Abstract

According to past research, people are usually unable to distinguish between someone who is lying and someone who is telling the truth (Bond & DePaulo, 2008). The purpose of this study is to analyze lie detection in the specific situation of job interview scenarios, and the extent to which the gender of the person being interviewed influences participants’ ability to detect whether they are lying or telling the truth. The methods used to gather data include participants (*N* = 90, data collection is ongoing) watching videos of people, both male and female, either telling the truth or lying to common employment interview questions. Specifically, participants identified whether they would hire the interviewee based on their likeability, trustworthiness and truthfulness as well as indicating if the participants thought the response was a lie or the truth. Expanding on past research, preliminary results suggest that in these job interview scenarios, participants are generally unable to tell whether someone is lying—participants actually tended to rate the liars as more likeable and trustworthy than the truth-tellers. Current analyses are focusing on how the gender of the person telling the truth or the lie influences participants’ ratings. These results suggest that employers are unable to make fully informed hiring decisions due to deception in job interviews.