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Lending a Paw: Does the Presence of a Dog Increase Donations Given to Homeless Individuals?

Katherine Link

Lending a Paw: Does the Presence of a Dog Increase Donations Given to Homeless Individuals?

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Abstract

Prosocial behavior can be defined as any behavior that results in the benefit of another individual (Coyne et al., 2018). This study sought to investigate potential influences on the prosocial behavior of donating to the homeless. With a rise in both homelessness and dog ownership, this project sought to investigate how the presence of a dog may impact both the willingness to donate and monetary amount donated to a homeless individual. Results indicated a significant three-way interaction between the sex of the homeless individual, the sex of the participant, and the presence of a dog. Overall, the presence of a dog was associated with a greater likelihood and monetary amount of food donations for homeless individuals. These results also suggest that homeless women may be significantly more impacted by owning a dog compared to homeless men.

Keywords: homelessness, dog ownership, donation, prosocial, gender differences

Table of Contents

List of Figures

Chapter 1: Introduction

Data suggests that multiple countries around the world are struggling with affordable housing (Coleman, 2021). According to a 2019 Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (LILP), Housing Affordability in a Global Perspective study, 90 percent of the 200 cities polled around the globe were considered unaffordable. Of those cities, Hong Kong, Vancouver, and Sydney were considered some of the hardest cities to find affordable housing (Keffler, 2021). It is no surprise that with a shortage of affordable housing there is also a simultaneous global increase in the number of homeless individuals. For example, out of the approximate 1.3 billion people living in China, 200 million are reported homeless (Kuo, 2019). According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness (2021), there were 580,466 homeless individuals in January 2020, mere weeks before the United States declared a national state of emergency due to COVID-19. Although there is no current data regarding how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected rates of homelessness in the United States, Ejiogu et al. (2020), suggest that the rate of homelessness has become even more dire due to economic stagnation caused by the lockdowns. Additionally, increasing unemployment rates homelessess in America alone was estimated to increase by 250,000 individuals (Moses, 2020).

A main concern and consequence of prolonged homelessness is poor health conditions. Not only do the homeless population suffer from a higher premature mortality rate, they are also more susceptible to chronic pain, skin and foot problems, dental problems, and infectious diseases (Galea, 2016).

Another trend to rise amidst the global pandemic is the increase of dog ownership. Specifically, data on Israeli dog adoption shows that there was a significant increase in the amount of dogs adopted immediately after the COVID-19 outbreak in China and this trend

continued to increase as COVID-19 spread worldwide and throughout Israeli lockdown (Morgan et al., 2020). The results from this study showed that before the COVID-19 outbreak in China, the average daily dog adoption request was only about 25.7 requests. This number increased to 31.1 requests after the first Israeli COVID-19 patient, and jumped to an even higher 111.3 requests per day during Israeli lockdown.

Moreover this trend is happening in multiple countries around the world. The BBC (2021) reported that 3.2 million households in the UK have welcomed home a new pet since the beginning of the pandemic, raising the country's pet ownership to around 17 million homes. Additionally, Today's Veterinary Business (2020), reported that an estimated 11.38 million households in the United States welcomed home a new pet during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although these trends showed a decrease in the number of adoptions as the country began to reopen, it is important to note that the cases of dog abandonment in the Israeli study stayed relatively the same despite the increase in dog adoptions (Morgan et al., 2020). Meaning that as countries begin to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic it is unlikely that we will see an increase in dog abandonment; giving the idea that pet ownership will remain high after pandemic recovery.

Due to the significant growth in both homelessness and dog ownership within the past year, there is the potential to see an increased amount of homeless individuals with pets. Homeless individuals that have pets face more issues than those that do not have pets (Shafer, 2016). For example, the homeless population with pets has decreased access to homeless shelters, as a majority of facilities do not allow animals. There is an exception to this with documented service and emotional support animals. However, this is rare due to homeless individuals' difficulty in acquiring mental health services as well as keeping up with relevant

paperwork (Shafer, 2016). Importantly, for homeless individuals with pets, many would rather continue sleeping on the streets with their animal than go to a shelter and be forced to abandon their pet. One shelter in Colorado found that up to 25 people a night made the decision to leave when they were informed they could not bring in their pets (Kestler-D'Amours, 2020). Therefore this unique population is potentially severely underserved.

Prosocial Behavior

Prosocial behavior has previously been defined as any voluntary behavior that results in the benefit of another individual (Coyne et al., 2018). Although this definition encompasses a diversity of behaviors, the current study specifically examined the voluntary behavior of donating, or sharing, resources with a homeless individual; moreover, this study investigated the potential influences of a dog on prosocial behavior toward homeless individuals.

The influence that the presence of a dog has on behavior is something that has been studied in many different contexts. Multiple studies have found evidence that dogs facilitate helping behaviors (Colarelli et al., 2017; Guéguen et al., 2008), empathy (Sprinkle, 2008), and social facilitation (Guéguen et al., 2008; McNicholas & Collis, 2000; Mader et al., 1989). In an office setting, dogs were found to promote more verbal cohesion, cooperation, and higher rates of trustworthiness among coworkers (Colarelli et al., 2017). Additionally, dogs were found to not only facilitate helping behaviors, but also increase higher rates of compliance when a person with a dog approached strangers with requests (Guéguen et al., 2008). After participating in a school-based violence prevention program using shelter dogs, elementary and middle school students were found to both show a decrease in aggression and increase in empathy (Sprinkle, 2008). Concerning social facilitation, social interactions were found to significantly increase among strangers when one had a dog. Although the way an individual dressed influenced social

interaction rates, results showed that the presence of a dog influenced these rates at a greater effect than appearance (McNicholas & Collis, 2000). This finding holds true with disabled individuals, as children in wheelchairs were found to be given significantly more social acknowledgement when they had a service dog with them (Mader et al., 1989).

