

Abstract

As stigma and discrimination can directly impact the well-being of transgender individuals, it is important to consider how to mobilize cisgender individuals to create an inclusive society where transgender people are treated fairly. This study aims to compare the effects of interconnectedness and perspective-taking inductions and investigate their effects on transgender stigma, collective action, and civic duty across three time points. 167 participants were randomly assigned into three conditions and were shown a video clip about interconnectedness, perspective-taking, or rock formation (active control) respectively. Participants also completed outcome measures at pre-induction, post-induction, and at one-week follow up.

The findings suggested that interconnectedness could significantly decrease transgender stigma at post-induction, but the effects of perspective-taking were not significant. Furthermore, both inductions could increase collective action intention, with the effects of the interconnectedness induction lasting until one-week follow up. Both inductions did not significantly affect civic duty. These results provide preliminary support for interconnectedness and perspective-taking as tools to mobilize cisgender allies for transgender rights, yet further research is needed to investigate what factors mediate the relationship between interconnectedness, perspective-taking, and the outcome variables.

Keywords: interconnectedness; perspective-taking; transgender stigma; collective action; civic duty