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Human face-selective cortex does not distinguish between members of a racial outgroup

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2 **a racial outgroup**

3 **Abbreviated title: Face-selective cortex disregards outgroup identity**

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Abstract

People often fail to individuate members of social outgroups, a phenomenon known as the

outgroup homogeneity effect. Here, we used fMRI repetition suppression to investigate the

neural representation underlying this effect. In a pre-registered study, White human

perceivers ($N = 29$) responded to pairs of faces depicting White or Black targets. In each pair,

the second face depicted either the same target as the first face, a different target from the

same race, or a scrambled face outline. We localized face-selective neural regions via an

independent task, and demonstrated that neural activity in the fusiform face area

distinguished different faces only when targets belonged to the perceivers' racial ingroup

(White). By contrast, face-selective cortex did not discriminate between other-race

individuals. Moreover, across two studies (total $N = 67$) perceivers were slower to

discriminate between different outgroup members and remembered them to a lesser extent.

Together, these results suggest that the outgroup homogeneity effect arises when early-to-

mid-level visual processing results in an erroneous overlap of representations of outgroup

members.

40   **Significance statement**

41   Researchers have repeatedly demonstrated that perceivers struggle to distinguish between

42   different members of a racial outgroup. Here, we show in a pre-registered study that this

43   failure arises when areas of the human brain that specifically process facial identity—most

44   notably, the so-called "fusiform face area"—fail to detect differences between identities of

45   members of a racial outgroup. When White perceivers viewed photos of two different Black

46   men, the face area of their brains responded as if the two photos portrayed the same person.

47   This effect was constrained to outgroup faces; the face area successfully distinguished faces

48   of two different White individuals. Our results highlight the failure of basic representational

49   mechanisms in processing individuals from other social groups.

INTRODUCTION

The outgroup homogeneity effect (sometimes called the cross-race effect) describes the difficulty people often experience when trying to identify members of a racial outgroup. Although race is not a valid biological taxonomy, individuals in our society define separate human races by sociocultural experiences and use this social taxonomy as a basis for numerous social and cognitive processes (Wagner et al., 2017). For example, White perceivers typically remember faces of White targets better than faces of Black targets, and are more likely to say that a new, unfamiliar Black face is the same as one they have seen previously (Malpass and Kravitz, 1969; Meissner and Brigham, 2001). Perceivers also identify own-race faces faster and more accurately than cross-race faces (Marcon et al., 2010). This pattern of (mis)identification has demonstrable societal consequences—in an analysis of American police proceedings, White witnesses correctly identified 60% of perpetrators when a line-up comprised other White individuals, but identified only 45% of Black perpetrators; more than half the time, unrelated (i.e., innocent) Black individuals were identified as perpetrators (Behrman and Davey, 2001).

Most theories of the outgroup homogeneity effect suggest that perceivers create detailed, individuated representations of ingroup members, but view outgroup members as interchangeable instances of a category (Papesh and Goldinger, 2010; Hugenberg et al., 2013; Correll et al., 2017). Consequently, scholars hypothesize that this differential representation underlies perceivers' improved memory for members of their ingroup, as well as their heightened judgments of diversity and distinctiveness for ingroup targets (Park and Rothbart, 1982; Judd et al., 2005; Boldry et al., 2007). However, research to date has measured representations of racial in- and outgroup members mainly as a function of behavioral responses to in- and outgroup targets (e.g., reaction time differences between different targets; Papesh and Goldinger, 2010).

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73   To the best of our knowledge, no study has directly measured the target-specific representations

74   of members of different groups, which we hypothesize underlie the previously mentioned

75   behavioral results.

76   To bridge this gap, we conducted a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) study

77   that made use of the phenomenon of *repetition suppression*, whereby neural responses to a

78   repeated stimulus are reduced (or suppressed) relative to a sequence of two different stimuli

79   (Gotts et al., 2012). For example, regions of the human brain that respond robustly to faces—

80   such as the fusiform gyrus—will decrease their activity when participants view the same face

81   repeatedly. By contrast, activation in this region will return to typically high levels of activation

82   when a new face is presented (Gilaie-Dotan et al., 2010). Accordingly, this "release from

83   suppression" can be used to measure the degree to which perceivers detect that they have viewed

84   the faces of two different individuals. Thus, our approach extends previous neuroimaging studies

85   that have, for the most part, characterized differences in mean levels of neural activity between

86   social groups (e.g., Golby et al., 2001; Van Bavel et al., 2008; Mathur et al., 2012). Whereas

87   these traditional univariate approaches can offer insights into the localization of neural activity

88   differences in response to social groups, the release from suppression effect, by contrast,

89   characterizes the uniqueness (or similarity) of representations of distinct Black and distinct

90   White faces.

91   Here, we make use of the release-from-suppression logic to examine the representational

92   basis of the outgroup homogeneity effect. Researchers have shown that the fusiform face area

93   (FFA) shows repetition suppression even when participants see a single individual from different

94   angles (Pourtois et al., 2005) or from different distances (Grill-Spector et al., 1999), suggesting

95   that the FFA is sensitive to the identity of an individual rather than the similarity of their

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96   perceptual features. We capitalized on these characteristics to examine whether White perceivers

97   will likewise represent two different Black individuals as more similar to each other than two

98   White individuals. Specifically, we hypothesized that if perceivers individuate ingroup and

99   outgroup faces equally, then we should observe similar release from suppression for two

100   different face identities regardless of their race. However, to the extent that White perceivers are

101   worse at "detecting a difference" between faces of different Black targets, then the FFA should

102   show more suppression when a Black face is followed by a new, different Black face, despite the

103   second face being different from the first (for related approaches, see Vizioli et al., 2010; Hughes

104   et al., 2019). Importantly, only identity-sensitive regions such as the FFA should show the

105   differential suppression for Black faces; face-specific identity-*insensitive* regions (e.g., occipital

106   face area; OFA) should show equivalent suppression for different Black and White faces.

107   To test these predictions, we conducted a behavioral experiment and a pre-registered fMRI

108   study using a repetition suppression paradigm. In each experiment, White participants

109   sequentially viewed pairs of faces that varied in race (Black, White) and gender (woman, man).

110   We matched face categories in perceptual and structural properties (see Materials and Methods).

111   For each pair, participants indicated whether the faces were of the same or different individuals.

112   In some trials, the two faces were identical; in an equal number of trials, the two faces depicted

113   different individuals of the same race and gender. In addition, in one-third of trials in the fMRI

114   experiment, the second face was replaced by a scrambled face-shaped patch; this condition

115   allowed us to establish a difference in baseline neural processing of Black and White faces, and to

116   directly replicate earlier studies (Golby et al., 2001; Van Bavel et al., 2011; Fig 1). Our behavioral

117   pilot studies indicated that participants demonstrated a reliable race effect only for male targets.

118   Therefore, our confirmatory analyses focused on male targets; we report the results of the

119 exploratory analyses for female targets in the supporting information. Notably, most previous

120 studies of the other-race homogeneity effect have included only male targets; here we provide an

121 initial attempt to address this empirical lacuna.

122 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

123 Human participants were recruited from the local community using the Harvard

124 Department of Psychology Study Pool website. All participants provided their informed consent

125 in a manner approved by the Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research at Harvard

126 University.

127 **Experiment 1**. Thirty-eight self-identified White participants completed the Experiment

128 (22 female, 16 male; mean age: 21.00, standard deviation: 2.71, range: 16-29). We excluded one

129 additional participant who failed to respond on time to more than 20% of the trials in the face

130 identification task. We collected the data on a rolling basis (multiple slots per day) with a target

131 sample size of 32 participants. We identified this sample size to be sufficient to achieve a power

132 of 0.8 to detect a hypothesized meaningful effect size estimate (Cohen's d = 0.3, approximately

133 equivalent to η^2_p = 0.03; Cohen, 1988, pp. 276-281) for the interaction contrast of race

134 (Black/White) by condition (repeated/different). Participants completed the Experiment for

135 course credit or financial compensation (US$10).