However, one context in which there is limited research is how the presence of a dog influences interactions or helping behaviors toward homeless individuals. The current study investigated this potential relationship and hypothesized that (H1) there would be a significant difference in the likelihood and amount of donations when a homeless individual has a dog present, compared to when the individual does not have a dog present.

Sex Differences

Prior research on sex differences in charitable giving suggest that women are significantly more likely to give to charity than men (Mesch et al., 2011). Additionally, this pattern holds for both married and single individuals and was not found to be attributed to other background factors, such as age and income (Schnepf & Piper, 2007). However, while data suggests that women tend to donate more often, men tend to donate in higher amounts (Sisco & Weber, 2019). That is when analyzing donations to a GoFundMe account, women donated 63.81% of the contributions while men only donated 36.19% of the contributions. However, in this same study, men were found to have a higher median donation amount of $50 compared to women's $40 donation (Sisco & Weber, 2019). It was believed these findings would be replicated in the current study. Therefore, it was hypothesized (H2) that more women will donate to the homeless individual than men, however men will give more costly donations than women (H3).

Furthermore, prior research indicates that although women may be more likely to donate (Mesch et. al, 2011), there is also some evidence that women are also more likely to be helped. In a meta-analytic review of helping behavior, women were helped more often than men (Eagly & Crowley, 1986). This could partly be explained by a convergence between male gender roles on helping behavior that emphasizes acts of heroism and chivalry (Eagly & Crowley, 1986) and women helping other women on the basis of ingroup bias (Rudman & Goodwin, 2004). It has also been suggested that these results may also be a form of "benevolent sexism," in which men partake in more protective attitudes toward women (Bierhoff, 2002). In line with this ideology, it is hypothesized (H4) that overall the homeless woman will receive both a greater likelihood and sum of donations than the homeless man.

Lastly, prior research suggests that women may be more sensitive to the treatment of animals and show more concern for animal welfare than men (Herzog et al., 1991). Consistent with this finding, Schnepf and Piper (2007) found that individuals that donate to animal welfare causes were significantly more likely to be women than men. Thus, it was hypothesized (H5) that women, when compared to men, will donate more to the homeless individual with a dog than when the homeless individual is alone. Overall, it was hypothesized (H6) that there will be a three way interaction between participant sex, target sex, and presence of a dog; in which the homeless man will recieve the least amount of donation when without a dog and viewed by a man.

With the rise of homelessness and pet ownership, there is potential to see an uptick in a highly underserved population: homeless individuals with pets. It would be beneficial to understand what potentially influences and inhibits donating and helping. Although prior research has investigated influences in helping behavior toward the homeless and how the

presence of a dog may increase helping behaviors, this study will be the first, as far as we are aware, to connect a bridge between these topics and investigate how the presence of a dog may actually increase donations for the homeless, even beyond other factors such as age and income of the giver.

Chapter 2: Current Study

This study sought to investigate potential influences on the prosocial behavior of donating to homeless individuals. Specifically, this study was concerned with how the presence of a dog and sex differences may interact with and influence how willing individuals are to donate to a homeless individual. There are a number of hypotheses that were tested, including:

H1: There will be a significant difference in the amount and likelihood of donation when the homeless individual has a dog when compared to the homeless individual sitting alone.

H2: More women will donate to the homeless individual compared to men.

H3: Men will give more costly donations compared to women.

H4: Overall, the homeless woman will receive a greater likelihood and sum of donations than the homeless man.

H5: Women, when compared to men, will donate more to the homeless individual with a dog than when the homeless individual is alone.

H6: There will be a three-way interaction between participant sex, target sex, and presences of a dog; in which the homeless man will be the least likely to receive donations and recieve the least amount of donations when without a dog and viewed by a man.

Chapter 3: Method

Participants

University students from a midwestern undergraduate psychology course (N = 153) were recruited for this study. The sample included 25.8% male (n = 39) and 74.2% female (n = 112) participants. Ages of the participants ranged from 18 to 57 years (M = 20.05, SD = 4.741). Reported racial identities from the participants consisted of 80% Caucasian (n = 120), 8.67% African American (n = 13), 3.33% Hispanic/Latinx (n = 5), 4% Asian/Pacific Islander (n = 6), and 4% Biracial (n = 6). Of the total participants 90.6% currently or previously have owned a pet (n = 135), 20.4% have benefited from charity (n = 29), and 7.7% reported being previously homeless (n = 11). Lastly, participants reported the following for their annual income: 13.33% with no income (n = 16), 55.83% making $1-9,999 ($n$ = 67), 16.67% making $10,000-24,999 ($n$ = 20), 6.67% making $25,000-49,000 ($n$ = 8), and 7.5% making $50,000-74.999 annually ($n$ = 9).

Materials and Procedure

Participants were recruited through SONA, an online research management system that is maintained by the psychology department of the university. The study was listed under the headline of "Resource Threats". When students chose to participate they were given a link to the online questionnaire. To ensure anonymity students were only required to give their SONA IDs to receive credit for completing the survey. This action was also taken to help reduce social desirability effects.

SONA IDs are randomly generated, therefore they were also used to help randomly assign participants to the different conditions. Participants with a SONA ID ending with 0, 4, or 8 were assigned the version of a homeless man by himself. Participants with a SONA ID ending

with 1, 5, or 9 were assigned the version of a homeless man with a dog. Participants with a SONA ID ending with 2 or 6 were assigned the version of a homeless woman by herself. Lastly, participants with a SONA ID ending with 3 or 7 were assigned the version of a homeless woman with a dog.

