

INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

Social Cognition seeks to advance understanding of the role of cognitive processes in social psychology and behavior. The journal emphasizes three broad concerns: the processes underlying the perception, judgment, and memory of social stimuli; the effects of social and affective factors on the processing of information; and the behavioral and interpersonal consequences of cognitive processes. Within these broad concerns, the journal does not specify appropriate topics for publication. Rather, the journal seeks to publish significant work from any domain that is relevant to the themes described above. Thus, research on intrapersonal, interpersonal, intragroup, and intergroup processes all are welcome. Moreover, *Social Cognition* seeks research conducted with a broad range of methodologies, including, but not limited to, behavioral, psychophysiological, and neuroscientific approaches. It is anticipated that most published manuscripts will report original empirical research. However, other types of papers, such as theoretical analyses, literature reviews (see below), and methodological comments are welcome if they further an understanding of the cognitive processes underlying social psychology and behavior.

WEB-BASED SUBMISSIONS: Manuscripts must be written in English and should be submitted online at <http://socog.msubmit.net>. Submitted papers must fit the mission of the journal, must not have been published in whole or in substantial part elsewhere, and must not currently be under review. All research must have been conducted in accordance with the ethical guidelines of the American Psychological Association.

Manuscripts may be submitted as *Articles*, *Reports*, or *Reviews*. *Articles* have no specific length limitation. *Reports* and *Reviews* may be no longer than 4,000 words of text, including footnotes, but excluding the abstract, references, tables, and figures. For manuscripts submitted as *Reports* or *Reviews*, the word count, as indicated by any standard word processor, should be listed on the title page. Papers submitted as *Reviews* should serve as brief updates on recent research on a specific topic, rather than as comprehensive reviews of a whole literature (which may be submitted as *Articles*). Authors may contact the Editor to inquire about the appropriateness of *Review* topics.

All manuscripts should conform to the style and format guidelines set forth in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, and should include an abstract of fewer than 150 words. The cover page should include contact information, including an address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address. A cover letter should accompany the manuscript. This letter should confirm adherence to the submission guidelines and discuss any special considerations relevant to the research or review process. Manuscripts are not ordinarily given blind review unless this is specifically requested in writing. The author of an accepted manuscript will also be asked to promptly review and return page proofs and copyright releases, and to notify the editor of any substantive errors in the work that are discovered after publication.

TABLES should be submitted in excel. Tables formatted in Microsoft Word's table function are also acceptable. (Tables should not be submitted using tabs, returns, or spaces as formatting tools.)

FIGURES *must* be submitted separately as graphic files (in order of preference: tif, eps, jpg, bmp, gif) in the highest possible resolution. Figure caption text should be included in the article's Microsoft Word file.

PERMISSIONS: Contributors are responsible for obtaining permission from copyright owners if they use an illustration, table, or lengthy quote (100+ words) that has been published elsewhere. Proof of permission must be included with the manuscript. Contributors should write both the publisher and author of such material, requesting nonexclusive world rights in all languages for use in the article and in all future editions of it.

REFERENCES: Authors should consult the publication manual of the American Psychological Association for rules on format and style. Any manuscripts with references that are incorrectly formatted will be returned to the author by the publisher for revision.

TRANSPARENCY AND OPENNESS PROMOTION (TOP) GUIDELINES

Social Cognition is a signatory to the TOP Guidelines for open science: <https://cos.io/top/>. Adherence to the journal's standards must be confirmed at submission via a checklist (see below). The journal's standards are as follows:

Citation Standards

All data, program code and other methods must be appropriately cited. Such materials are recognized as original intellectual contributions and afforded recognition through citation.

1. All data sets and program code used in a publication must be cited in the text and listed in the reference section.
2. References for data sets and program code must include a persistent identifier, such as a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). Persistent identifiers ensure future access to unique published digital objects, such as a text or data set. Persistent identifiers are assigned to data sets by digital archives, such as institutional repositories and partners in the Data Preservation Alliance for the Social Sciences (Data-PASS).
3. Data set citation example:
Campbell, Angus, and Robert L. Kahn. American National Election Study, 1948. ICPSR07218-v3. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 1999. <http://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR07218.v3>

Data, Analytic Methods (Code), and Research Materials Transparency

The policy of *Social Cognition* is to publish papers only if the data, methods used in the analysis, and materials used to conduct the research are clearly and precisely documented and are

maximally available to any researcher for purposes of reproducing the results or replicating the procedure.

1. Authors reusing data available from public repositories must provide program code, scripts for statistical packages, and other documentation sufficient to allow an informed researcher to precisely reproduce all published results.

2. Authors using original data must:

a. Make the data publicly available.

b. Include all variables, treatment conditions, and observations described in the manuscript.

c. Provide a full account of the procedures used to collect, preprocess, clean, or generate the data.

d. Provide program code, scripts, codebooks, and other documentation sufficient to precisely reproduce all published results.

e. Provide research materials and description of procedures necessary to conduct an independent replication of the research.

3. Data, program code, research materials, and other documentation of the research process should be made available through a trusted digital repository. Trusted repositories adhere to policies that make data discoverable, accessible, usable, and preserved for the long term. Trusted repositories also assign unique and persistent identifiers. For example these services are offered by partners in the Data Preservation Alliance for the Social Sciences (Data-PASS) and most institutional repositories. Author maintained websites are not compliant with this requirement.

