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[Infancy](#). 2007;11(1):87-95. doi: 10.1080/15250000709336871.

Cross-Race Preferences for Same-Race Faces Extend Beyond the African Versus Caucasian Contrast in 3-Month-Old Infants

David J Kelly ¹, Shaoying Liu, Liezhong Ge, Paul C Quinn, Alan M Slater, Kang Lee, Qinyao Liu, Olivier Pascalis

Affiliations

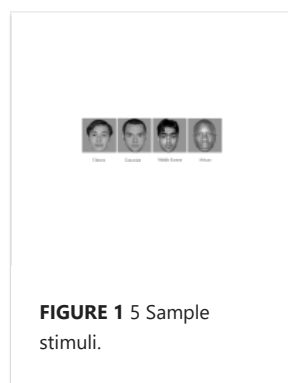
PMID: 18974853 PMCID: [PMC2575407](#) DOI: [10.1080/15250000709336871](#)

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Abstract

A visual preference procedure was used to examine preferences among faces of different ethnicities (African, Asian, Caucasian, and Middle Eastern) in Chinese 3-month-old infants exposed only to Chinese faces. The infants demonstrated a preference for faces from their own ethnic group. Alongside previous results showing that Caucasian infants exposed only to Caucasian faces prefer same-race faces (Kelly et al., 2005) and that Caucasian and African infants exposed only to native faces prefer the same over the other-race faces (Bar-Haim, Ziv, Lamy, & Hodes, 2006), the findings reported here (a) extend the same-race preference observed in young infants to a new race of infants (Chinese), and (b) show that cross-race preferences for same-race faces extend beyond the perceptually robust contrast between African and Caucasian faces.

Figures



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