Stimulus

Through random assignment, participants received one of four possible questionnaires that varied by a target photo (Target Sex and Presence of Dog) design. Participants viewed a target photo along with a short scenario. Participants viewed either a homeless man or woman sitting alone or with a dog (Appendix A). Participants were given a vague description of the picture in which they are asked to imagine themselves running into this individual while walking down a familiar street near their house. As this study was interested in looking at the prosocial nature of giving to a homeless individual, it was important that participants imagined that they were alone during the scenario; therefore participants were explicitly told to imagine that they are the only person present. This was enacted to help eliminate both social pressure for donating and potential bystander effects (Latane & Nida, 1981).

Following the target photo and description, participants were presented with three questions developed to measure the likelihood that a participant will donate to the homeless individual (see Appendix A). Through a Likert scale ranging from 0(*Would not take this action*) to 9(*Extremely likely to take this action*), individuals rated how likely they were to donate either money, food, or resources (e.g. blankets or clothing) to the individual in the scenario (α = .814). If the participant marked anything other than 0 for each of the questions, they were asked to describe and estimate the monetary value of each donation that they would give (α = .621).

In order to help hide the true purpose of the study, participants filled out a short five question measure regarding phobias that were included in this questionnaire. Participants were presented with five common phobias and were asked to rate the severity of their fear of each on a 4-point Likert scale ranging from 0(*No Fear at All)* to 3(*Extremely Fearful)*.

A short demographic section was split, with part of it at the beginning and the rest at end of the questionnaire. The first section asked basic demographic information including: age, sex, gender, race, and year in college. The second demographic question, presented at the end of the questionnaire, asked about previous pet ownership, previous charity participation, and income. The background information was used to help hide the true purpose of the study and describe the sample.

Chapter 4: Results

To test the hypotheses, a series of 2(Target Sex) X 2(Dog Presence) X 2(Participant Sex) factorial ANOVAs were conducted. The first factorial ANOVA examined the likelihood of donation for all three categories of interest (i.e., money, food, and resources) independently, while the second factorial ANOVA examined the monetary value of the donations for each of the categories. Planned comparisons following significant effects were then conducted.

Likelihood of Donation

All likelihood scales were rated on a Likert scale ranging from 0(*Would not take this action*) to 9(*Extremely likely to take this action*).

Money

Results did not indicate a three-way interaction between target sex, the presence of a dog, and participant sex on the likelihood of donating money, $F(1, 143) = 6.21$, $p = .339$. However, the results did indicate a main effect of the presence of a dog on the likelihood to donate money, $F(1, 143) = 4.40$, $p = .038$, in which there was a difference in the likelihood of a money donation when a dog was present ($M = 3.77$, $SD = 3.16$) compared to when no dog was present ($M = 2.72$, $SD = 3.00$).

Food

Results indicated a three-way interaction between target sex, the presence of a dog, and participant sex on the likelihood of donating food, $F(1, 143) = 4.53$, $p = .035$, such that the dogless, homeless woman, when viewed by a man, was least likely to receive a food donation, while the homeless woman with a dog, when viewed by a female, was the most likely to receive a food donation. These results can be seen in Figure 1 and Figure 2. Additionally, three main effects were significant at the .05 significance level. The main effect for the target sex, $F(1, 143)$

= 3.91, p = .050, indicated a difference between the likelihood of donations for the homeless woman (M = 3.91, SD = 3.32) and the homeless man (M = 5.00, SD = 3.38). The main effect for the participant sex, $F(1, 143) = 5.32$, p = .023, indicated a difference between the likelihood of donations from women (M = 5.09, SD = 2.91) and men (M = 3.82, SD = 3.00). Lastly, the main effect for the presence of a dog, $F(1, 143) = 4.23$, p = .042, indicated a difference between the likelihood of donations when a dog was present (M = 5.03, SD = 3.47) compared to when a dog was not present (M = 3.89, SD = 3.30).