136 **Experiment 2**. Based on an identical power calculation, we aimed to collect analyzable

137 data from 32 participants. To achieve this goal, we collected data from 38 self-identified White

138 participants. In line with our preregistered exclusion criteria, we excluded six participants prior

139 to data inspection due to lack of response to more than 20% of the trials in the main task. In the

140 main text, we report the results from 29 participants (15 female, 13 male, 1 non-binary; mean

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141 age: 21.97, standard deviation: 3.02, range: 18-28) because we excluded three additional

142 participants whose reaction time or accuracy data were more than 2 standard deviations beyond

143 the sample mean (we report analysis with the full sample in the supporting information—the

144 results do not change). All 32 participants provided adequate data in terms of signal quality, as

145 measured by a slice signal to noise ratio higher than 150 and by having no more than 3 discrete

146 movements larger than 0.5mm. All participants were healthy, right-handed, native English

147 speakers with normal or corrected-to-normal vision and no history of neurological or psychiatric

148 conditions. Participants completed the Experiment for course credit or financial compensation

149 (US$50).

150   **Materials.** We obtained the face images for this study from the Chicago Face Database

151 (CFD) (Ma et al., 2015). We excluded faces that were identified as belonging to their respective

152 racial group by fewer than 60% of the CFD independent raters, and faces that were identified as

153 belonging to their racial group by between 60-75% of CFD raters were reviewed by two

154 additional independent raters (N.R. and K.B.). Of these faces, 12 were excluded for having

155 atypical features for their respective racial group, determined by interrater agreement between

156 the additional raters. Lastly, all faces that were identified by 75% or more of CFD raters as

157 belonging to their respective racial group were individually reviewed. Of these faces, 2 were

158 excluded due to unique/distinctive facial features such as scars, and 3 were excluded due to

159 noticeable artifacts in the image quality. This review process resulted in a final total of 94 Black

160 female faces, 76 Black male faces, 77 White female faces, and 81 White male faces. This

161 allowed us to select a total of 76 unique faces from each category for each participant (we used

162 only 72 faces in Experiment 1 as it required fewer stimuli; see task description below). We

163 converted all images to greyscale, matched them on luminance (separately for foreground and

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164   background) using the SHINE toolbox (Willenbockel et al., 2010) for MATLAB (Mathworks,

165   Natick, MA, USA), cropped them to 1246 by 946 pixels, matched them on spatial frequency

166   using the SHINE toolbox, and finally, resized all photos to 199 by 262 pixels. All face stimuli

167   were presented in a rectangular box that included hair outline (see Figure 1).

168   To confirm that differences among the different categories were not confounded with

169   image similarity, we measured the similarity between images by calculating the Structural

170   Similarity Index (SSIM; Wang et al., 2004). This measure was computed after the experiment

171   was completed. We computed the pairwise SSIM between all images in each category and

172   averaged the SSIM score per image. This resulted in a vector of SSIM scores per category. Black

173   and White men did not significantly differ in their average similarity (0.7169 versus 0.7148,

174   respectively; $t_{(155)} = 0.75$, $p = 0.46$). Black women, however, were less similar to each other

175   compared with White women (0.7012 versus 0.7146, respectively; $t_{(155)} = 5.31$, $p < 0.001$). This

176   difference limits the potential interpretation of our exploratory analyses for female target faces;

177   see Figure 3-5 and discussion below.

178   **Procedure.** We presented all tasks and stimuli via PsychoPy v1.84.2 (Peirce, 2007)

179   running under Mac OS X 10.7 (Experiment 1) or Windows 7 (Experiment 2).

180   **Face repetition suppression task**. During the main task, we presented face images to

181   participants in same-race, same-gender pairs. Experiment 1 included two conditions. In the

182   repeated-face condition, the second face was identical to the first face. In the different-face

183   condition, the second face was different from the first face. Experiment 2 included both the

184   repeated-face condition and the different-face condition, as well as an additional single-face

185   condition, where a single face was followed by a scrambled visual patch in the shape of a face;

186   these pairs were used to establish a baseline. In Experiment 1, participants saw 24 face pairs per

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187   condition for each race (12 pairs for each gender). Experiment 2 included 38 face pairs per

188   condition for each race (19 for each gender).

189   Each trial in the face task began with a face presented for 600 milliseconds, followed by a

190   fixation crosshair presented in the center of the screen for 500 milliseconds. Then, a second face,

191   along with a response prompt, was presented for 600 milliseconds. Lastly, a final fixation

192   crosshair was presented for 300 milliseconds, for a total duration of 2 seconds per trial. A jittered

193   inter-trial interval (range 0-7, mean = 0.55, s.d. = 1.03) then followed (see below). Participants

194   used two fingers of their left hand to indicate, for each pair of faces, whether the second face was

195   the same as or different from the first. Participants provided their response while the second face

196   and response prompt were being presented on screen. The locations of both the first and second

197   faces on the screen included a randomized horizontal offset (within a predetermined range) to

198   minimize the interference of visual after-effects. For each participant, no single face image was

199   used in more than one pair. The specific faces assigned to each of the conditions, as well as their

200   pairings, were randomized between participants.

201   Before beginning the main task, participants practiced the task in order to become

202   acquainted with trial structure and speed. In Experiment 2, participants completed two rounds of

203   practice before entering the fMRI scanner, and then completed an additional practice round after

204   entering the scanner before they started the main task. Face images used in the practice rounds

205   were drawn from the face images that were excluded from the main task stimuli.

206   In Experiment 2, trials were divided into two runs with an equal distribution of conditions

207   between runs. To optimize estimation of the event-related fMRI response, conditions were

208   intermixed in a pseudo-random order and separated by a variable, algorithm-based inter-stimulus

209   interval consisting of a fixation crosshair. We used OptSeq2 (Dale, 1999) to generate sequences

210   optimized for efficiency of the contrast (single>repeated) for a first-order counterbalanced event

211   sequence. Of these sequences, we selected 4 sequences that contained no more than 6

212   consecutive trials of the same race. We randomly assigned (with replacement) an event sequence

213   for each functional run to avoid spurious results attributable to differences between conditions in

214   one specific event sequence (Mumford et al., 2014). Within condition, trials were presented in a

215   unique random order for each participant. During the task, we measured behavioral task

216   performance, including accuracy and response reaction time.

217   **Face functional dynamic localizer task**. After completing the main task, participants in

218   Experiment 2 completed the dynamic localizer task (Pitcher et al., 2011) to localize brain regions

219   associated with the processing of faces. Participants were informed about this task only upon its

220   execution. The dynamic localizer task instructed participants to respond via a button press to

221   dynamic stimuli – short (3 second) movie clips of various categories. The stimuli were grouped

222   into 5 categories: faces, objects, bodies, landscape scenes, and scrambled objects. All faces and

223   bodies belonged to White individuals. We chose these specific stimuli as they have been

224   previously validated in a dynamic task (Pitcher et al., 2011). To the best of our knowledge, no

225   previous studies have validated non-White dynamic face stimuli. Each run was presented in the

226   following structure: first, a fixation crosshair was presented for 18 seconds; then, movie clips

227   were presented back-to-back with no intertrial interval. Movie clips were blocked by category

228   such that each block contained six video clips, of about 3 seconds each, all portraying the same

229   category (e.g., block 1 contained only clips of faces, block 2 contained only clips of objects,

230   etc.). Then, another fixation crosshair was presented for 18 seconds, followed by another series

231   of different video clips organized like the first, but with the order of categories reversed. The run

232   concluded with a final fixation crosshair presented for 18 seconds. Each run lasted 234 seconds,

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233   and there were four runs total. Participants were asked to press a button when they saw a

234   repeated stimulus (a 1-back repetition detection); for each run, there was one repetition within

235   each category. We implemented the task by adapting code written by Matteo Visconti di Oleggio

236   Castello (Castello, 2017).

237   **Post-task behavioral measures.** Upon completion of the face task, participants in

238   Experiment 1 completed a surprise recognition memory task. For this task, two faces were

239   presented side-by-side on a screen, with one face having been presented previously, and one face

240   being completely novel. Thirty-six pairs of faces per race per gender were presented (144 face

241   pairs in total). Participants used 4 keys to indicate which was the previously presented face,

242   given four choices: surely left, maybe left, maybe right, or surely right.

