

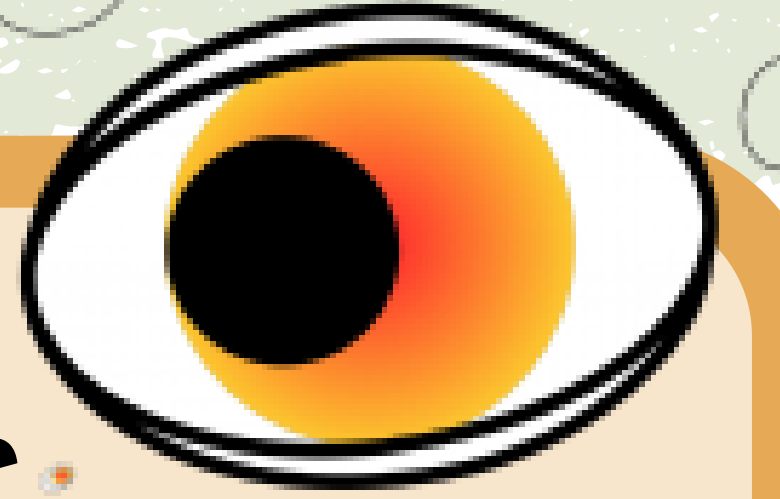
From Surgical Masks to Niqabs: How Different Face Coverings Influence Judgements

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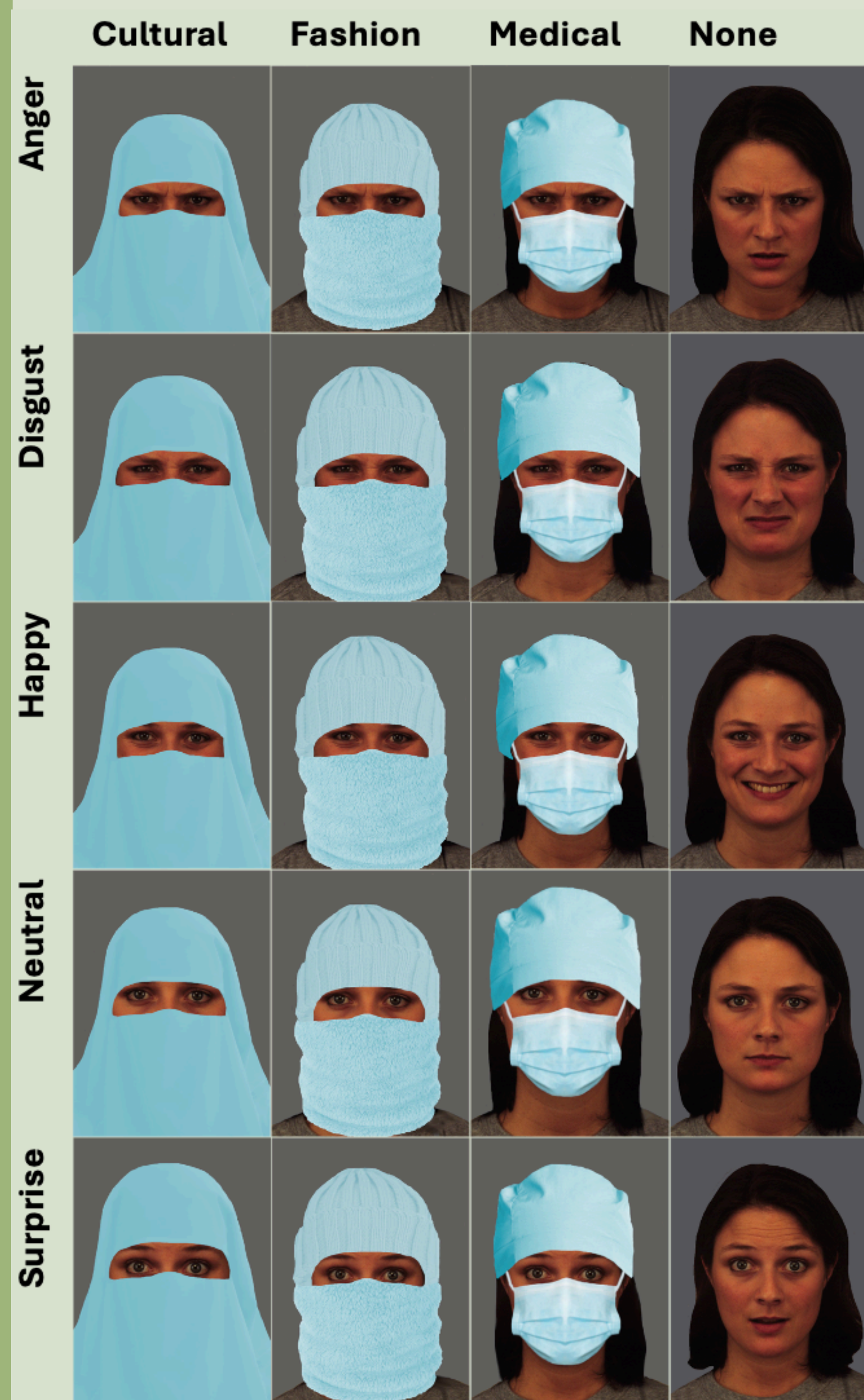
INTRODUCTION