Fig. 1A

Three-Way Interaction on the Likeliness of Donating Food to the Homeless Man

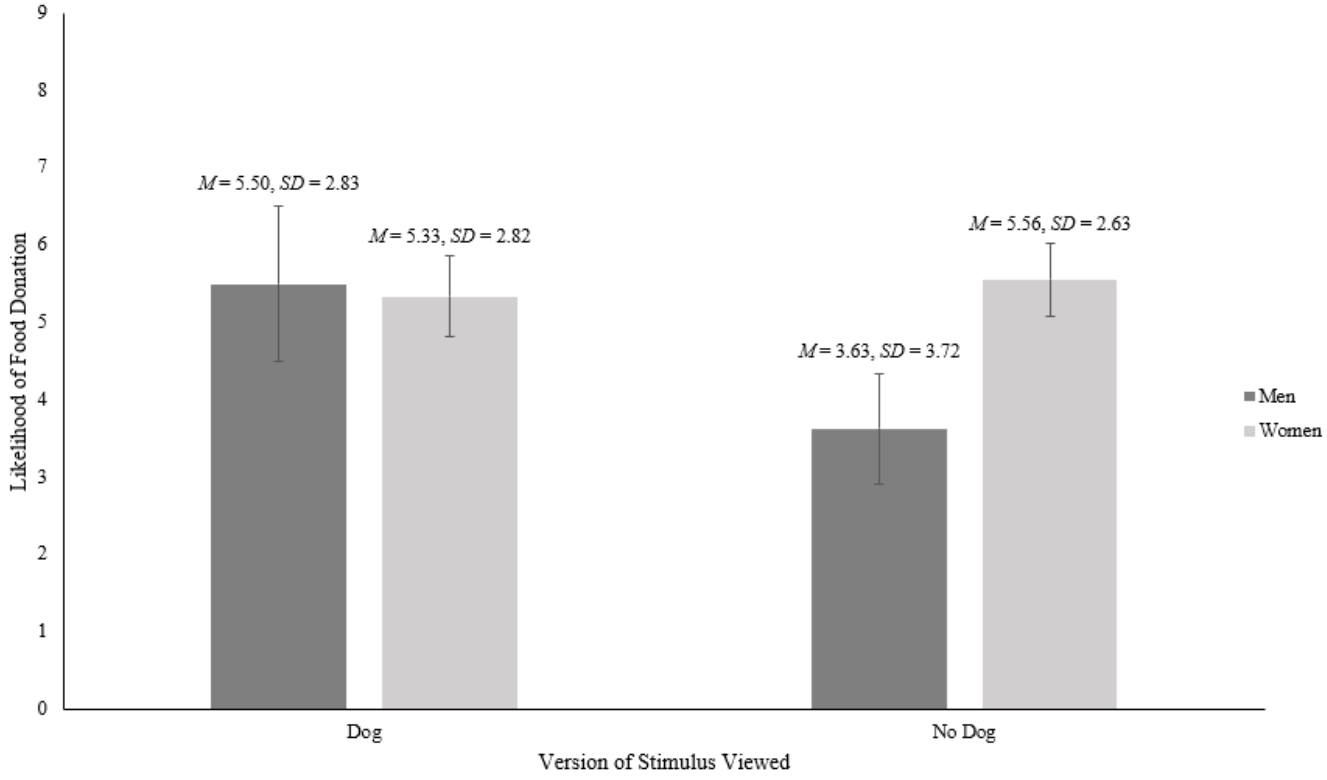
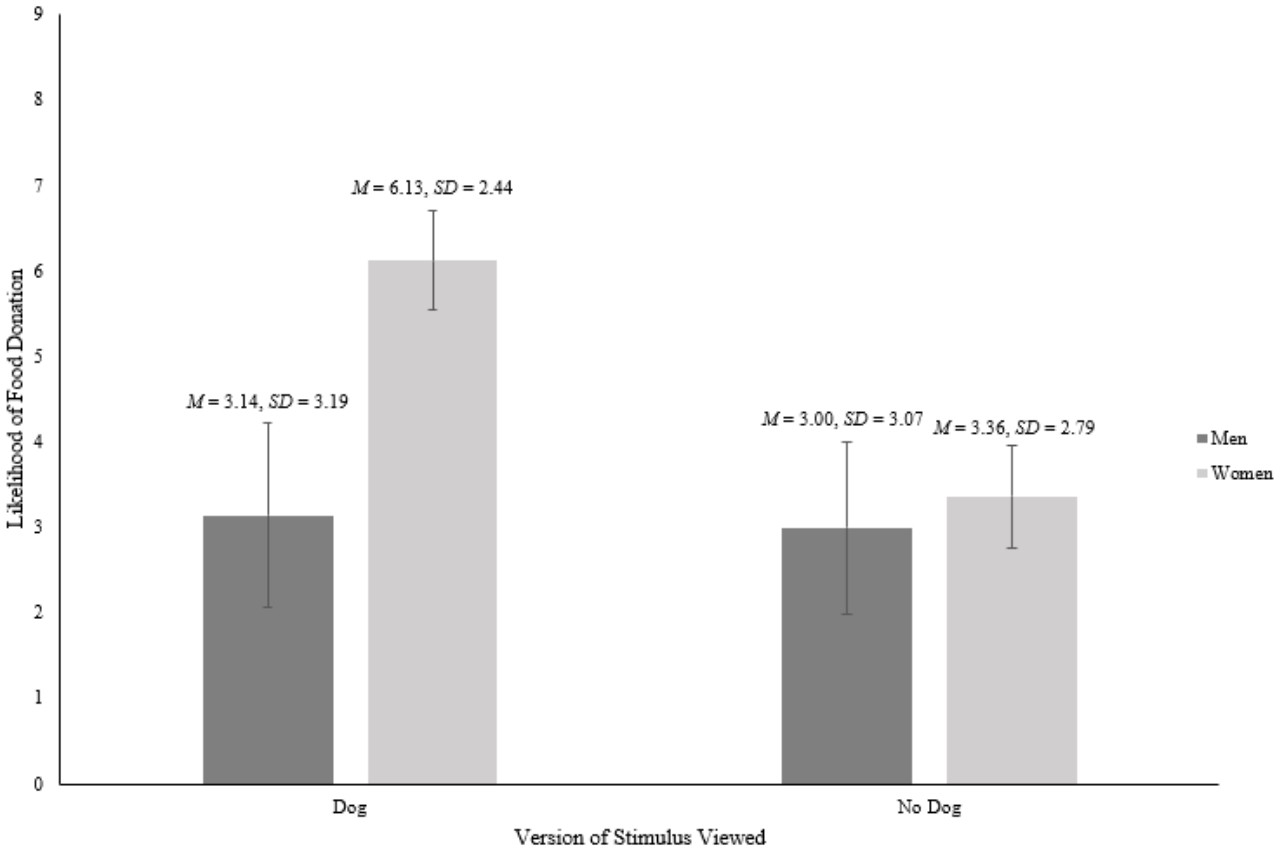


Fig. 1B

Three-Way Interaction on the Likeliness of Donating Food to the Homeless Woman



Resources

Results did not indicate a three-way interaction between target sex, the presence of a dog, and participant sex on the likelihood of donating resources, $F(1, 142) = 1.62$, $p = .205$. However, the results did indicate a main effect of participant sex on the likelihood to donate resources, $F(1, 142) = 6.99$, $p = .009$, in that women ($M = 4.74$, $SD = 3.12$) donated more than men ($M = 3.17$, $SD = 3.22$).