243   Participants in both experiments also completed the following questionnaires and

244   behavioral measures: External and Internal Motivation to Control Prejudice (Plant and Devine,

245   1998), Social Dominance Orientation (Ho et al., 2015), and the Implicit Association Test (IAT;

246   Greenwald et al., 1998) using Black and White faces as target stimuli with positive and negative

247   categories (Nosek et al., 2007). Finally, in order to assess the degree of outgroup contact,

248   participants responded to the following 3 items (all requiring open-ended responses, anchored at

249   0): "How many African-American friends do you have?", "In a typical week, how many times

250   do you meet with African-American friends?", "How many of your close friends or family have

251   African-American friends?". Aside from the recognition memory task, all post-scan behavioral

252   measures and questionnaires were included for the purposes of exploratory analysis, as noted in

253   the preregistration. It is our intent to conduct further studies, and to eventually aggregate the

254   results of these measures across studies once a suitable power is attained.

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255   **fMRI acquisition and preprocessing.** We collected all images with a 3T Siemens

256   Prisma scanner system (Siemens Medical Systems, Erlangen, Germany) using a 64-channel

257   radiofrequency head coil. First, we acquired high-resolution anatomical images using a T1-

258   weighted 3D MPRAGE sequence (TR = 2200 ms, TI = 1100 ms, acquisition matrix = 256 × 256

259   × 176, flip angle = 7, voxel size = 1 × 1 × 1 mm^3). Second, we acquired a fieldmap in the same

260   plane as the functional images (see below) to correct for inhomogeneities in the magnetic field

261   (Cusack and Papadakis, 2002). Next, we collected whole brain functional images using a

262   simultaneous multi-slice (multiband) T2*-weighted gradient echo sequence, sensitive to BOLD

263   contrast, developed at the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research (CMRR) at the University of

264   Minnesota (Feinberg et al., 2010; Moeller et al., 2010; Xu et al., 2013) (TR = 2000 ms, TE = 30

265   ms, voxel size = 2 × 2 × 2 mm^3, 75 slices auto-aligned to -25 degrees of the AC-PC line, image

266   matrix = 104 × 104, FOV = 208 * 208 mm^2, flip angle = 75º, GRAPPA acceleration factor = 2,

267   multiband factor = 3, phase encoding direction = A -> P). Following a short in-scanner practice

268   scan, the face repetition suppression task included two runs consisting of 188 volumes each and

269   was followed by the dynamic face localizer task including four runs, 120 volumes each; all runs

270   were complemented by two additional dummy scans and an initial period of approximately 26

271   seconds dedicated to references for the GRAPPA procedure. The first three volumes from each

272   run (i.e., in addition to dummy scans) were discarded to ensure T1 equilibrium. The last 5

273   volumes from the face repetition suppression runs always included a crosshair fixation to ensure

274   the appropriate estimation of the hemodynamic function for the last events in each run.

275   We conducted rudimentary quality control using the recommendations for the quality

276   control tool implemented at the scanner facility. We used SPM12 version 6225 (Wellcome

277   Department of Cognitive Neurology, London, UK) on a 2015b MATLAB platform (Mathworks,

278   Natick, MA, USA) to process and analyze the fMRI data. We corrected functional data for

279   differences in acquisition time between slices, corrected for inhomogeneities in the magnetic

280   field using the fieldmap (Cusack and Papadakis, 2002), realigned to the first image to correct for

281   head movement using a 2nd degree B-spline interpolation, unwarped to account for residual

282   movement related variance using a 4th degree B-spline interpolation, and co-registered with each

283   participant's anatomical data. Then, we transformed the functional data into a standard

284   anatomical space (2 mm isotropic voxels) based on the ICBM152 brain template (Montreal

285   Neurological Institute). We then spatially smoothed (5 mm full-width at half-maximum, FWHM)

286   normalized data using a Gaussian Kernel.

287   **Statistical Analysis**

288   **Statistical modeling. Behavioral data.** We analyzed reaction time and accuracy data

289   with mixed models as implemented in the lme4 package version 1.1-14 (Bates et al., 2014) for R

290   version 3.4.2 (R Core Team, 2017). To avoid transformation of raw reaction time data, we used

291   generalized linear mixed models (gLMMs) with the inverse Gaussian identity link (Lo and

292   Andrews, 2015). Memory performance in Experiment 1 was analyzed using logit generalized

293   linear mixed models with the binomial link (Jaeger, 2008). We included random effects for the

294   intercepts for participants in all analyses. We added random intercepts for faces and by-

295   participant random slopes for the fixed effect of race if this addition did not result in a

296   convergence failure. Trials that elicited no response (<1.5% of all trials; no difference between

297   conditions) were excluded from reaction time analyses.

298   **Neuroimaging data.** We performed statistical analyses using the general linear model

299   (GLM) that included boxcar functions of variable duration determined per trial by reaction time

300   to target faces (i.e. variable epochs). We chose this analysis approach to control for effects of

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301   reaction time on the neural response (Grinband et al., 2008). We set the onset of the boxcar

302   function to the onset of prime face presentation on each trial. We deviated from the preregistered

303   protocol by modeling single-face trials as a boxcar function with a fixed duration of 600ms (the

304   duration of presentation for the first face, rather than reaction time to target face) to capture true

305   baseline activity for a single face. The reported results replicated when we conducted the

306   analyses without this deviation (see Fig. 3-3).

307   The model included six conditions per gender (2 races by 3 conditions: repeated faces,

308   different faces, single face). We modeled trials that elicited no response in a separate regressor,

309   and all regressors of interest were convolved with a canonical hemodynamic response function

310   and its temporal derivative. The final first-level GLM was high-pass filtered at 128 s and

311   included nuisance regressors specifying the six motion parameters calculated during the motion

312   correction procedures, their temporal derivative, and a session mean per run. Preregistered

313   validation analyses were conducted with an additional model that included an additional separate

314   regressor for trials in which participants erred (Fig. 3-2).

315   **Regions of interest (ROIs).** We defined ROIs independently from the task localizer data

316   by the Group-Constrained Subject-Specific method (Julian et al., 2012) as implemented in the

317   spm_ss toolbox (Nieto-Castañón and Fedorenko, 2012). Briefly, this method was designed to

318   discover regions that are systematically activated across participants and to define the borders

319   around and between each of these regions. This method identifies key "parcels" within which

320   most participants show activation for the contrast of interest. The selection of functional ROIs

321   for individual participants is then accomplished by intersecting each individual participant's

322   localizer activation map with each of the parcels, thus defining functional ROIs in each

323   individual participant in a fully algorithmic fashion. We applied this method to generate ROIs

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324   that responded to faces over all other categories (the face versus other contrasts; see Figure 3-6

325   for the full results of this procedure). We then extracted average parameter estimates across

326   voxels from each participant-specific functional ROI using in-house scripts. We analyzed the

327   data using a within-participant 2 (race) by 3 (condition) ANOVA as implemented by afex

328   package (Singmann et al., 2018) for R, version 0.22-1, and plotted the results using the package

329   ggstatsplot (Patil, 2018), version 0.2.0, and the package dabestr (Ho et al., 2019), version 0.2.2.

330   **Statistical inference.** For the main analysis of interest (hypotheses 5 and 6 in the

331   preregistration), we focused on the race by condition interaction, with specific focus on two

332   separate interaction contrasts. One interaction contrast tested activation differences between the

333   single-face condition and the repeated-face condition as a function of race, and another

334   interaction contrast tested activation differences between the single-face condition and the

335   different-face condition as a function of race. Follow up simple effects models (one model per

336   condition) tested differences between responses to repeated and different faces separately for

337   Black and White faces. To demonstrate no difference between conditions, we performed an

338   equivalence test using the equivalence package for R, version 0.7.2 (Robinson, 2016).

