Q-STEP SUMMER INTERNSHIPS 2021

MCI - Do gendered stereotypes of race shape patterns of discrimination and aggression against Asian and Black men? A 'Big Data' social media analysis

Organisation and Team

Manchester China Institute: MCI Research Lab

Lee Kai Hung Bld 178 Waterloo Place, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL.

Selection Method

Written CV & cover letter followed by an interview

Application Criteria

Essential:
- A strong interest in prejudice and discrimination
- Excellent written and spoken English, and good numerical skills
- Experience with social media, and working with quantitative data and statistics
- Ability to work independently and meet deadlines
- A keen eye for detail

Desirable:
- Ability to use statistical software like SPSS
- Knowledge about Asian and Black minorities in the US/UK

Keywords

Race, gender, stereotypes, discrimination, aggression, Asians, Blacks, social media, big data, coding, statistical analysis

Practical Considerations

Mostly remote home-working, and possibly some on campus at the Lee Kai Hung Building.

8 week internship.

Project Outline

Do gendered stereotypes about race shape the nature of discrimination and aggression against Asian and Black men? Might emasculating stereotypes about Asian men (as low in physical strength) encourage anger and opportunistic aggression against them? Might hypermasculine stereotypes about black men (as physically formidable / athletic) inflate fear / perceived threat, increasing defensive aggression, such as disproportionate (e.g. lethal) uses of force?

The successful applicant will implement a big data social media study to address these questions. S/he will identify (i) forums (such as Reddit), (ii) specific threads in those forums that discuss Asians and Blacks, and (iii) scrape/gather the comments. Manual and/or semi-automated coding would then be conducted on (a subset of) the posts, possibly based in part on a dictionary of words related to stereotypes. Basic statistical analyses would then explore whether the predicted patterns of prejudice emerge from the social media data.

Training and Support

Supervision, mentorship, and some training in theories and methods.

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