

# Social Encoding in Retrieval Induced Forgetting: The Impacts of Social Identity on the Dynamics of Forgetting

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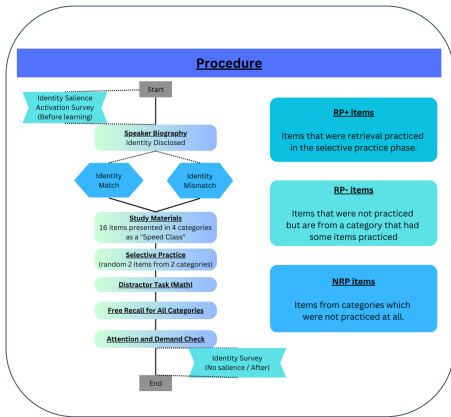
## Retrieval-Induced Forgetting (RIF)

- Selectively retrieving some items from memory can inhibit future recall of other related items. (1)
- Social factors impact RIF:
  - When people listen to in-group members' selective retrieval, they suffer RIF. (2;3)
  - Socially-shared RIF depends on group membership being active and salient during selective retrieval. (3)

## Method

Participants were US residents, recruited using CloudResearch/Mturk:

Political Affiliation	Number	Age
Democrat	57	18+
Republican	54	18+



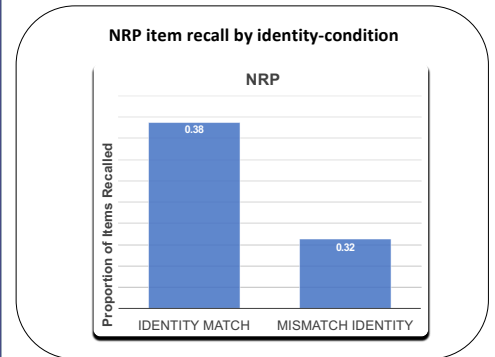
## Predictions

1. NRP items would be more reliably recalled in the identity-match condition
  - i. Motivation to affiliate may increase attention and effort to encode.
2. RIF would occur when the social element is present at the encoding phase.
3. RIF would occur in the identity-match condition but not the mismatched condition.
  - i. Increased effort used during identity-match encoding would continue into the retrieval practice phase and motivate increased retrieval practice effort as well.

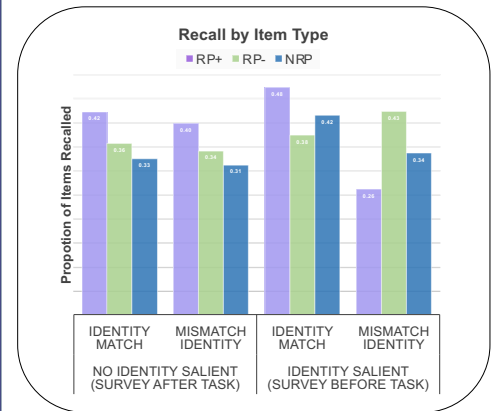
When learning from a teacher with a known political affiliation, people remember more information when they are reminded that they share the affiliation before learning.

## Results

- There is not clear evidence of RIF from preliminary data.
- Non-Retrieval Practiced (NRP) items were more likely to be recalled in the identity-match condition.



- Proportion of item-type recall show an unexpected pattern under identity salience conditions.
- In the identity-activated and mismatched-identity condition, the mean proportion of RP- items recalled was larger than the NRP items.
- Surprisingly, fewer RP+ items were recalled in the mismatched-identity condition.



## Conclusions

1. Prediction 1: Confirmed. Mean NRP items recalled is higher in the identity-match condition
2. Prediction 2: Unconfirmed. Data collection and analysis is ongoing.
3. Prediction 3: Unconfirmed. Data collection is ongoing.
4. Identity salience before learning may impact recall by item type.

# References

- (1) Murayama, K., Miyatsu, T., Buchli, D., & Storm, B. C. (2014). Forgetting as a consequence of retrieval: A meta-analytic review of retrieval-induced forgetting. *Psychological Bulletin*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/a0037505>
- (2) Cuc, A., Koppel, J., & Hirst, W. (2007). Silence is not golden: A case for socially shared retrieval-induced forgetting. *Psychological Science*, 18(8). <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9280.2007.01967.x>
- (3) Coman, A., & Hirst, W. (2015). Social identity and socially shared retrieval-induced forgetting: The effects of group membership. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 144(4). <https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0000077>