339   **Open Practices.** Experiment 1 was not formally preregistered. All data collection

340   procedures and analytic choices for Experiment 2 were preregistered on the Open Science

341   Framework (OSF; https://osf.io/cw4dj/). We explicitly report any deviations from preregistration

342   in the manuscript and extended data. All de-identified data and code are freely available on the

343   Open Science Framework (https://osf.io/6z5cj/).

344   **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

345   **Experiment 1.** In Experiment 1, we used a combination of memory and reaction time

346   measures to validate our paradigm. Thirty-eight White participants first viewed 96 repeated or

347   different face pairs (24 per gender, per race). Subsequently, these participants completed a

348   surprise memory task in which they saw pairs of faces—with one previously seen face and one

349   new face in each pair— and indicated which face they had previously viewed. Because pilot

350   testing demonstrated that participants show the effect only for male targets, we report analyses

351   limited to these faces (see Fig. 1-1 for analysis of behavioral responses to female faces). In line

352   with previous studies, participants were more likely to accurately remember faces of White men

353   (61.6% correct) than faces of Black men (55.1% correct; odds ratio [OR] = 1.16, *Wald's z* =

354   3.005, *p* = 0.003; see Fig. 2b for full results). In addition, in the face repetition task, participants

355   were quicker to identify different White faces as different (mean: $451 \pm$ S.E.: 7ms) than different

356   Black faces ($475 \pm$ 7ms; *t* = 3.664, *p* < 0.001), but they identified Black and White repeated faces

357   as identical equally fast ($419 \pm$ 7ms versus $424 \pm$ 7ms for Black and White faces, respectively; *t*

358   = 0.568, *p* > 0.5; interaction model comparison: $\chi_{(1)}$ = 16.89, *p* < 0.001; see Fig. 2a). In other

359   words, participants showed reduced memory and slower responses for male outgroup faces,

360   particularly when they viewed two different individuals from each group. This suggests that

361   although perceivers can successfully process a target from an outgroup if they see it repeatedly,

362   they treat different outgroup faces as more homogenous to one another relative to different

363   ingroup faces.

364   **Experiment 2.** Participants in Experiment 1 demonstrated a behavioral outgroup

365   homogeneity effect in the repetition paradigm. To examine neural representation differences

366   between the groups, Experiment 2 included 29 White participants who performed the task while

367   undergoing fMRI scanning. We used a separate face localizer task (Pitcher et al., 2011) to

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368   identify *a priori* regions-of-interest (ROIs) in right fusiform gyrus (FFA) and right occipital

369   cortex (OFA; see Fig. 3a). We did not identify a robust cluster in a third hypothesized ROI, the

370   anterior temporal lobe; see Materials and Methods for details of localization procedure (Julian et

371   al., 2012).

372   We then examined patterns of repetition suppression for repeated and different faces. For

373   each condition of interest (repeated and different faces), we computed the differences from

374   baseline (single face) for Black and White targets. In line with our preregistration and

375   Experiment 1, we report the results for male targets only (see Figure 3-5 for results for female

376   targets). When a second face was identical to the first, activation in FFA was suppressed to an

377   equivalent degree for both Black and White faces [repetition effect: $F_{(1,28)} = 160.20$, $MSE = 4.83$,

378    $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.85$; interaction effect: $F_{(1,28)} = 1.34$, $MSE = 0.82$, $p = 0.26$, $\eta^2_p = 0.05$;

379   equivalence test for the two repetition effects (mean difference: 0.39): $p = 0.04$, equivalence

380   interval (-0.96, 0.18)]. In other words, perceivers showed similar levels of suppression in FFA

381   when faces were repeated, regardless of race. By contrast, FFA was released from suppression

382   when the second face differed from the first—but only for White faces. We observed more

383   release from suppression for White faces than for Black faces, suggesting that participants

384   perceived White faces—but not Black faces— as representing different individuals [repetition

385   effect: $F_{(1,28)} = 13.16$, $MSE = 0.57$, $p = 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.32$; interaction between repeating and

386   different faces: $F_{(1,28)} = 7.64$, $MSE = 0.37$, $p = 0.01$, $\eta^2_p = 0.21$; see Fig. 3b]. Remarkably, we

387   observed similar levels of repetition suppression for two different Black individuals as for two

388   identical faces [equivalence test for suppression of different and repeated Black faces (mean

389   difference: 0.24): $p < 0.001$, (-0.52, 0.04)], which suggests that participants did not consistently

390   perceive the two photographs to represent distinct individuals.

18

391   This pattern of results was selective for the FFA, which is thought to be the earliest visual

392   area that encodes the unique identity of faces, rather than just their distinct perceptual features

393   (Duchaine and Yovel, 2015). Patterns of repetition suppression did not vary for different Black

394   and White faces in either the OFA ($F_{(1,28)}$ = 0.46, MSE = 3.62, p = 0.50, η^2_p = 0.02) or primary

395   visual cortex ($F_{(1,21)}$ < 0.01, MSE = 5.28, p > 0.99, η^2_p < 0.001) (see Fig. 4). Finally, results were

396   robust across several pre-registered analytic variations, including analyses with excluded

397   participants as well as when excluding trials that were answered incorrectly (see Materials and

398   Methods and Figs. 3-1, 3-2 and 3-3). Together, these findings suggest that the FFA (but not

399   lower-level visual regions) processes racial outgroup individuals as more similar to each other

400   relative to ingroup individuals.

401   The present results expand on previous investigations in several important ways. First,

402   most studies of the other-race or the other-group effect have documented increased univariate

403   activity in the FFA in response to own-group faces compared to faces from a different social

404   group (Golby et al., 2001; Kim et al., 2006; Van Bavel et al., 2008, 2011; Feng et al., 2011; for a

405   review, see Molenberghs and Louis, 2018). However, mean activity level can be susceptible to

406   multiple moderators, including attention and motivation. Indeed, a recent study demonstrated

407   that participants who experience resource scarcity demonstrate reduced FFA activity for Black

408   faces and increased FFA activity for White faces (Krosch and Amodio, 2019). Thus, mean FFA

409   activity can reflect the influence of contextual factors on face perception, rather than measure the

410   representations underlying the perceived face. Here, instead of analyzing mean activity, we

411   utilize the robust phenomenon of repetition suppression to demonstrate that the FFA utilizes a

412   similar representation for different outgroup – but not ingroup – faces.

413   Our approach also complements a recent demonstration of differential release from

414   suppression for Black and White targets (Hughes et al., 2019). One outstanding issue concerns

415   the demonstration of the repetition effect. In their study, Hughes and colleagues compared blocks

416   of repeated faces to blocks of faces morphed to different degrees, which assumes equivalent

417   magnitude of neural activity for repeated White and Black faces without explicitly accounting

418   for it. By contrast, our paradigm allowed us to quantify neural activity for baseline, repeated, and

419   different face trials for Black and White faces separately, providing a straightforward index of

420   repetition suppression and release from suppression. Second, we observed behavioral and neural

421   outgroup homogeneity effects within the same paradigm, whereas Hughes and colleagues

422   demonstrated neural and behavioral effects in disparate paradigms. Third, we adopted a subject-

423   specific ROI selection approach and included exploratory analyses of female faces. Thus, our

424   pre-registered study provides a substantial extension of the existing literature by (i) conceptually

425   replicating prior work (Hughes et al., 2019), thereby bolstering our confidence in the reliability

426   of this effect, and (ii) providing further evidence for representation-based accounts of the other-

427   race homogeneity effect (see also Yaros et al., 2019). Notably, neither of these findings speak to

428   the developmental origins of the effect. Specifically, individuals continuously absorb information

429   from their environment, and their social behaviors and representations undoubtedly update as a

430   function of this input (Rule et al., 2013). Thus, our findings cannot indicate whether the

431   differences we observed stem from innate processes or, alternatively, were acquired throughout

432   participants' lifetimes.

433   Our findings have two potential limitations. First, we observed the effects only for male

434   and not for female targets (see Fig. 3 and 3-5). One possibility is that women are less likely to be

435   targets of the outgroup homogeneity effect. These findings accord with a broader literature

20

436   documenting that outgroup men are more likely targets of intergroup discrimination and harm

437   than are women (e.g., Social Dominance Theory (Sidanius and Pratto, 2001) and the Theory of

438   Gendered Prejudice (Sidanius et al., 2019), both highlighting the importance of gender as a

439   moderator in intergroup relations). These findings could also indicate that representations in the

440   FFA reflect multiple categorical geometries, including race, gender, and their interaction

441   (Freeman et al., 2018). That said, we found that images of Black female targets in our task were

442   more different from each other (with regard to image properties) than the other conditions. Thus,

443   a third possibility is that increased variability made different Black female faces more

444   distinguishable. Rather than omit female faces from the paradigm like so many other studies of

445   this phenomenon, the current investigation included female targets to help start building a

446   knowledge base to adjudicate among these competing explanations. A second limitation of our

447   study is that it was constrained to White perceivers; nevertheless, given the robustness of the

448   outgroup homogeneity effect across groups and cultures (Wan et al., 2015; Kokje et al., 2018),

449   these results are likely to generalize to additional groups and targets (e.g., Asian perceivers

450   viewing White faces). Testing this hypothesis remains a goal for future studies.