Info from the **face** is **important** for **emotion recognition** and **empathy** & face **occlusions** reduce both

This study investigates:

1. How **different occlusions** impact our ability to recognize emotions & empathize
2. How **in-group/ out-group status** moderates this relationship

METHODS



2 Ethnicities:
 ½ Caucasian,
 ½ Middle Eastern

n = 62

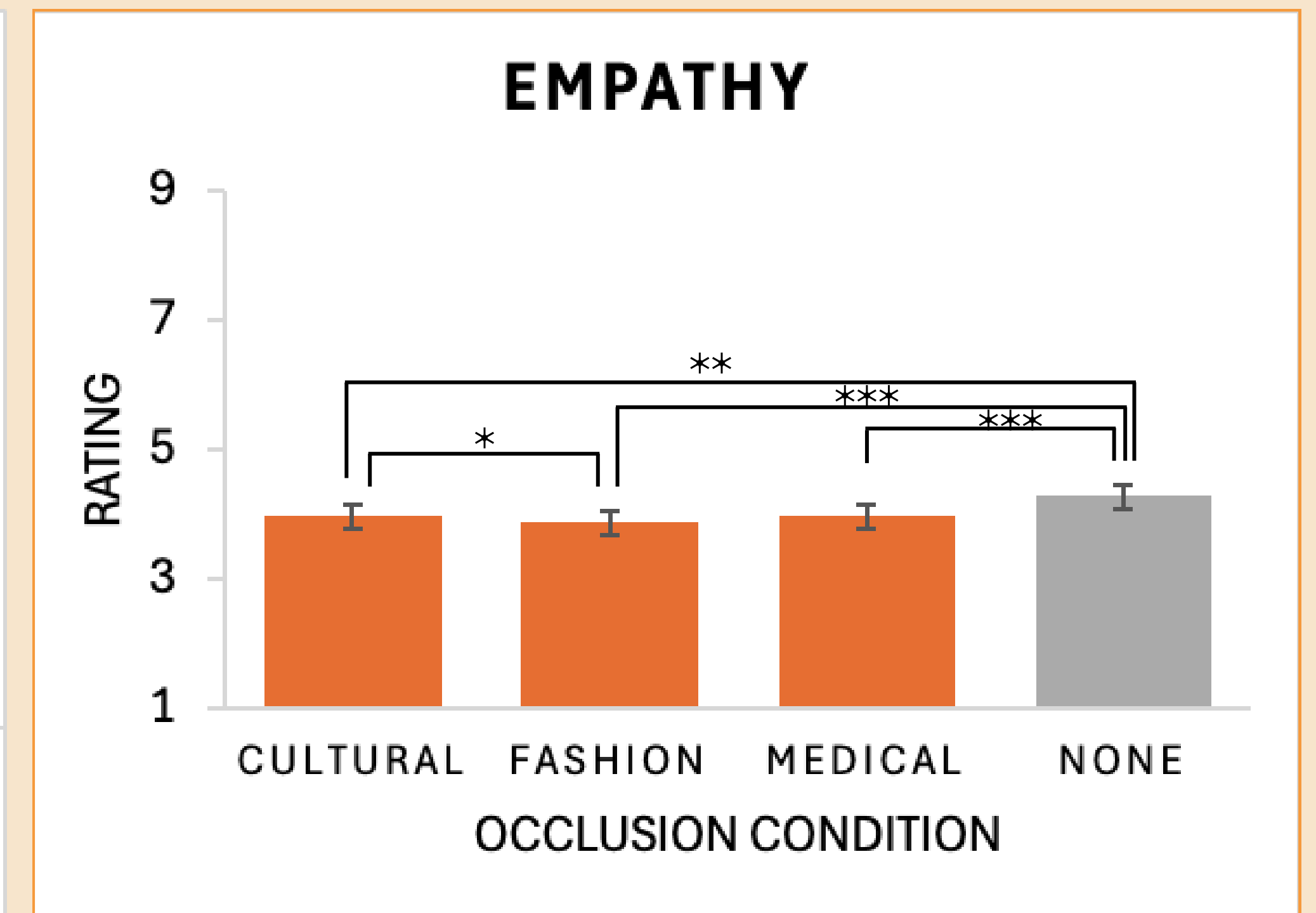
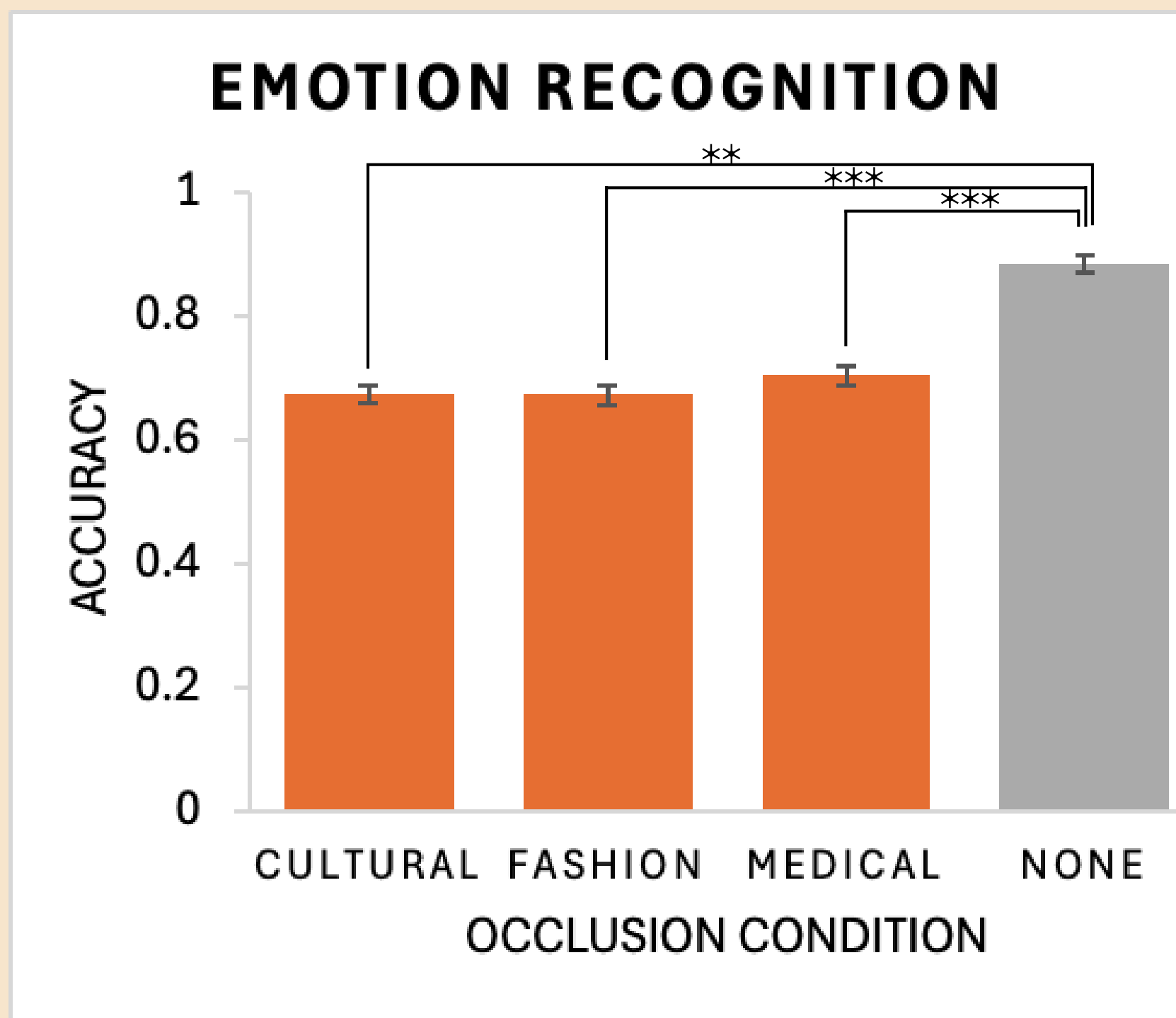
(North American)

