

Effect of Contraceptive Pills on Masculinity Preferences

Chihiro Zavala



“Pill users show no or weaker preferences for
facial masculinity”

- The article

“Correlated preference for men’s facial and vocal masculinity”

★Method

- 6 male faces that had been masculinized or feminized
- 1759 participants (age 17-40) of pill users and non-pill users
- Online



Result

- Stronger preferences for masculinized face in non-pill users.
- Progesterone is associated with increased preferences for feminine faces.



My concerns...

- Conducted online
- Non-pill users and pill users
- Should use within-subjects

The Study I found...

“Oral contraceptive use in woman changes preferences for male facial masculinity and is associated with partner facial masculinity”

★Method

- Control: 37 women (age 18-25)

- Experimental: 18 women (age 18-24) initiated use of pill during experiment

- 2 groups completed 2 facial masculinity preference tests with an interval of 3 months.

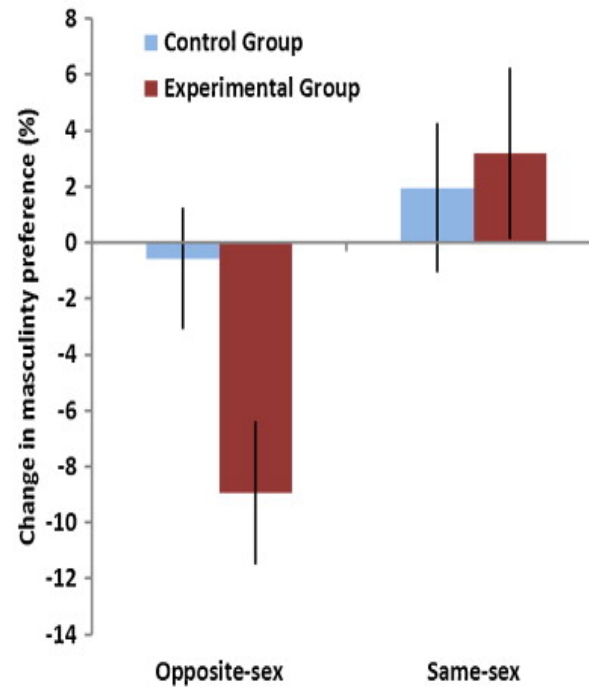
Method (Cont.)

- 2 facial tests: opposite-sex and same-sex
- 1st test...During follicular phase
- 2nd test... After the interval of 3 months

*Requirement

- Not using any form of hormonal contraception
- Not being pregnant
- Experiencing regular cycle
- Being heterosexual

Result



-Pill initiation changes visual preferences for male

-Effects only seen for opposite-sex



Conclusion

- Contraceptive pills are influential on visual preferences for male
- Experiment in original article lacks accuracy. The article I found supports the original article with stronger and valid evidence.
- My Questions...