451   Many theories of human sociality begin with the assumption that perceivers can keep

452   track of others' reputation by correctly identifying and later remembering what they did, and to

453   whom they did it. Nevertheless, humans routinely fail to engage in such basic social cognition

454   for outgroup members, in large part because perceivers do not consistently distinguish among

455   individual members of such outgroups (especially those delineated by race and ethnicity). This

456   outgroup homogeneity effect undermines one of the basic starting conditions of human

457   (pro)sociality, in that it forestalls the ability to identify individuals with a unique set of past

458   actions and behavioral tendencies. Here, we suggest that the potential origins of the outgroup

21

459 homogeneity effect lie in failures of visual processing to form distinct representations of

460 individual members of outgroups—something that it nevertheless accomplishes exquisitely for

461 members of one's own social groups.

462

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613

FIGURE LEGENDS

615 **Figure 1**. Task design. In the fMRI scanner, participants viewed face pairs from different races
616 (Black, White) and genders (women, men) and decided if the two faces belonged to the same
617 individual. Participants saw each face for 600ms and responded when the second face was on
618 screen. Faces were presented with a random horizontal jitter to prevent low-level suppression
619 effects. The design included three face pair conditions for each combination of race and gender.
620 Participants saw (a) a face followed by a scrambled visual patch in the shape of a face in the
621 single condition (i.e., baseline trials; we included this condition only in Experiment 2); (b) a face
622 followed by the same face in the repeated-face condition; and (c) a face followed by a different
623 face (matched in gender and race) in the different-face condition. We report the behavioral
624 results in Figures 2 (male targets) and 1-1 (female targets).

625 **Figure 2**. Reaction time and memory performance for male faces in Experiments 1 and 2. All
626 panels depict estimates computed by generalized linear mixed models, as detailed in the Methods
627 section. (a) In the face repetition task in Experiment 1, participants responded faster to repeated
628 faces ($t = 11.33$, $p < 0.001$). This effect was qualified by an interaction with Race, such that
629 participants responded faster to different White individuals compared to different Black
630 individuals (see main text for inferential statistics). (b) In a 2-alternative forced-choice test,
631 participants in Experiment 1 indicated their memory by selecting the individual they thought was
632 presented in the face repetition task. All trials included one previously presented individual
633 ('old') and one never-before-seen individual ('new'). Participants remembered old White targets
634 better than old Black targets (odds ratio [OR] = 1.16, *Wald's z* = 3.005, $p = 0.003$). We did not
635 observe a significant effect of type of repetition on memory (OR = 1.07, *Wald's z* = 1.48, $p =$
636 0.14) or of the interaction of repetition with race (OR = 1.05, *Wald's z* = 1.09, $p = 0.28$). (c)
637 Experiment 2 included an additional condition—single faces—to facilitate comparison of
638 repetition suppression to baseline neural activity for each race. Race did not affect reaction time
639 in the single-face condition ($t = 1.04$, $p = 0.300$). When analyzing only face-pair trials (omitting
640 the single face trials), participants responded faster to repeated faces ($t = 2.46$, $p = 0.014$), an
641 effect that was qualified by an interaction, replicating the results of Experiment 1 (interaction
642 model comparison: $\chi_{(1)} = 15.095$, $p < 0.001$): participants were slower to respond to different
643 Black faces compared to different White faces ($t = 2.48$, $p = 0.013$). Unexpectedly, participants
644 in Experiment 2 were also slower to respond to repeated White faces compared to repeated Black
645 faces ($t = 3.29$, $p < 0.001$). Note that unlike Experiment 1, the correct response key in
646 Experiment 2 was imbalanced between the conditions; we assigned the same key to single and
647 different conditions to simplify the task, hence assigning the same correct response key to two
648 thirds of the trials. This design choice probably slowed the responses to repeated trials, as
649 participants had to use an infrequent key to respond correctly to these trials. This, in turn, might
650 have made responses to repeated targets more difficult—a difficulty that manifested particularly
651 strongly for White targets. Error bars indicate standard error of the mean.

652 **Figure 3**. Results of the dynamic face localizer task and repetition suppression parameter
653 estimates extracted from the FFA. (a) The spatial extent of the key ROIs of interest, the FFA and
654 the OFA, presented as degree of spatial overlap between participants in normalized space. We

generated these ROIs with the Group-Constrained-Subject-Specific (GcSS) approach (Julian et al., 2012) for the contrast of Faces > Other Categories at the level of each individual participant. See Figure 3-6 for a table listing the full ROI list. (b) Repetition suppression parameter estimates in the FFA for different-face and repeated-face pairs for Black and White male faces. Upper panel: To present repetition suppression effects, we subtracted neural activity in response to single faces (baseline) from the neural response to the different conditions (Differ, Repeat), separately for each race (Black, White). Negative values indicate neural suppression compared to baseline. Across all figures, individual dots represent neural suppression for unique participants. Each figure also visualizes the mean of each condition (as a red dot), the median (solid horizontal line) and 1st and 3rd quartiles (boxplot). Lower panel: mean effect size (the difference in suppression effect) and the bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals for the comparison between Black and White targets in each condition. The results demonstrate more release from suppression (i.e., less negative values) for different White targets compared to different Black targets, but no difference in suppression for repeating Black and White targets. This pattern suggests that the FFA forms unique representations for different individuals, but only for members of one's own racial group. We report the results of the parallel analysis in the OFA and visual cortex in Figure 4. Figures 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, and 3-4 demonstrate the robustness of the effect to different analytic strategies. In Figure 3-5 we report the results of the main analysis with female faces. ** p < 0.01

Figure 4. Repetition suppression results for repeated and different Black and White targets for the OFA and primary visual cortex (see Materials and Methods for additional details on analysis approach). To plot suppression effects (upper panel), we subtracted neural activity in response to single faces (baseline) from the neural response to the other experimental conditions (Different, Repeated), separately for each race (Black, White). Negative values indicate neural suppression compared to baseline. The lower panel depicts effect size estimate (the difference in suppression effect) and the bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals for the comparison between Black and White targets in each condition. (a) The OFA demonstrated robust repetition suppression for repeated and different faces ($F_{(1,28)}$ = 245.88, MSE = 12.06, $p < 0.001$, η^2_p = 0.90 and $F_{(1,28)}$ = 247.03, MSE = 10.13, $p < 0.001$, η^2_p = 0.90 for repeated and different targets, respectively). The OFA showed some release from suppression for different faces ($F_{(1,28)}$ = 9.93, MSE = 1.98, p = 0.004, η^2_p = 0.26), but we found no indication for an effect of race on suppression for repeated or different targets ($F_{(1,28)}$ = 0.04, MSE = 3.88, p = 0.85, η^2_p = 0.001 and $F_{(1,28)}$ = 0.46, MSE = 3.62, p = 0.50, η^2_p = 0.02, respectively). Thus, the OFA was not sensitive to the group features of the different faces. (b) Primary visual cortex (including V1) served as a control condition. No effects were observed in this region (all $F's$ <1.4, all $p's$ > 0.2).

Figure 1-1. Reaction time and memory performance for female faces in Experiments 1 and 2. All panels depict estimates computed by generalized linear mixed models, as detailed in the Materials and Methods section. (a) Participants in Experiment 1 were faster to respond to repeated faces than to different faces (t = 8.43, $p < 0.001$). However, unlike responses for male faces, there was no evidence for an effect of Race (t = 0.34, p = 0.74) nor for an interaction of Race with type of Repetition (interaction model comparison: $\chi_{(1)}$ = 1.93, p = 0.16, suggesting that a model with no interaction term provides a better fit to the data). This pattern hints that Black

698   female faces were individuated to the same extent as White female faces. When we included all
699   trials to test a full model of the data, with the fixed effects of Race, Repetition, and Gender, we
700   observed a significant three-way interaction (model comparison: $\chi_{(4)} = 10.67$, $p = 0.031$),
701   confirming the difference in individuation between male and female faces. (b) Unlike male faces,
702   participants were *not* more likely to remember White female faces compared to Black female
703   faces (OR = 1.004, *Wald's z* = 0.09, $p = 0.93$). Participants were more likely to remember
704   repeated faces compared to different faces (OR = 1.10, *Wald's z* = 2.20, $p = 0.028$) with no
705   interaction with Race (OR = 1.02, *Wald's z* = 0.456, $p = 0.65$). However, we did not observe a
706   statistically significant three-way interaction effect for gender when it was inserted into the
707   model ($\chi_{(4)} = 6.88$, $p = 0.14$). (c) Similar to responses to male faces, participants in Experiment 2
708   responded faster to single face trials (model comparison: $\chi_{(2)} = 111.42$, $p < 0.001$). However,
709   unlike response times for male faces, we did not observe a robust effect of Race ($t = 1.97$, $p =$
710   0.049) nor an interaction of Race and Repetition (model comparison: $\chi_{(2)} = 1.03$, $p = 0.597$; we
711   obtained similar results when omitting the single condition from the analysis). As in Experiment
712   1, when we included the fixed effects of Race, Repetition, and Gender in the model, we observed
713   a significant triple interaction (model comparison: $\chi_{(4)} = 27.84$, $p < 0.001$), once again confirming
714   the difference in processing between male and female faces. Error bars indicate standard error of
715   the mean.

