causal influences on an individual's behavior





## Covariation Theory

Do we attribute someone's behavior to disposition or situation?

### Dispositional Attribution

They are behaving this way because  
*they're just like that*

### Situational Attribution

They are behaving this way because  
*of extenuating circumstances*

*Attribution is based on three variables:*

**Consistency:** Does the person normally act this way in the same circumstance?

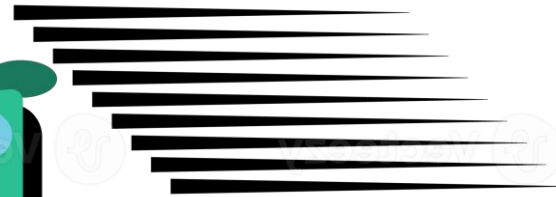
**Distinctiveness:** Does the person behave differently in different circumstances?

**Consensus:** Do others behave the same way in the same circumstance?

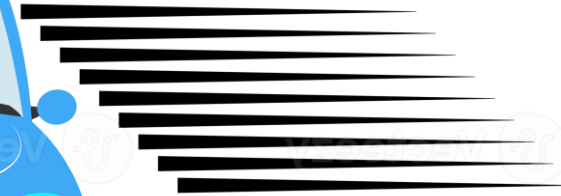




# We make attributions daily IRL



**Fundamental Attribution Error (FAE):**  
We tend to *over-value* dispositional factors and *under-value* situational factors when attributing others' behaviors



**Actor/Observer Effect:**  
We tend to *over-value* situational factors and *under-value* dispositional factors when attributing our own behaviors

