City Research Online

City, University of London Institutional Repository

Citation: Webb, R., Ayers, S. & Endress, A. (2015). The Presentation and Validation of the City Baby Face Database. Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology, 33(3), E42. doi: 10.1080/02646838.2015.1115265

This is the accepted version of the paper.

This version of the publication may differ from the final published version.

Permanent repository link: https://openaccess.city.ac.uk/id/eprint/13456/

Link to published version: https://doi.org/10.1080/02646838.2015.1115265

Copyright: City Research Online aims to make research outputs of City, University of London available to a wider audience. Copyright and Moral Rights remain with the author(s) and/or copyright holders. URLs from City Research Online may be freely distributed and linked to.

Reuse: Copies of full items can be used for personal research or study, educational, or not-for-profit purposes without prior permission or charge. Provided that the authors, title and full bibliographic details are credited, a hyperlink and/or URL is given for the original metadata page and the content is not changed in any way.

City Research Online: http://openaccess.city.ac.uk/ publications@city.ac.uk

ABSTRACT

SRIP 35th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

14TH AND 15TH SEPTEMBER 2015

The East Midlands Conference Centre & Orchard Hotel, The University of Nottingham

Poster Presentation Application

Title: The Presentation and Validation of the City Baby Face Database

Authors: Rebecca Webb, Susan Ayers, Ansgar Endress; City University London

Corresponding author contact details: Rebecca Webb. Email: Rebecca.Webb.1@city.ac.uk. Telephone: +44 (0)20 7040 5774

Abstract (word count *max=300 words*)

Background:

Face processing enables us to gather a wide range of social information that can help with communication. This is especially important for infants prior to the development of speech. Adults need to be able to process infants' emotional expressions accurately to respond appropriately and care for infants. While there are many sets of photographs of adult faces available to researchers, there are no sets of photographs of infant faces. This makes the ability to research processing of infant emotional expressions difficult.

Aim and Objectives:

Therefore a database of infant faces was produced and validated.

Method: Parents were recruited via social media and were asked to send photographs of their infant (aged 0-12 months) showing positive, negative and neutral facial expressions. A total of 199 infant faces were sent and validated. All images were edited so that only the head was visible and put onto a plain background. Both a black and white and colour copy of each image is available. To validate the images *n*=52 students from the School of Health Sciences at City University London and *n*=18

members of the general public rated the images with respect to the shown facial expression, intensity of expression, clarity of expression, genuineness of expression, and valence.

Results: A total of 152 images are included in the final database. Of these, there are 59 photographs of positive infant faces, 54 photographs of negative infant faces and 39 photographs of neutral infant faces. All of these images have an agreement rating of 75% or more. The expressions are comparable to infant faces used in previous research (Pearson et al., 2010). The images have high test-retest reliability and have been tested on both males and females.

Interpretation & Conclusion:

This database is a useful tool for researchers to use when researching infant emotion.

References: Pearson, R. M., Cooper, I. S., Penton-Voak, S. L., & Evans, J. (2010). Depressive symptoms in early pregnancy disrupt attentional processing of infant emotion. *Psychological Medicine, 40*(4), 621-631.