716   **Figure 3-1.** Repetition suppression parameter estimates for the FFA, OFA and primary visual
717   cortex for analyses including participants we excluded in the main text (N=32). Upper panel:
718   repetition effects for all individuals. Lower panel: effect size estimate and the bootstrapped 95%
719   confidence intervals for the comparison between Black and White targets in each condition.
720   Overall, results replicate with this sample (compare to Figure 3b and Figure 4). (a) FFA results.
721   Activation in FFA was suppressed to nearly an equivalent degree for both Black and White
722   repeated targets [repetition effect: $F_{(1,31)} = 167.86$, $MSE = 5.32$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.84$; interaction
723   effect: $F_{(1,31)} = 1.50$, $MSE = 0.98$, $p = 0.23$, $\eta^2_p = 0.05$; equivalence test for the two repetition
724   effects (mean difference: 0.43): p = 0.056, equivalence interval (-1.02, 0.16)]. FFA also showed
725   more release from suppression for White targets than for Black targets [$F_{(1,31)} = 11.96$, $MSE =$
726   0.56, $p = 0.002$, $\eta^2_p = 0.31$; interaction between repeated and different faces: $F_{(1,31)} = 3.35$, MSE
727    $= 0.57$, $p = 0.08$, $\eta^2_p = 0.10$]. And again, similar to the main findings, we observed statistically
728   equivalent levels of repetition suppression for different and repeated Black targets [equivalence
729   test (mean difference: 0.46): $p = 0.005$, (-0.80, -0.12)]. (b) The OFA demonstrated robust
730   repetition suppression for repeated and different faces ($F_{(1,31)} = 273.17$, $MSE = 11.83$, $p < 0.001$,
731    $\eta^2_p = 0.90$ and $F_{(1,31)} = 261.09$, $MSE = 10.37$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.89$ for repeated and different
732   trials, respectively). The OFA showed some release from suppression for different faces ($F_{(1,31)} =$
733   12.43, $MSE = 1.87$, $p = 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.29$), but no indication for an effect of race on any of these
734   results ($F_{(1,31)} = 0.05$, $MSE = 3.59$, $p = 0.83$, $\eta^2_p = 0.002$ and $F_{(1,31)} = 0.28$, $MSE = 3.39$, $p = 0.50$,
735    $\eta^2_p = 0.009$ for repeated and different targets, respectively). Thus, the OFA was not sensitive to
736   the group features of the different faces. (c) We did not observe any effects in the primary visual
737   cortex, again replicating the principal analysis (all *F's* <2.02, all *p's* > 0.17).

738

739 **Figure 3-2.** Repetition suppression parameter estimates for the FFA, OFA and primary visual
740 cortex for analyses excluding targets that participants incorrectly classified (pre-registered
741 complementary analysis; N=29). Upper panel: repetition effects for all individuals. Lower panel:
742 effect size estimate and the bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals for the comparison between
743 Black and White targets in each condition. As with the previous analysis, results replicate the
744 main findings. (a) FFA results. Activation in FFA was suppressed to nearly an equivalent degree
745 for both Black and White repeated faces [repetition effect: $F_{(1,28)} = 180.11$, $MSE = 4.56$, $p <$
746 0.001, $\eta^2_p = 0.87$; interaction effect: $F_{(1,28} = 0.28$, $MSE = 1.60$, $p = 0.60$, $\eta^2_p = 0.01$; equivalence
747 test for the two repetition effects (mean difference: 0.25): p = 0.0598, equivalence interval (-
748 1.05, 0.55)]. FFA also showed more release from suppression for White targets than for Black
749 targets [$F_{(1,28)} = 6.94$, $MSE = 0.60$, $p = 0.01$, $\eta^2_p = 0.20$; interaction between repeated and
750 different faces: $F_{(1,28)} = 2.01$, $MSE = 0.94$, $p = 0.17$, $\eta^2_p = 0.07$]. And again, similar to the main
751 findings, we observed statistically equivalent levels of repetition suppression for different and
752 repeated Black targets [equivalence test (mean difference: 0.47): $p = 0.036$, (-0.95, 0.02)]. (b)
753 The OFA demonstrated robust repetition suppression for repeated and different faces ($F_{(1,28)} =$
754 233.52, $MSE = 12.73$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.89$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 267.83$, $MSE = 9.52$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p =$
755 0.91 for repeated and different trials, respectively). The OFA showed some release from
756 suppression for different faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 4.70$, $MSE = 3.46$, $p = 0.04$, $\eta^2_p = 0.14$). As before, race
757 did not interact with suppression for repeated or different faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 0.99$, $MSE = 7.52$, $p =$
758 0.33, $\eta^2_p = 0.03$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 0.08$, $MSE = 4.51$, $p = 0.78$, $\eta^2_p = 0.003$ for repeated and different
759 targets, respectively). Thus, once again, the OFA was not sensitive to the group features of the
760 different faces. (c) We did not observe any effects in the primary visual cortex, again replicating
761 the principal analysis (all $F's < 1.13$, all $p's > 0.30$).

762 **Figure 3-3**. Parameter estimates for the FFA, OFA and primary visual cortex for the original
763 pre-registered analysis, in which we erroneously modelled single target trials with variable
764 durations based on participants' reaction time to the scrambled image that followed the single
765 face (N=29). Upper panel: repetition effects for all individuals. Lower panel: effect size estimate
766 and the bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals for the comparison between Black and White
767 targets in each condition. As in all previous analyses, we plot neural activity by subtracting the
768 response to single faces (baseline) from the neural response to the different conditions (Different,
769 Repeated), separately for each race (Black, White). Parameter estimates in this analysis are
770 positive and no longer reflect suppression, as the baseline in this analysis reflects the neural
771 activity in response to the scrambled image - rather than an actual face. This response was
772 naturally weaker in face-sensitive regions. Nonetheless, overall pattern of results replicated the
773 principal analysis. (a) FFA results. Activation was different from baseline to an equivalent
774 degree for Black and White repeated faces [repetition effect: $F_{(1,28)} = 51.79$, $MSE = 0.35$, $p <$
775 0.001, $\eta^2_p = 0.65$; interaction effect: $F_{(1,28} = 0.15$, $MSE = 0.50$, $p = 0.70$, $\eta^2_p = 0.005$; equivalence
776 test for the two repetition effects (mean difference: 0.10): p = 0.001, equivalence interval (-0.55,
777 0.34)]. FFA also showed more difference from baseline for White targets than for Black targets
778 [$F_{(1,28)} = 6.74$, $MSE = 0.31$, $p = 0.01$, $\eta^2_p = 0.19$; interaction between repeated and different faces:
779 $F_{(1,28)} = 3.65$, $MSE = 0.38$, $p = 0.07$, $\eta^2_p = 0.12$]. And again, similar to the main findings, we
780 observed statistically equivalent levels of difference from baseline for different and repeated
781 Black targets [equivalence test (mean difference: 0.28): $p < 0.001$, (-0.55, -0.003)]. (b) The OFA

782 demonstrated difference from baseline only for different and not for repeated faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 2.48$,

783 $MSE = 1.48$, $p = 0.13$, $\eta^2_p = 0.08$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 28.66$, $MSE = 1.26$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.51$ for

784 repeated and different trials, respectively). The difference between OFA response to different