Trial:

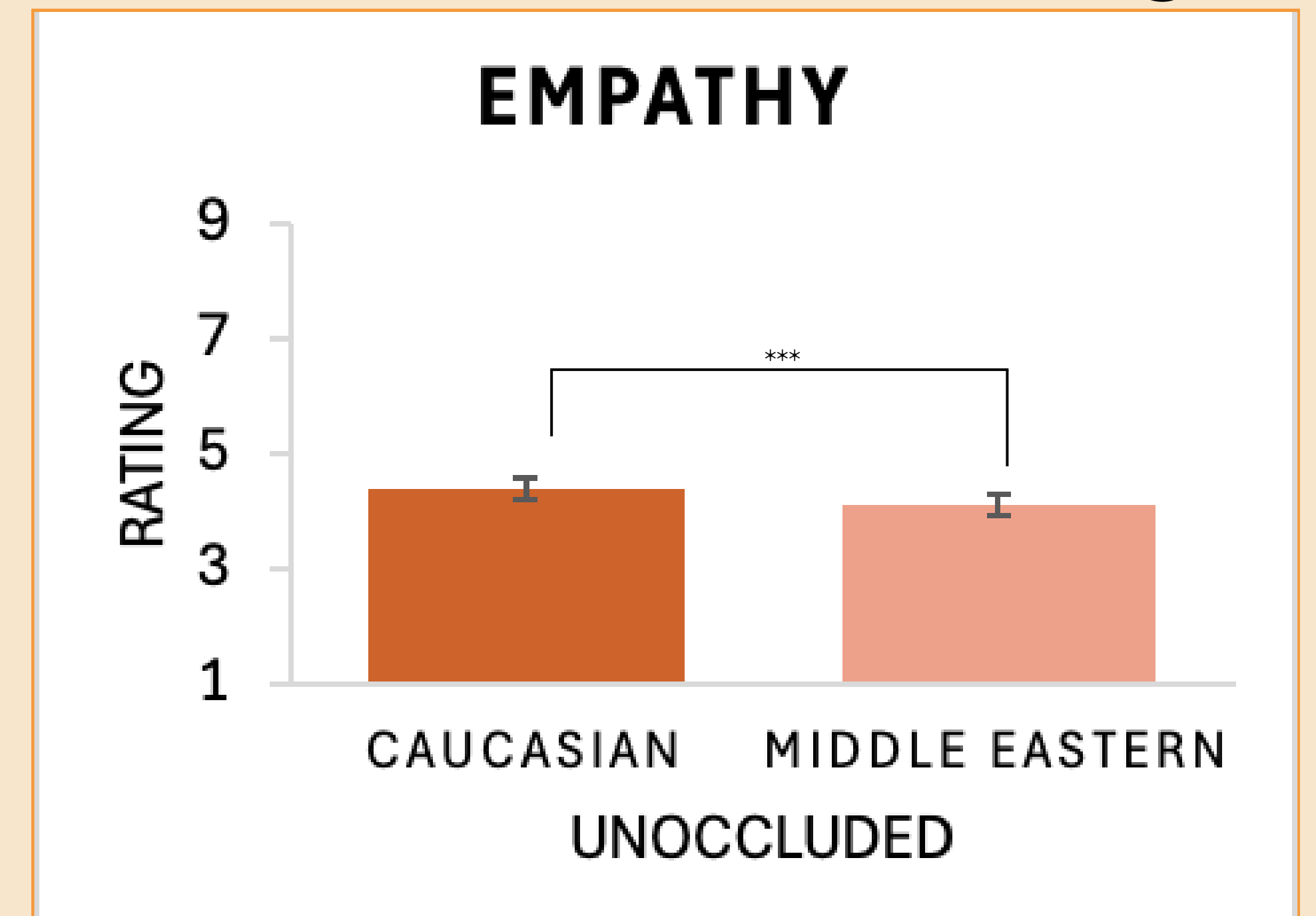
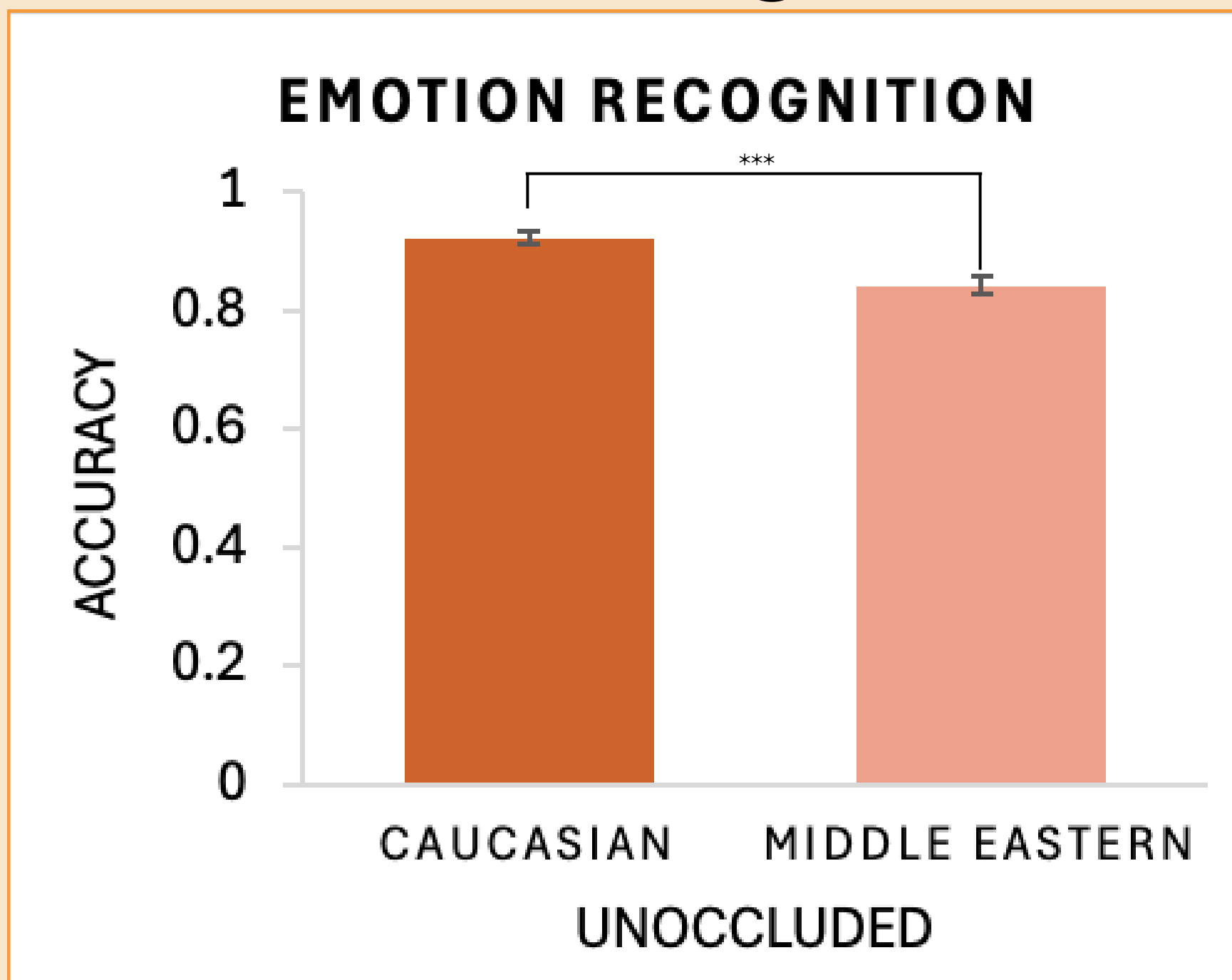
- 1) View face for 5,000 ms
- 2) Indicate **which emotion**
- 2) Rate **how much empathy** you feel