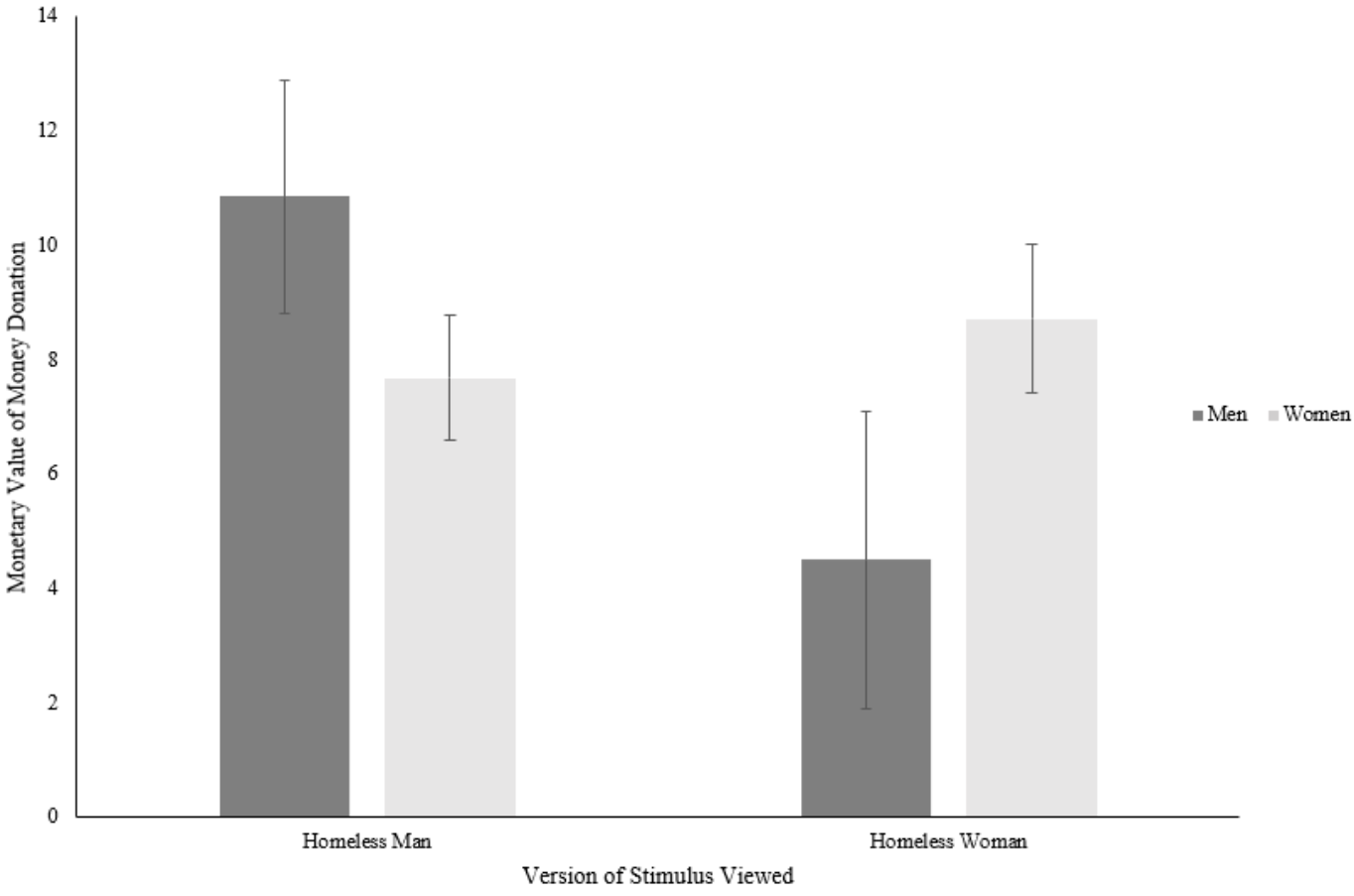
Monetary Value of Donation

Money

Results did not indicate a three-way interaction between target sex, the presence of a dog, and participant sex on the monetary value of money donations, $F(1, 92) = 0.57$, $p = .452$. However, the results did indicate an interaction between target sex and participant sex, $F(1, 92) = 3.97$, $p = .049$, in that the monetary value of donations when a woman viewed a homeless woman ($M = 8.72$, $SD = 8.85$), when a woman viewed a homeless man ($M = 7.68$, $SD = 8.90$), when a man viewed a homeless woman ($M = 4.50$, $SD = 10.04$), and when a man viewed a homeless man ($M = 10.86$, $SD = 10.01$) was different. These results can also be seen in Figure 3.

Fig. 2

Interaction on the Monetary Value of Money Donations



Food

Results indicated a three-way interaction between target sex, the presence of a dog, and participant sex on the monetary value of food donations, $F(1, 117) = 4.98$, $p = .028$, in that the homeless woman with a dog, when viewed by a man, received the greatest sum of food donation, while the dogless, homeless woman, when viewed by a man, receive the least amount of food donation. These results can be seen in Figure 4 and Figure 5. The results did not indicate any main effects for this category.

