

Experiential Appreciation - Awe Replication (#28412)

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1) Have any data been collected for this study already?

It's complicated. We have already collected some data but explain in Question 8 why readers may consider this a valid pre-registration nevertheless.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?

Overall, we aim to demonstrate that experiential appreciation (EA) is a unique indicator of meaning in life (MIL). We have conducted 5 studies that have provided support for this idea. The current project will be a direct replication of one of our experimental studies. In that study, we found that watching a video that has been previously used to elicit awe, similarly elicits an overall appreciation for one's experiences in life, and EA subsequently indirectly mediated the relationship between the manipulation and global reports of MIL, controlling for other variables (e.g., mattering, positive affect (PA)). The goal of the current study is to replicate this effect using the same method we previously used.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.

The main dependent measures are a 5 item measure of EA and a 4 item global measure of MIL.

We will also assess coherence, purpose, mattering, PA, and small self as covariates in the two regression analyses (one controlling for coherence, purpose, mattering, and the other controlling for PA and small self).

Finally we will assess trait gratitude and mindfulness for exploratory purposes.

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?

Participants will be assigned to one of two conditions: awe or a control condition. Participants in the awe condition will watch a nature video intended to induce awe, and the participants in the control condition will watch a control video of similar length, involving a man completing a wood-working project.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.

We will first conduct t-tests on all primary variables. We predict that the manipulation will only influence EA, PA, and sense of small self.

We will test our process model using Hayes macro for SPSS. Awe condition (vs. neutral) will be entered as the independent variable. In one analysis, happiness, small-self feelings and EA will be entered as simultaneous mediators, and MIL will be entered as the dependent variable. In a second analysis, coherence, purpose, mattering, and EA will be entered as simultaneous mediators, and MIL will be entered as the dependent variable.

We predict that EA will indirectly mediate the relationship between the condition and MIL in both analyses.

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.

We will exclude any participants who fail a seriousness check item at the end of the survey (i.e., we will exclude participants who say we should exclude their data because they didn't take the study seriously).

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.

We aim to collect a sample of at least 400 participants. We will open up timeslots one week at a time. Once we hit 400 participants, we will not release timeslots for the following week, but will finish out any participants already scheduled for the current week. This may result in a sample over 400. Data collection will most likely take between 2-4 weeks.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)

We are currently collecting data this study, but these data have not been downloaded from Qualtrics or analyzed in any way. The data collection methods have not been altered in any way due to the opening of the study.