RESULTS

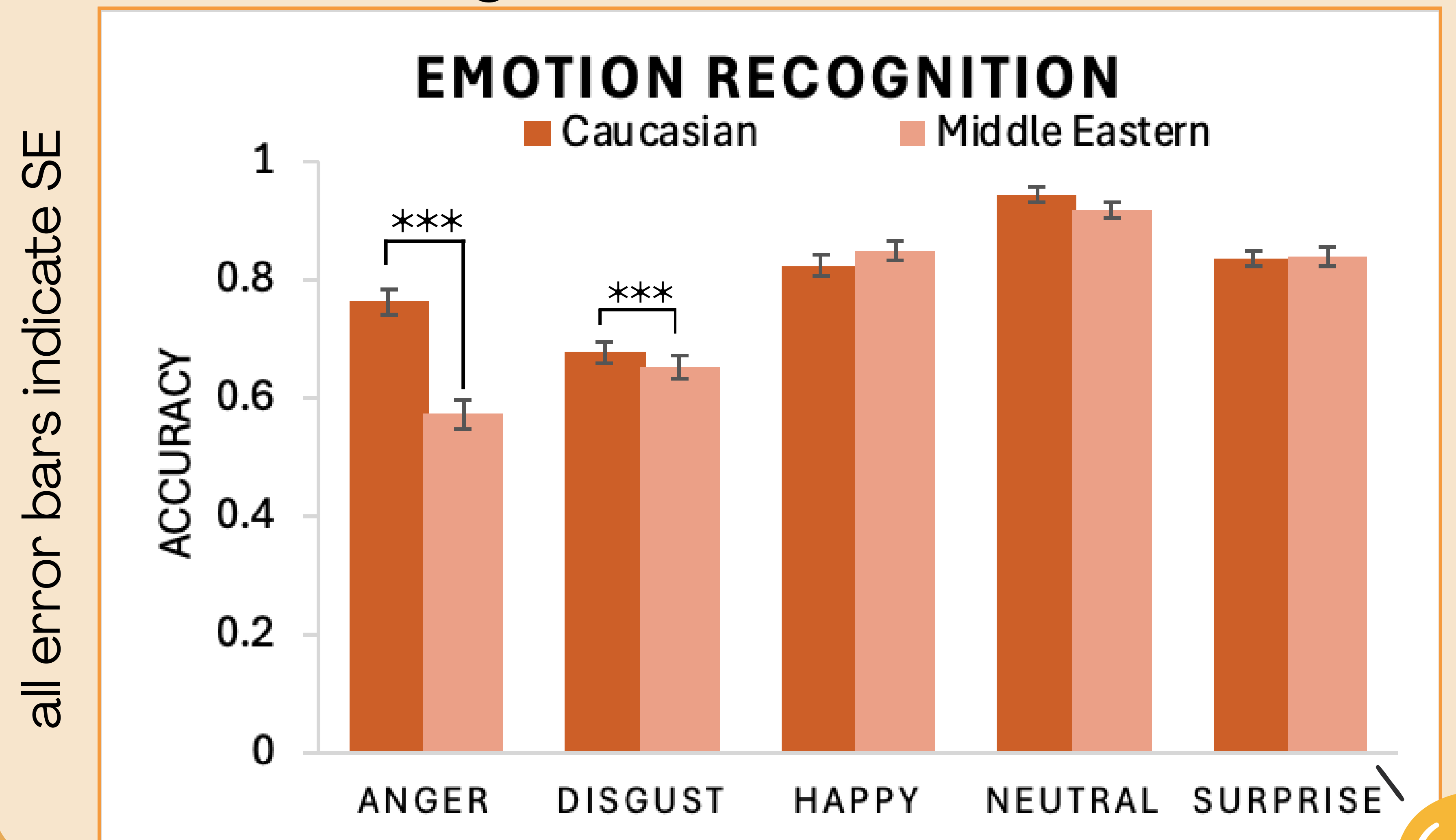
Type of occlusion does not matter:



Ethnicity difference for unoccluded faces only



Ethnicity differences across emotions



CONCLUSION

1 Occlusion type doesn't matter

WHY?

same face areas visible; ↓ social stigma due to our sample being sourced in a diverse city

2 In-group advantage for negative emotions

WHY?

Possible evolutionary advantage for responding to in-group negative emotions

3 ↑ emotion recognition & empathy for in-group unoccluded faces but not occluded faces

WHY?

↓ information from the face, ↓ differences between Caucasian and Middle Eastern identities