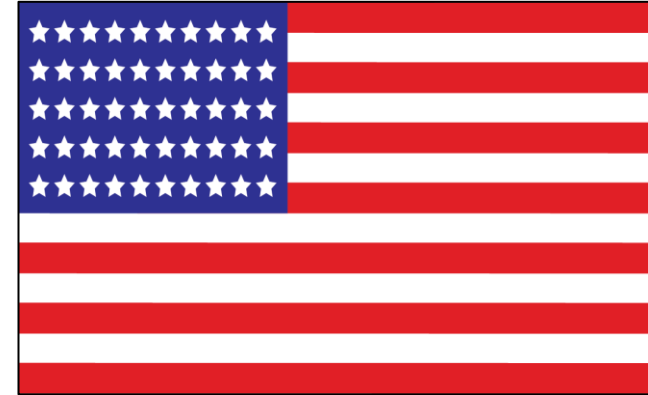


# Culture and age influence attribution

## Children



Situational bias for others



No bias for others

## Teens and Adults



Situational bias for others

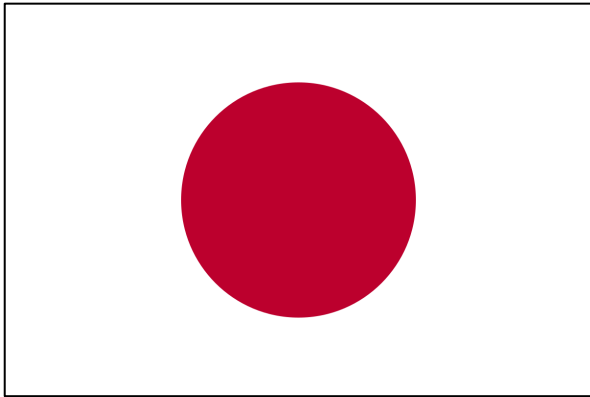


Dispositional bias for others

Enculturation



## *Olympic Athletes*



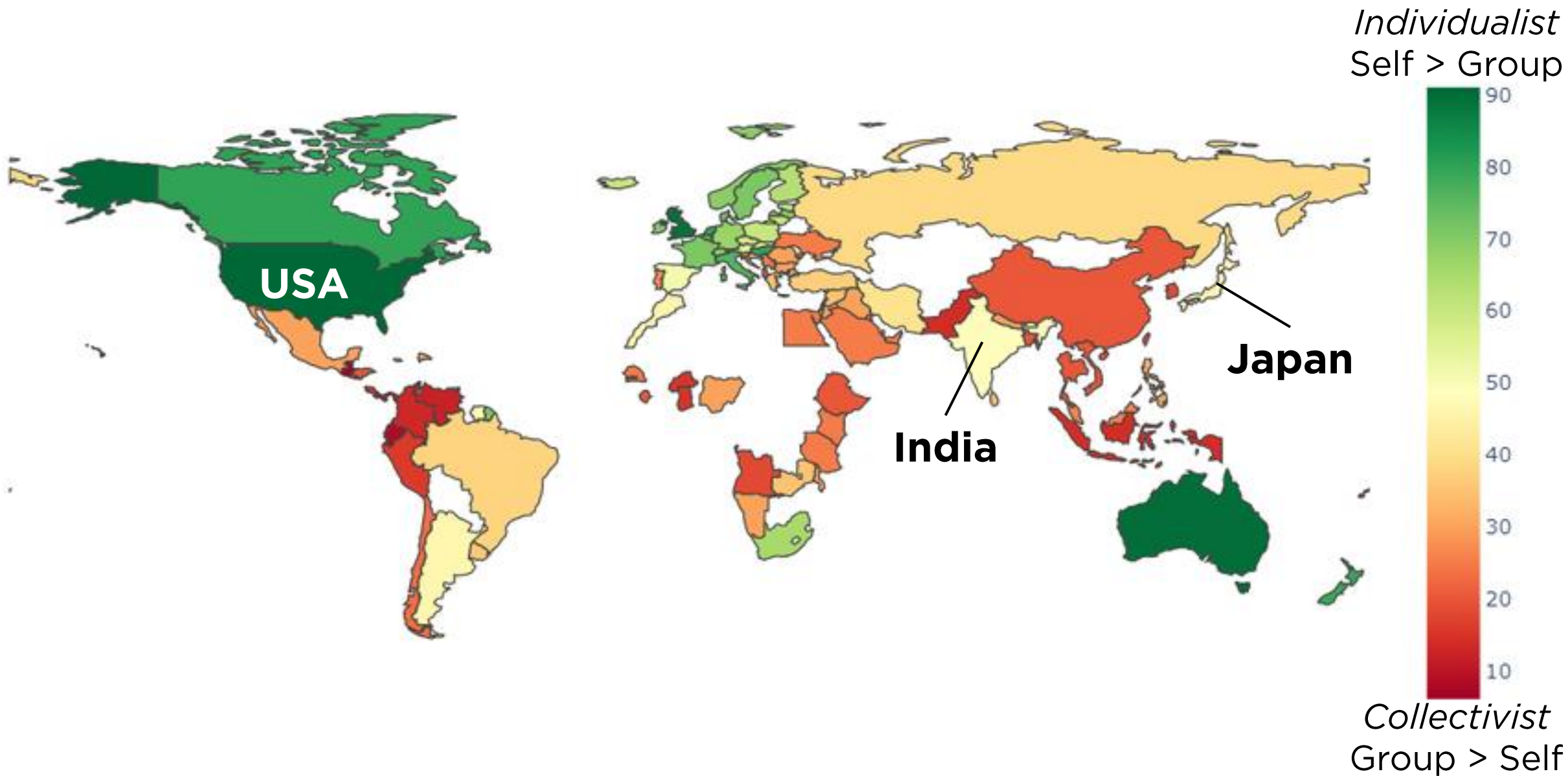
More likely to credit  
their team



More likely to credit their  
own individual effort



# Culture influences attribution





# Other factors also affect attribution



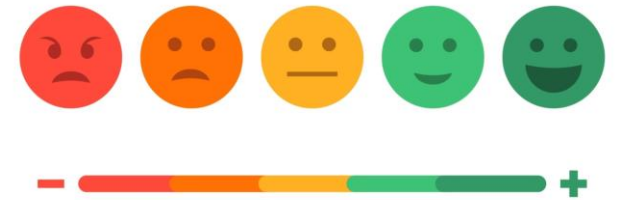
## **Time Pressure**

More likely to make FAE when making a quick decision



## **Familiarity**

Less likely to make FAE when we know the person well



## **Emotional State**

More likely to make FAE when in a negative emotional state (e.g., sad or angry)



