

OSSD Abstract Format (page 1) and Example (page 2):

Margins: 1 inch

Font (all text): Arial 11 point

Title: Use upper case for each word and bold face.

Author List: List each contributing author followed by a comma, with institutional affiliations next to each name in italics.

Author Affiliations: see above.

Abstract: Provide a brief background, clearly state the hypothesis, briefly describe the experimental methods and results, and provide general conclusions. The length should be no longer than 2000 characters (with spaces).

Funding: Provide the funding source for the study

SAMPLE ABSTRACT

Title: Sex Differences in Extraterrestrial Communication with Martians: A Problem of Pheromone Reception

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Interactions between humans and Martians are less contentious when Martians interact with females than with males. We hypothesized that this sex difference is due to Martians being more sensitive to human male pheromones that elicit sympathetic nervous system activation. We developed a dual chamber testing apparatus that allowed for two individuals to stand within 100 cm of each other with air flowing only from one chamber to the other but not vice versa; thus allowing pheromones to be transferred in a unidirectional manner. Participants in each chamber could not view or hear each other. Humans (males and females) and unisex Martians participants served as pheromone secretor as well as pheromone receiver in a counterbalanced design. Sympathetic activation was defined as increase in blood pressure, presence of acute tachycardia, and increase in salivary amylase during a 10 min exposure to air from the other chamber. We predicted that these three measures would be increased in Martians only in the presence of human males. Air from males, but not from females elicited a 50% increase in blood pressure and a 30% increase in salivary amylase in Martians; similarly, air from Martians elicited a 20% increase in blood pressure and 25% increase in salivary amylase in human males. Human females failed to exhibit any significant changes in the three measures in the presence of air from either human males or Martians. We conclude that sex differences in aggressive interactions between humans and Martians may be caused by differences in sympathetic activity elicited by pheromones. Future research will attempt to identify the chemical structure of these pheromones in order to develop compounds that antagonize their effects. In the short-term, future negotiations between Martians and humans may be less contentious, and therefore more productive, if humans are represented by women.

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