Fig. 3A

Three-Way Interaction on the Monetary Value of Food Donations to the Homeless Man

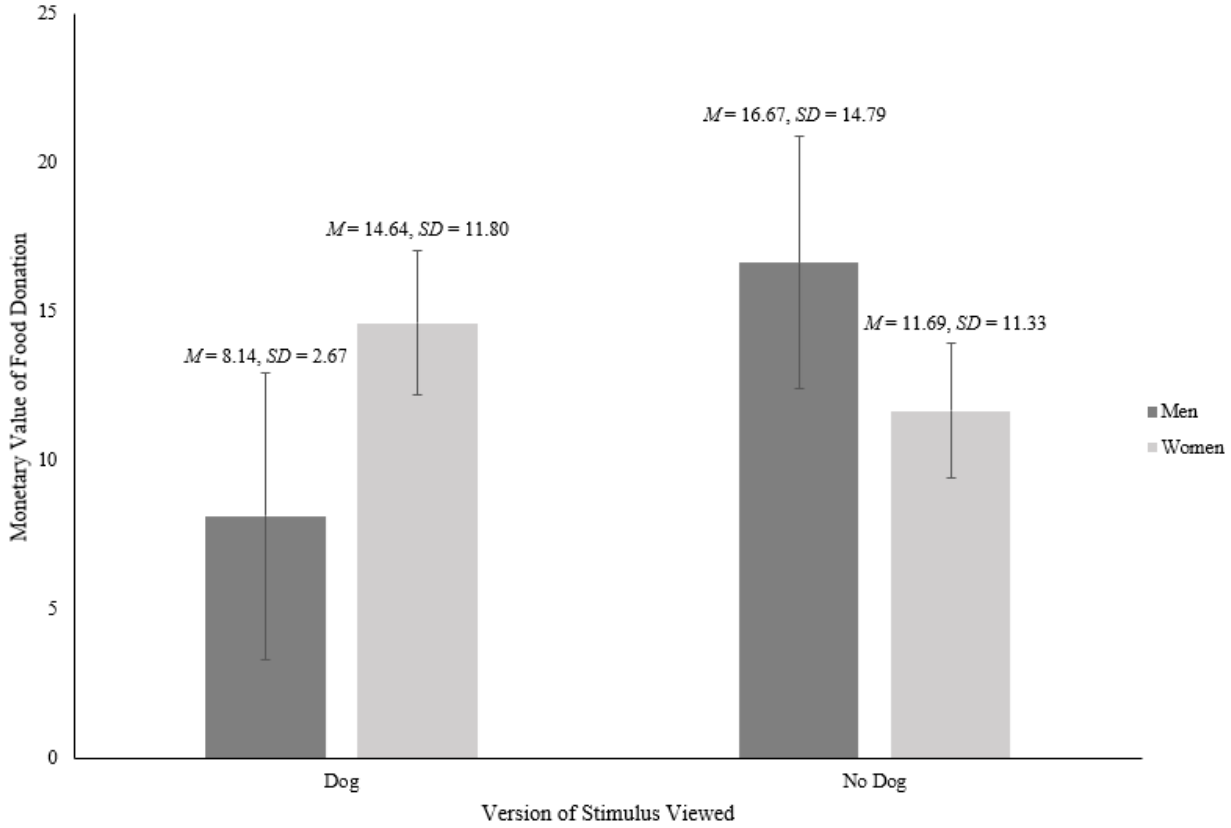
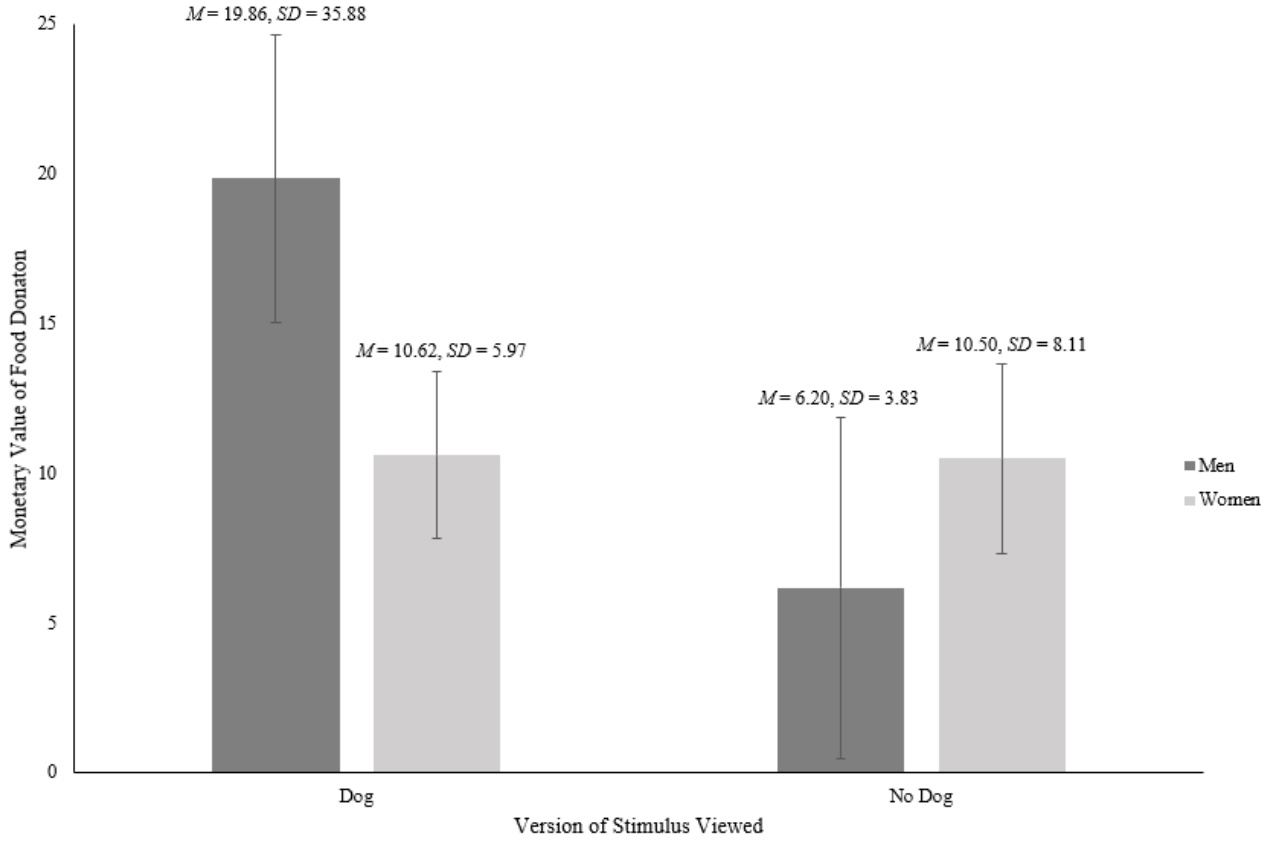