**point**  
**solutions**





We always want to feel like we're doing the "Right" thing

## **Cognitive Dissonance**

The feeling of uneasiness that we feel when our behavior doesn't match our thoughts/feelings/intentions

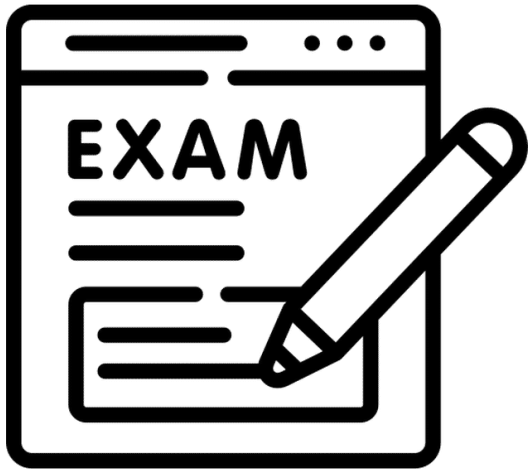


*...or at least we do everything we can to try!*



## The Above Average Effect

We tend to attribute our successes to our disposition, and our failures to our situation—vice versa for others



**Actor thinks:** I'm him

**Observer thinks:** Meh, easy test



**Actor thinks:** Test was unfair

**Observer thinks:** Nah u just dumb



# Sex influences attribution...kinda?

When asked to imagine how they would feel receiving a good or bad grade:



**Females:** I worked hard (*Effort Attribution*)

**Males:** I'm just that good (*Ability Attribution*)



**Females:** I'm not smart enough (*Ability Attribution*)

**Males:** I didn't work hard enough (*Effort Attribution*)



# VolHack: How to be a good friend

Evidence indicates  
**effort attributions**

from others for our own  
achievements raise self-esteem  
more than  
**ability attributions**

**SO...**

When complimenting  
someone, try focusing on their  
**effort** more than their **ability**

*For example:*

I can see how much time you dedicated to your project!



You made that project look so easy!



You're so naturally talented at the piano!



You must have practiced so hard to play that well!





# How do we form relationships?

**Relationship**

A continuing and often committed association between two or more people, as in a family, friendship, marriage, partnership, or other interpersonal link in which the participants have some degree of influence on each other's thoughts, feelings, and actions.

**Interpersonal Attraction**

The interest in and liking of one individual by another, or the mutual interest and liking between two or more individuals.

*In psychology, we do not limit the term “Relationships” to always mean romantic; friendships follow very similar patterns!*