785 and repeated faces was significant ($F_{(1,28)} = 8.67$, $MSE = 1.94$, $p = 0.006$, $\eta^2_p = 0.24$). As before,

786 race did not interact with difference from baseline for repeated or different faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 0.55$,

787 $MSE = 1.42$, $p = 0.47$, $\eta^2_p = 0.02$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 0.99$, $MSE = 1.26$, $p = 0.33$, $\eta^2_p = 0.03$,

788 respectively). Thus, the OFA was not sensitive to the group features of the different faces. (c)

789 We did not observe any effects of race or interaction with race in the primary visual cortex, again

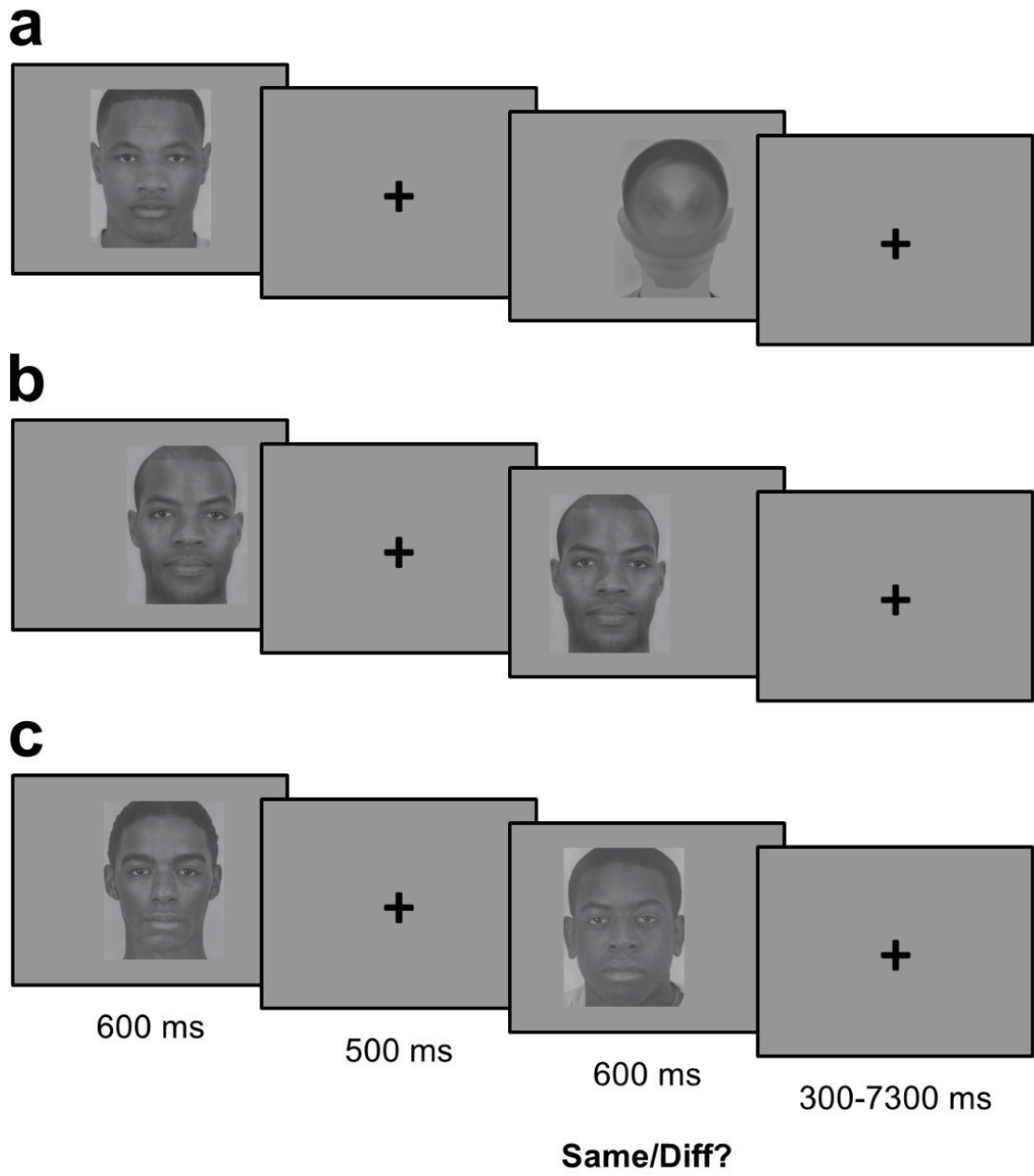790 replicating the principal analysis (all $F's < 2.13$, all $p's > 0.16$).

791 **Figure 3-4.** Parameter estimates in the (a) FFA and (b) OFA for the three experimental

792 conditions for Black and White male faces (without correcting for differences in baseline

793 activity). Upper panels: Neural activity in response to the different conditions (Single, Different,

794 Repeated), separately for each race (Black, White). Individual dots represent neural activity for

795 unique participants. Vertical lines (presented in parallel to the scatter plot) depict the mean and

796 standard deviation for each condition. Lower panel: mean effect size (the repetition suppression

797 effect) and the bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals for the comparison between type of

798 repetition and single-face targets for each race. See Figure 3 and main text for statistical
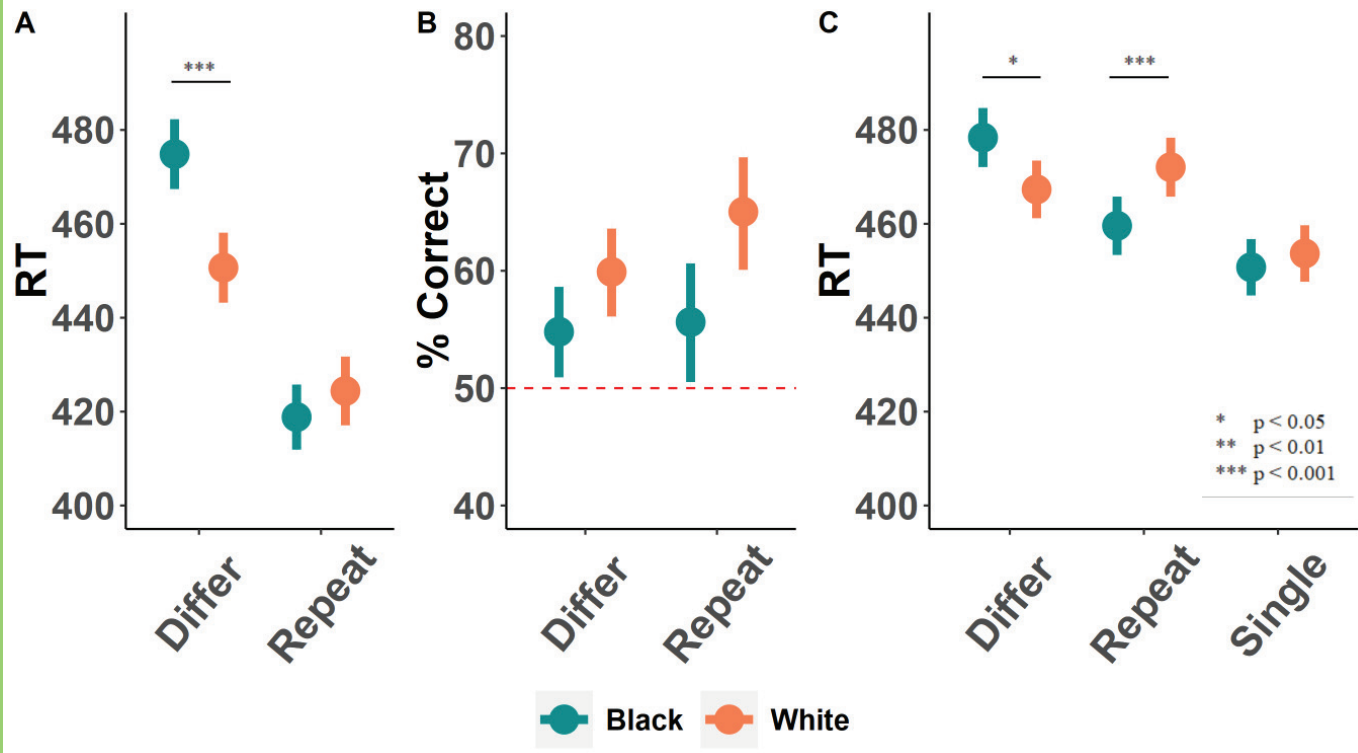
799 analyses.