Fig. 3B

Three-Way Interaction on the Monetary Value of Food Donations to the Homeless Woman



Resources

Results did not indicate a three-way interaction between target sex, the presence of a dog, and participant sex on the monetary value of resource donations, $F(1, 113) = 1.29$, $p = .258$. The results did not indicate any main effects for this category.

Chapter 5: Discussion

This project sought to investigate potential influences on the prosocial behavior of donating to homeless individuals. Specifically, this study was interested in whether the presence of a dog and sex differences interact or influence how willing individuals are to donate to homeless individuals and the monetary value of those donations. It was hypothesized that there would be a significant difference in the amount and likelihood of donations when a dog was present compared to when a homeless individual was alone. This hypothesis was partially supported as the results indicated that participants were more likely to donate money and food when there was a dog present. However, the likelihood of donating resources (e.g., blankets or clothing) and the monetary value of all three categories (money, food, and resources) were not significantly impacted by the presence of the dog. A potential explanation for this may be the direct impact money and food could have on the wellbeing of the dog. If given money or food, the homeless individual can directly make sure the dog is taken care of whether that be through directly giving the dog some of the food or spending the money on making sure the dog's needs are being met. After analyzing the descriptions of the resources likely to be given, the majority of participants, 77%, replied donating blankets or a jacket, typically something specifically toward helping the homeless individual themselves. This would directly help the homeless individual, but may not necessarily help the dog in any way. Therefore, this may be why there is a significant relationship between the presence of a dog and the likelihood of money and food donations, but not for the likelihood of resource donations.

It was also hypothesized that women would be more likely to donate to the homeless individual compared to men, replicating previous results (Mesch et al., 2011; Schnepf & Piper, 2007). This was also partially supported with the results indicating that women were more likely

to donate both food and resources. However no significant difference was found between the likelihood of men and women donating money. Additionally, it was hypothesized that men would give more costly donations compared to women, replicating previous findings (Sisco & Weber, 2019). This hypothesis was not supported. One explanation for this may be the low income of university students; 69.16% of the participants reported either not having an annual income or only receiving less than $10k annually. Because a majority of students reported living on a low income, participants may have been able to see donating food or resources as a more justifiable spending of their income on the homeless individual. Additionally, a common theme among descriptions was donating leftovers or old clothing, thus reducing the amount of money participants spent to donate. This would also help explain the lack of difference in the overall monetary value of donations as well.

It was expected that the participants would be more likely to donate to the homeless woman and the homeless woman would receive a greater sum of donations than the homeless man, based on prior research (Bierhoff, 2002; Eagly & Crowley, 1986; Rudman & Goodwin, 2004). However, this hypothesis was also not supported. A potential reason for not replicating these findings may be due to changes in gender roles through the decades. The research this hypothesis was based on are all nearly twenty years old. During this timespan gender roles have changed significantly, therefore this could have impacted our results. For example, although there is a degree of stability in gender roles, today's society is more accepting of the idea of androgyny. Androgyny can be defined as the presence of both feminine and masculine traits within one individual (Wienclaw, 2011).

Additionally, a two-way interaction between participant sex and the presence of a dog, in which women, when compared to men, would be more likely to donate more when a dog was

present was expected. This hypothesis was based on prior research suggesting that women tended to be more sensitive to the treatment of animals (Herzog et al., 1991). However, the results of this study did not support this hypothesis, as there were no differences in the likelihood or monetary value of donations for women when a dog was present versus when the homeless individual was alone. This lack of difference held true for all three categories. The first hypothesis in this study was partially supported by the finding that the presence of a dog significantly impacted the likelihood of food and money donations. In conjunction, these findings may suggest, at least in this sample, that there may not be a difference between men and women in the sensitivity of animal treatment. This could partly be explained by the fact that the majority of participants reported currently owning or previously owning a pet. Of this majority, 84% of these individuals specifically reported that they either currently or previously owned a dog.

Finally, it was hypothesized that there would be a significant three-way interaction between participant sex, target sex, and presence of a dog; in which the dogless man will be the least likely to receive donations when viewed by a man. This was partially supported as there was a three-way interaction for likelihood of food donation that found that women who viewed the homeless woman with a dog were significantly more likely to donate to her compared to when the homeless woman was dogless. Additionally, the three-way interaction for monetary food donation found that the homeless woman with a dog received the greatest amount of donation (an average of approximately $19.56) when viewed by a man, whereas the dogless, homeless woman only received an average of $6.20 when viewed by a man. Overall, these interactions suggest that homeless women are the most impacted by the presence of a dog. This is important because homeless individuals with pets are a severely underserved population.

However, these findings may suggest that homeless men with pets are even more underserved than homeless women with pets.

Limitations

This study is limited in the fact that it relied solely on self-reported data. Thus, there may have been a degree of social desirability for participants to say they would donate even if that may not be their realistic response. Future research may want to consider conducting an observational field study to collect realistic data on likelihood and amount of donations to homeless individuals. Additionally, responses may differ greatly with participants being watched during an observational field study. Future research may want to consider how participants may donate under these conditions.