# There are four fundamental facilitators of attraction

## Relationship Facilitators

**Proximity**

**Physical  
Attractiveness**

**Familiarity**

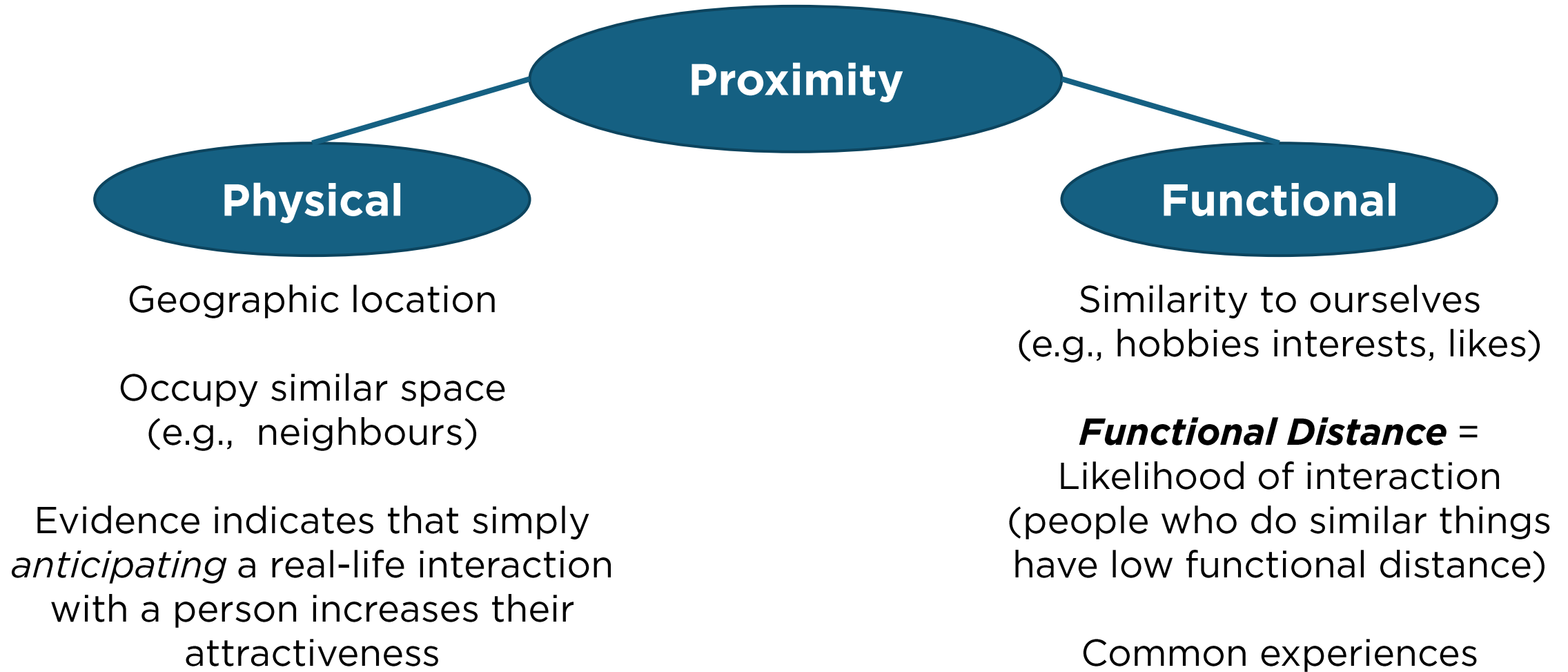
**Others'  
Opinions**

*As each of these increase, the attractiveness of a person increases*





# We tend to like people who are close to us





# We tend to like people who we tend to interact with

## Familiarity

### Mere Exposure Effect

The tendency to be more positive toward the familiar

**Session 1**



**Session 2**



*Familiar faces were seen as more attractive in the follow-up session even after only one instance of exposure*



# We tend to like people who we tend to interact with

## Familiarity

### Mere Exposure Effect

The tendency to be more positive toward the familiar



*We tend to rate our own mirror image as more attractive than our regular image*



# We tend to like good-looking people

## Physical Attractiveness



"He spends all his time playing video games, what a nerd."

"He like never talks, it's so weird and creepy."

"He spends all his time playing video games, typical guy! Hehe!"

"He's so shy, it's soooooo cute :P"

"What is beautiful is good."

