Emotional Judgment does not depend on perceived gender
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Introduction:
It is a common misconception that women are more emotional than men. The current work elucidates whether perceived gender influences perceived emotionality. One challenge with this work is determining whether perceived emotional differences are due to perceived gender or due to other factors that differ between stimulus categories. We addressed this by using identical androgynous faces that appeared either male or female based on cues unrelated to the actual faces (e.g., hair). We also examined whether any differences in perceived emotionality were amplified in the context of an ensemble.

Primary question: Does perceived gender influence perceived emotionality even when facial content is identical?

Experiment 1: Neutral to Happy

Experiment 2: Neutral to Sad

Conclusion:
Our results challenge previous findings showing an influence of perceived gender on perceived emotionality. These results do not discount the fact that gender stereotypes exist, only the notion that they are driven by perceptual effects.

References: