Characterizing Older Adults’ Positivity during Person Perception

Senior citizens represent a growing proportion of the United States population. Changing demographics means that younger adults will be interacting more with older adults and that older adults will be interacting more overall. To preserve older adults’ well-being, we must gain a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental components of these interactions. One widely found phenomena in cognitive aging research directly relevant to these interactions is a tendency for older adults to focus more on positive information than younger adults do. In this talk, I will detail work using different methodologies designed to better understand mechanisms for a positivity bias that consistently emerges when older adults perceive and interact with others.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

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