- Karen Dion 🇨🇦

### The Halo Effect

- First impression of a person influences future perceptions
- We tend to notice physical attractiveness first, so attractive people are generally seen as more trustworthy



# We tend to like good-looking people

## Physical Attractiveness



“Beautiful” Child



“Ugly” Child

Both children were given same description, for example:

*“This child enjoys drawing, coloring, reading, and playing instruments. She comes from a middle class family who pays much attention to her, providing a very nurturing environment.”*

The “Beautiful” Child was perceived as more intelligent and was predicted to make more money and date more attractive people than the “Ugly” child



# We tend to like people when we know they like us

## Others' Opinions



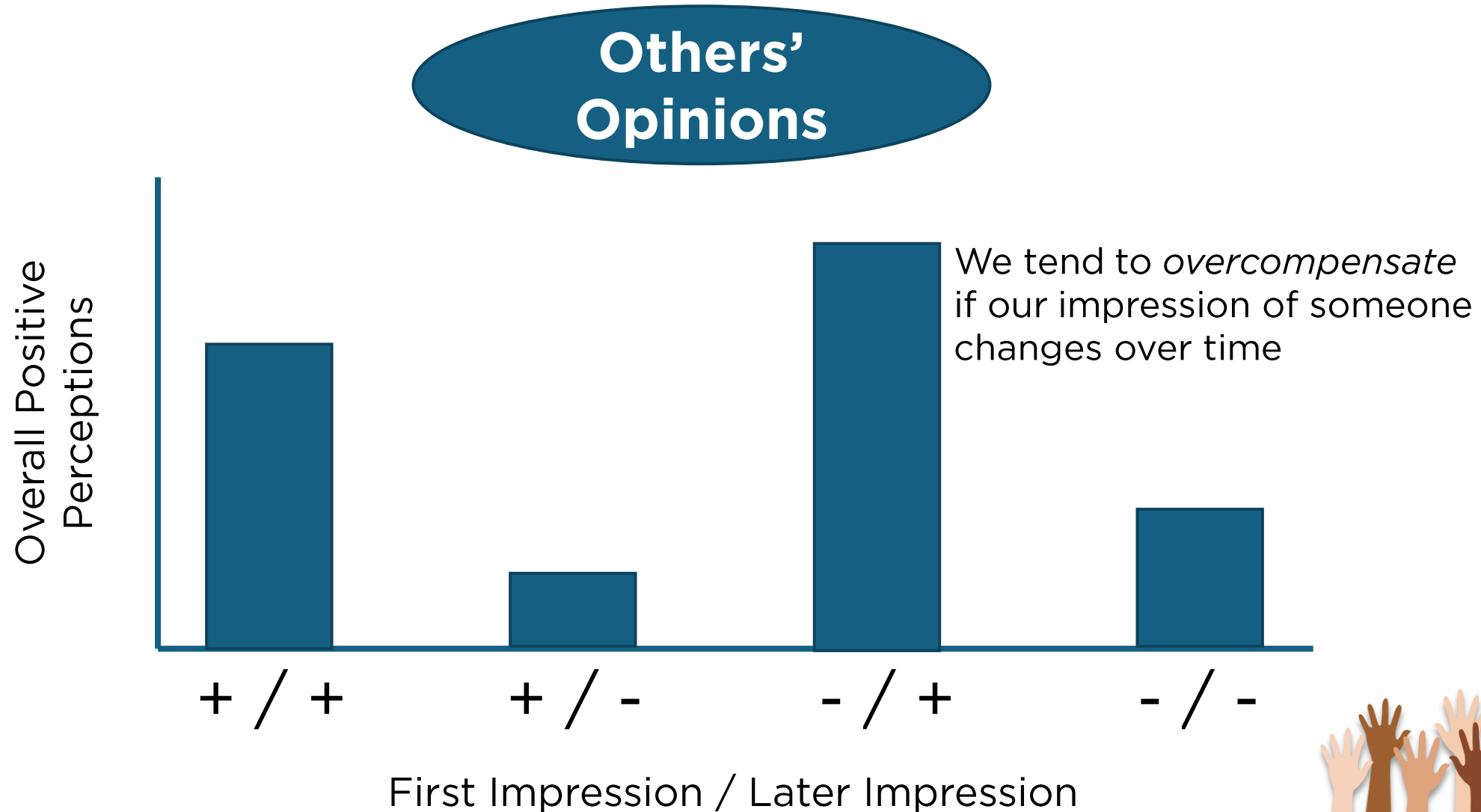
Mediated by self-esteem

- People with high self-esteem tend to perceive those who like them as more attractive
- People with low self-esteem tend to perceive those who like them as less attractive





