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Social Ostracism and the Effect on Electroencephalogram Activity

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Poster Presentation P59

SOCIAL OSTRACISM AND THE EFFECT ON ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAM ACTIVITY

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Previous fMRI research on social ostracism during participation in a ball-tossing task found increased activity in the anterior cingulate cortex when participants were not included in the ball-tossing game. This study aims to expand upon this previous research by seeing if similar results can be observed using EEG technology in a more realistic behavioral task, such as a chat room environment. This paradigm allows researchers to better understand the effects of social rejection on psychological, behavioral, and physiological responses and allows the participant more freedom of movement. It is hypothesized that when participants are excluded from the conversation, there will be an increase in theta EEG activity in the prefrontal cortex and less activation once the participants have been re-included into the conversation.