Another limitation found within this study is the lack of diversity in the participants. The majority of participants were young, caucasian women attending college. This means that the sample cannot reliably generalize to the population as a whole as it does not accurately represent the whole population.

Additionally, there may be other variables that this study may not have accounted for, which could influence our results. For example, future research may want to investigate how attitudes toward homelessness may influence an individual's likelihood of donating. This study took place in a small Midwestern town in which homelessness is not very common. Therefore, there may be differences in the way citizens of this town view homelessness compared to individuals from a larger city that may have more experience with the homeless.

Conclusions

This study supported prior research suggesting that women are more likely to donate resources and food to homeless individuals compared to men (Mesch et al., 2011; Schnepf &

Piper, 2007), although this finding did not replicate for the likelihood to donate money. Additionally, despite hypotheses, this study found that the monetary value of money donations followed the pattern of ingroup bias, such that men donated a higher average amount of money to the homeless man while women donated more to the homeless woman .

Additionally, the results suggest that the presence of a dog significantly impacted the likelihood of donation, although this only applied for the likelihood to donate money and food. These results help support previous findings that dogs help facilitate helping behaviors (Colarelli et al., 2017; Guéguen et al., 2008). The three-way interactions found in this study also suggest that homeless women may be more greatly impacted by the presence of a dog, in that they are more likely to receive food donations from other women and receive a significantly greater value of food donations from men when there is a dog present.

This study sought to investigate potential influences on the prosocial behavior of donating to homeless individuals. With the rise of homelessness and pet ownership (Moses, 2020; Morgan et al., 2020), there is potential to see an uptick in a highly underserved population. This study provides insight into this unique population and even suggests that although homeless individuals with dogs face unique difficulties, they are statistically more likely to receive donations than homeless individuals without dogs.

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Appendix A: Resource Threats Questionnaire

Age: _____

Biological Sex (assigned at birth): Male Female

Gender: Man Woman Non-Binary Other (Please Specify):

Race (Circle all that apply) : Caucasian African American

Hispanic/Latinx Asian/Pacific Islander

Native American Other (Please Specify):

Year in college: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate

Please look at the following picture/imagine the following scenario:

You are walking alone down a familiar street when you come across a homeless (man/woman) sitting on the street by themselves.

Please answer the following questions with how you would most realistically respond in this scenario. Please answer as honestly as possible. Rate the following actions on a scale of 0 (would not take this action) to 9 (Extremely likely to take this action)

1. Donate money to this individual:

   0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

   If anything other than 0, please write the dollar amount you would donate: _____

2. Donate food to this individual:

   0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

   If anything other than 0, please briefly describe what you would donate: _____

   Approximately how much money do you think what you are donating is worth?: _____

3. Donate supplies/resources (ex. blankets, clothing) to this individual:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

If anything other than 0, please briefly describe what you would donate: _____

Approximately how much money do you think what you are donating is worth?: _____

Please mark how severe your fear of the following are on a scale of 0 (no fear at all) to 3 (extremely fearful):

	No Fear at All	Slightly Fearful	Moderately Fearful	Extremely Fearful
1. Xenophobia (Fear of strangers)	0	1	2	3
2. Claustrophobia (fear of confined spaces)	0	1	2	3
3. Arachnophobia (Fear of spiders)	0	1	2	3
4. Cynophobia (Fear of dogs)	0	1	2	3
5. Glossophobia (Fear of public speaking)	0	1	2	3

Do you currently, or have you previously owned any pets? Yes No

If yes, please briefly describe what type of pets: _____

Have you ever benefited from charity? Yes No

Have you ever been homeless? Yes No

Which of the following describes your personal annual income?

$0 $1-9,999 $10,000-24,999 $25,000-49,000 $50,000-74.999

SONA ID (*This is <u>not</u> your M#, without a proper SONA ID you will not be able to receive credits for your participation*): _____

Appendix B: IRB Approval Letter

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Institutional Review Board

328 Wells Hall
Murray, KY 42071-3318
270-809-2916 • msu.irb@murraystate.edu

TO: Jana Hackathorn, Psychology

FROM: Jonathan Baskin, IRB Coordinator JB

DATE: 1/26/2022

RE: Human Subjects Protocol I.D. – IRB # 22-114

The IRB has completed its review of your student's Level 1 protocol entitled *Resource Threats*. After review and consideration, the IRB has determined that the research, as described in the protocol form, will be conducted in compliance with Murray State University guidelines for the protection of human participants.

The forms and materials that have been approved for use in this research study are attached to the email containing this letter. These are the forms and materials that must be presented to the subjects. Use of any process or forms other than those approved by the IRB will be considered misconduct in research as stated in the MSU IRB Procedures and Guidelines section 20.3.

Your stated data collection period is from 1/26/2022 to 5/1/2023.

If data collection extends beyond this period, please submit an Amendment to an Approved Protocol form detailing the new data collection period and the reason for the change.

This Level 1 approval is valid until 5/1/2023.

If data collection and analysis extends beyond this date, the research project must be reviewed as a continuation project by the IRB prior to the end of the approval period, 5/1/2023. You must reapply for IRB approval by submitting a Project Update and Closure form (available at murraystate.edu/irb). You must allow ample time for IRB processing and decision prior to your expiration date, or your research must stop until such time that IRB approval is received. If the research project is completed by the end of the approval period, then a Project Update and Closure form must be submitted for IRB review so that your protocol may be closed. It is your responsibility to submit the appropriate paperwork in a timely manner.

The protocol is approved. You may begin data collection now.