We tend to like people more if they impress us, but not at first





# How do we form relationships?

## Relationship Facilitators

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**Physical  
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## THE PLAN

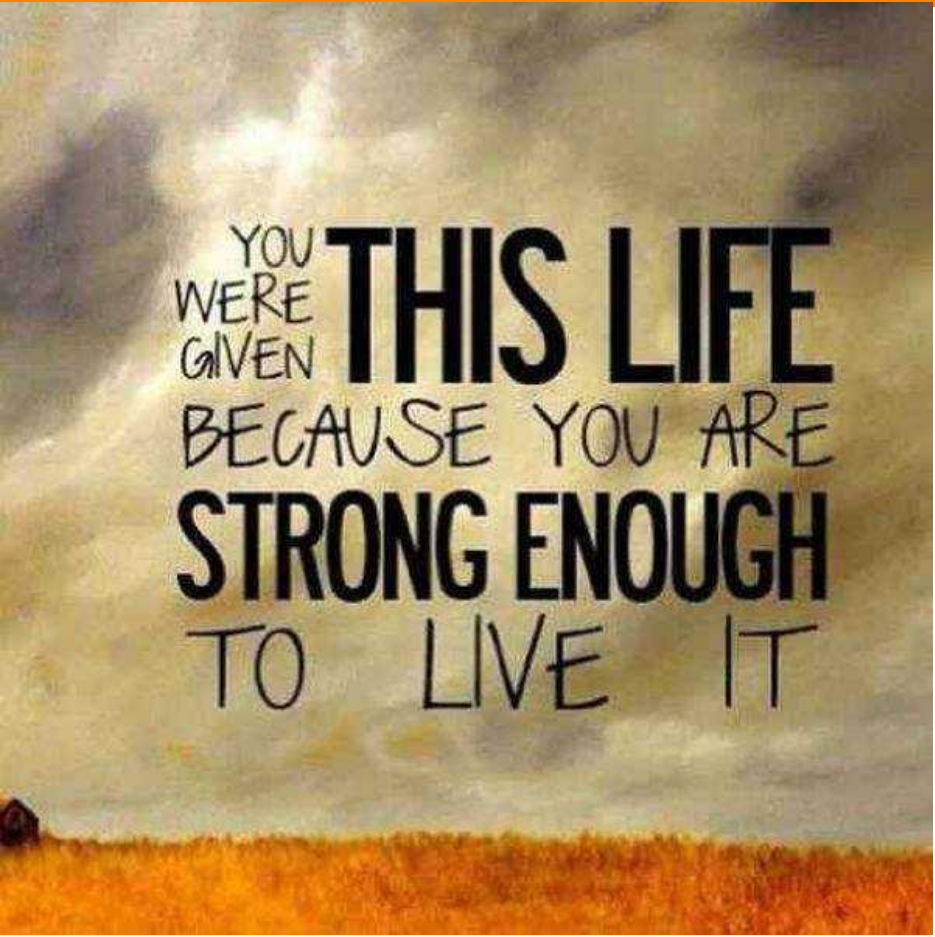
### **SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY AS A SCIENCE**

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### **RELATIONSHIP FACILITATORS**



# How did we do?



YOU  
WERE  
GIVEN  
**THIS LIFE**  
BECAUSE YOU ARE  
**STRONG ENOUGH**  
TO LIVE IT

## For y'all:

Friday QuizTerm **is March 14**

Collab Project groups **due March 14**

InQuizitive **due March 16**

Reflection Journal **due March 16**

Remember to get your SONA credits done!