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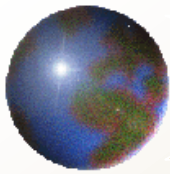
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PREJUDICE IN THE POLICE: On the Process Mediating the Effects of Selection and Group Socialisation



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Summary.

Our study investigated why the police officers are generally found to more prejudice toward disadvantaged groups than the standard population. Result reveal a significant effect of both selection and group socialisation, Right Authoritarianism (RWA) in the case of the former and internalisation of a prejudice norm in the case of the latter. Finally, the results show that group identification moderates the change in internalisation of the prejudice norm.

Introduction

Prejudice in the Police

What are the reason for this phenomenon?

Previous work: selection, group socialization, Right-Wing Authoritarianism, internalization of a prejudice norm, group identification

Selection and Group Socialization, the two mediating by distinct processes ?

► Self-selection – Institutional selection

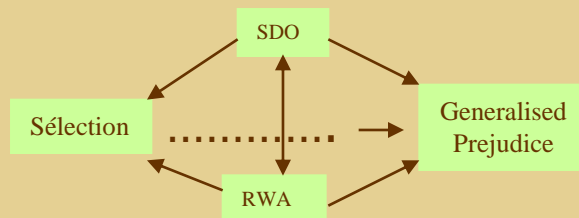
☒ role of Right Authoritarianism

► Group Socialization

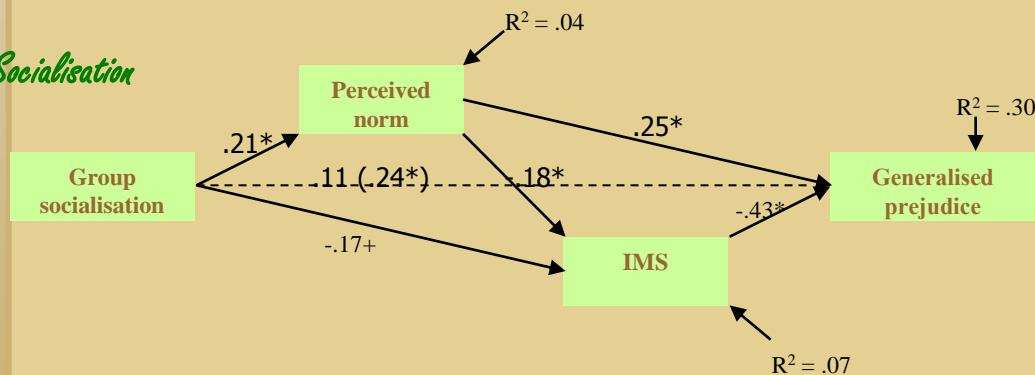
☒ role of Internalization of a prejudice norm

Results

Selection



Socialisation



$\chi^2 = 1.91, p < .17; NFI = .97, NNFI = .90, CFI = .98, RMSEA = .08; * p < .05; + p < .10$

Method

Participants : 127 police officers at the French National School of Police

58 at the beginning of their training, 69 at the end
43 from the general population

Material

- Social Dominance Orientation Scale (Pratto & al. 1994)
- Scale of prejudice toward poor (DeOliveira & Dambrun, 2006), prisoners (Begin & Couture, 1980), gypsies (Dambrun, 2006) and arabs (Dambrun, 2001)
- Right-Authoritarianism (Altemeyer, 1988; Bougie & Perreault, 2006)
- Scale of perceived group norm (Dambrun & al., 2002)
- Scale of group identification (Dambrun, 2001)
- Scale of internal and external motivation to control prejudice (Plant & Devine's, 1998)

Discussion

Prejudices are not only cognitive constructs, they are malleable and reflect the social context in which social norms operate through social influence (Asch, 1987; Deutsch & Gérard, 1955; Guimond, 2000).