Dissemination of these materials may be delayed until publication. Under exceptional circumstances, editors may grant an embargo of the public release of data for at most one year after publication, if requested.

4. In rare cases, despite authors' best efforts, some or all data or materials cannot be shared for legal or ethical reasons. In such cases, authors must inform the editors at the time of submission. It is understood that in some cases access will be provided under restrictions to protect confidential or proprietary information. Editors may grant exceptions to data and material access requirements provided authors:

a. Explain the restrictions on the dataset or materials and how they preclude public access.

b. Provide a public description of the steps others should follow to request access to the data or materials.

- c. Provide access to all data and materials for which the constraints do not apply.

Design and Analysis Transparency

The policy of *Social Cognition* is to publish papers in which authors follow standards for disclosing key aspects of the research design and data analysis. At manuscript submission, authors must confirm via checklist (see below) that they followed those standards in the manuscript.

Preregistration of Studies and Analysis Plans

There is no requirement of preregistration. However, *Social Cognition* encourages preregistration. Preregistration of studies involves registering the study design, variables, and treatment conditions. Including an analysis plan involves specification of sequence of analyses or the statistical model that will be reported. Preregistration is most compelling when it is entered into an independent, institutional registry.

If preregistration is reported, authors must:

- a. Confirm in the text that the study was registered prior to conducting the research with links to the time-stamped preregistration(s) at the institutional registry, and that the preregistration adheres to the disclosure requirements of the institutional registry.
- b. Report all pre-registered analyses in the text, or, if there were changes in the analysis plan following preregistration, those changes must be disclosed with explanation for the changes.
- c. Clearly distinguish in text analyses that were preregistered from those that were not, such as having separate sections in the results for confirmatory and exploratory analyses.

Replication

The policy of *Social Cognition* is to encourage submission of replication studies. The journal is particularly interested in publishing conceptual replications of previously published results. Conceptual replications test the same theoretical ideas using different sets of operations to establish the generality of the effects. For more details, see this editorial:

<https://guilfordjournals.com/doi/pdf/10.1521/soco.2019.37.4.355>

RESEARCH DISCLOSURE CHECKBOXES:

Submission to the journal requires completion of a set of check-boxes related to the policies described above that are designed to promote sound research practices and enhance the informational value of the research published in the journal.

For each study reported in your manuscript, you must answer the following questions in order to proceed to editorial evaluation; by doing so, authors actively declare that they have disclosed all of the required information for each study within the submitted manuscript. **Any exceptions must be explained:**

- (1) Are data, program code, and other methods appropriately cited?
- (2) Are data, analytic methods (code), and research materials publicly available? If not, why? Do you agree to share this information upon request? This information must be included in your manuscript.
- (3) Are (a) the total number of excluded observations, (b) the reasons for making these exclusions, (c) how they were distributed across conditions, and (d) the effects of these exclusions reported in the Method section(s)?
- (4) Are all independent variables or manipulations, whether successful or failed, reported in the Method section(s)?
- (5) Are all dependent variables or measures that were analyzed for this article's target research question reported in the Methods section(s)?
- (6) Are (a) how sample size was determined and (b) your data-collection stopping rule reported in the Method section(s)?
- (7) Have you reported procedures in sufficient detail to allow close replication by an independent lab?
- (8) Are inferential tests (e.g., p-values), effect sizes, and confidence intervals reported for all analyses?
- (9) Has all research has been conducted in accordance with the ethical guidelines of the American Psychological Association?

NOTES ON DISCLOSURE CHECKBOXES:

The focus of Item 5 is on dependent variables (DVs) or measures that were analyzed to address the target research question posed in the current submission. It is not uncommon for researchers to include one or more "exploratory" measures in a given study and to distinguish these from the "focal" DVs that represent the crux of the investigation. Item 5 is written to convey our trust in researchers to report all analyzed measures that relate to the target research question at stake in a particular submission.

There is no definitive rule for determining adequate power, and Editors may judge that other considerations (e.g., novelty, difficulty) partially offset low power.

Effect sizes will not be held to an absolute standard, but are being requested to aid future meta-analysis and comparative interpretation.

Details pertaining to some aspects of procedures, research materials, and analytic methods may best be described in Appendices and/or Supplemental Materials.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

There are several criteria that increase the likelihood that a manuscript will be favorably evaluated. Specifically, the paper should (1) reflect a substantive advance in our understanding of social cognition and social psychology, (2) be likely to influence an area of research, (3) present new ideas or creative methods, (4) be theory driven, and extend current theory, (5) demonstrate that the major finding can be replicated by including two or more studies, (6) use multiple measures in addition to self-reports, (7) employ sophisticated methodologies, and (8) rigorously and appropriately analyze the data.

A publication decision on any specific manuscript depends on much more than the above guidelines, and individual Editors may stress some points more than others. Nonetheless, all else being equal, submissions that comply with the Research Disclosure Checkboxes and that meet the Evaluation Criteria will be more likely to be published than submissions that do not.

Social Cognition is the journal of the International Social Cognition Network (ISCON). Members of ISCON receive the journal as part of their membership. To join, go to: <http://www.social-cognition.info/>