800 **Figure 3-5.** Repetition suppression results for <u>female</u> targets for the FFA, OFA and primary

801 visual cortex using the analysis reported in the main manuscript (compare to results for male

802 targets in Figure 3b and Figure 4). We subtracted neural activity in response to single faces

803 (baseline) from the neural response to the different conditions (Different, Repeated), separately

804 for each race (Black, White) (upper panel). The lower panel depicts effect size estimate (the

805 difference in suppression effect) and the bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals for the

806 comparison between Black and White targets in each condition. (a) The FFA demonstrated

807 robust repetition suppression for repeated and different faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 392.66$, $MSE = 2.48$, $p <$

808 0.001, $\eta^2_p = 0.93$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 290.91$, $MSE = 2.66$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.91$ for repeated and

809 different trials, respectively). The FFA also demonstrated release from suppression for different

810 faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 14.66$, $MSE = 0.78$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.34$), an effect that was qualified by an

811 interaction with race ($F_{(1,28)} = 6.76$, $MSE = 0.38$, $p = 0.01$, $\eta^2_p = 0.19$). However, the FFA did not

812 show significant simple effects (i.e., differences in suppression) between Black and White

813 female targets ($F_{(1,28)} = 2.41$, $MSE = 1.58$, $p = 0.13$, $\eta^2_p = 0.08$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 0.08$, $MSE = 1.51$, $p =$

814 0.77, $\eta^2_p = 0.003$ for repeated and different faces, respectively). As we did not have an a priori

815 hypothesis for female targets. we cannot offer a reliable interpretation of these results. (b) Much

816 like for male targets, the OFA demonstrated robust repetition suppression for repeated and

817 different faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 517.23$, $MSE = 6.92$, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.95$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 371.93$, $MSE =$

818 8.28, $p < 0.001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.93$ for repeated and different trials, respectively). The OFA showed some

819 release from suppression for different faces ($F_{(1,28)} = 6.70$, $MSE = 2.79$, $p = 0.02$, $\eta^2_p = 0.19$), but

820 no indication of an effect of race on any of these results ($F_{(1,28)} = 3.25$, $MSE = 4.84$, $p = 0.08$, η^2_p

821 $= 0.10$ and $F_{(1,28)} = 2.08$, $MSE = 4.71$, $p = 0.16$, $\eta^2_p = 0.07$ for repeated and different targets).

822 Thus, as for male targets, the OFA was not sensitive to the group features of the different female

823 faces. (c) Primary visual cortex (including V1) results. No effects were observed in this region

824 (all $F's$ <1.2, all $p's$ > 0.2). Overall, we did not observe any neural evidence for the outgroup
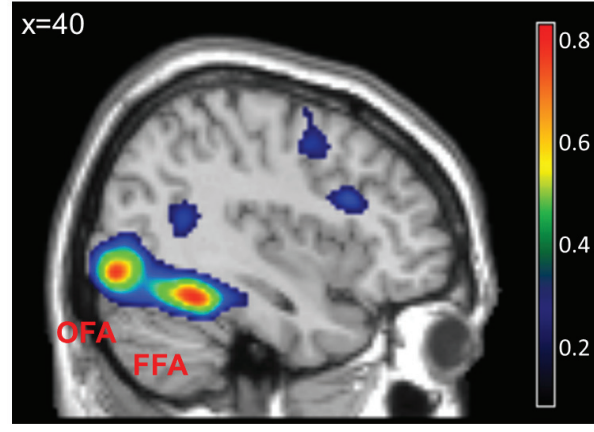825 homogeneity effect for female targets, paralleling the behavioral results.

826 **Figure 3-6**. Results from the main functional ROI analysis (Group-Constrained Subject-Specific;
827 GcSS; see Materials and Methods). For each ROI, the GcSS algorithm defines a parcel to
828 intersect with activation for each individual participant, thus reliably identifying the same
829 functional ROIs in all participants. We conducted the GcSS analyses with the contrast of Faces >
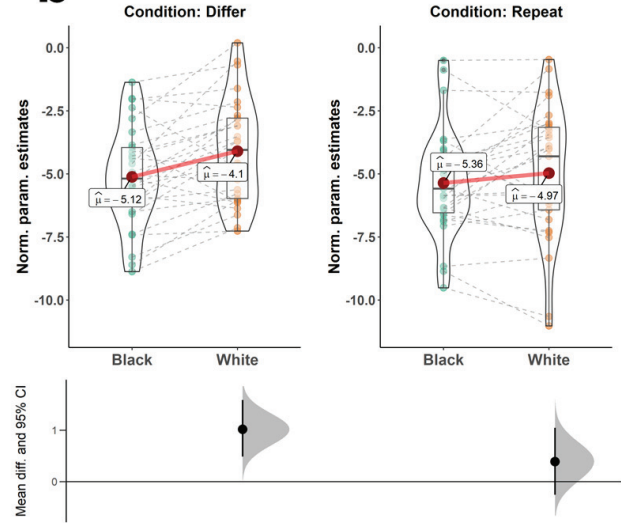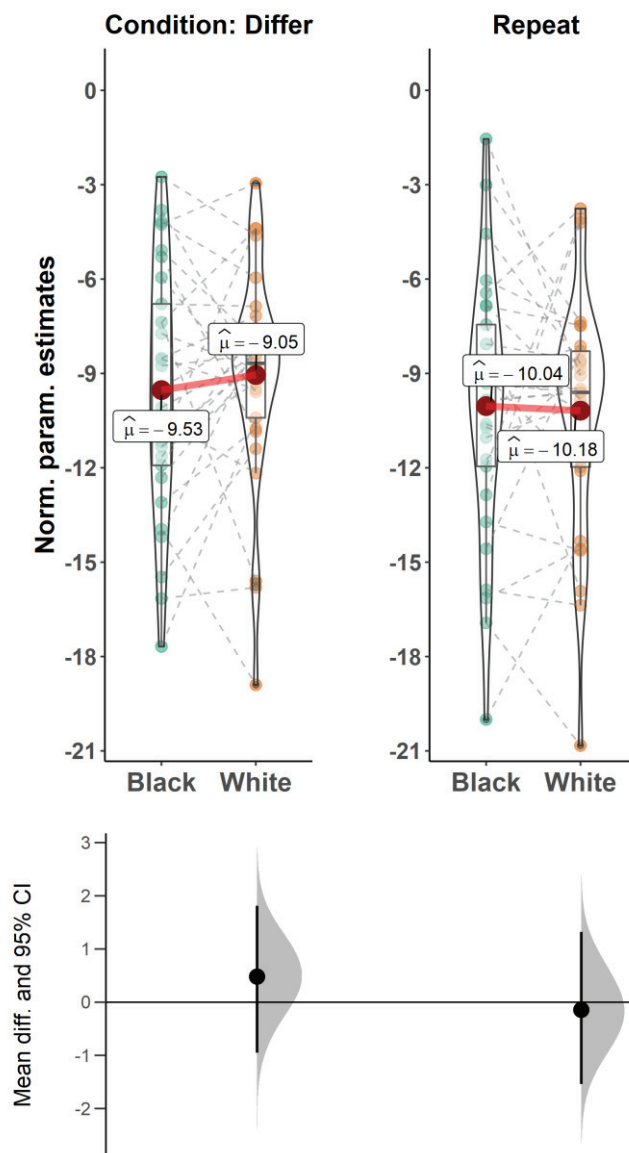830 Other Categories in independent localizer scans. A priori ROIs are presented in italics.

831

a

b

c

600 ms   500 ms   600 ms   300-7300 ms

Same/Diff?

A

B

C

* p < 0.05
** p < 0.01
*** p < 0.001

Black   White

a

b

a **OFA**

Condition: Differ | Repeat

$\hat{\mu} = -9.05$
$\hat{\mu} = -9.53$
$\hat{\mu} = -10.04$
$\hat{\mu} = -10.18$

Black White | Black White

Norm. param. estimates

Mean diff. and 95% CI

b **Primary Vis**

Differ | Repeat

$\hat{\mu} = 0.08$
$\hat{\mu} = 0.08$
$\hat{\mu} = 0.12$
$\hat{\mu} = 0.22$

Black White | Black White