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Implicit Association Test (IAT) toward Climate Change: A PRISMA Systematic Review

Dr. Maria Martina Fiorenza - PhD Student
maria.fiorenza1@unifi.it

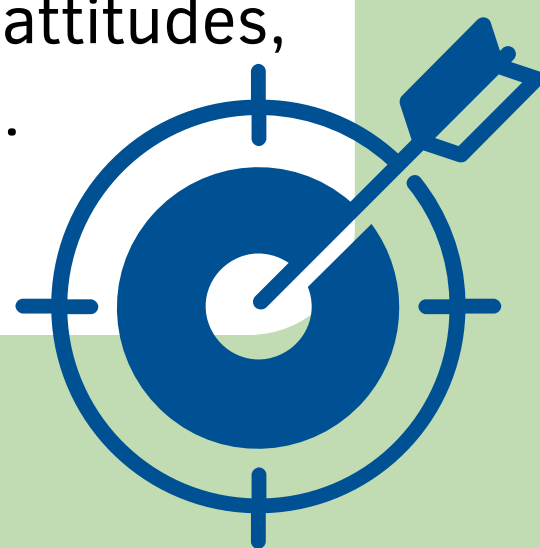


INTRODUCTION

Global environmental concerns affecting our planet require immediate action (IPCC, 2018). To better understand the psychological dynamics underlying the adoption of pro-environmental behaviors, research increasingly directed its attention to the implicit (unconscious) psychological antecedents (attitudes) of the adoption of sustainable behaviors against climate change (Hoffman et al., 2005).

AIMS

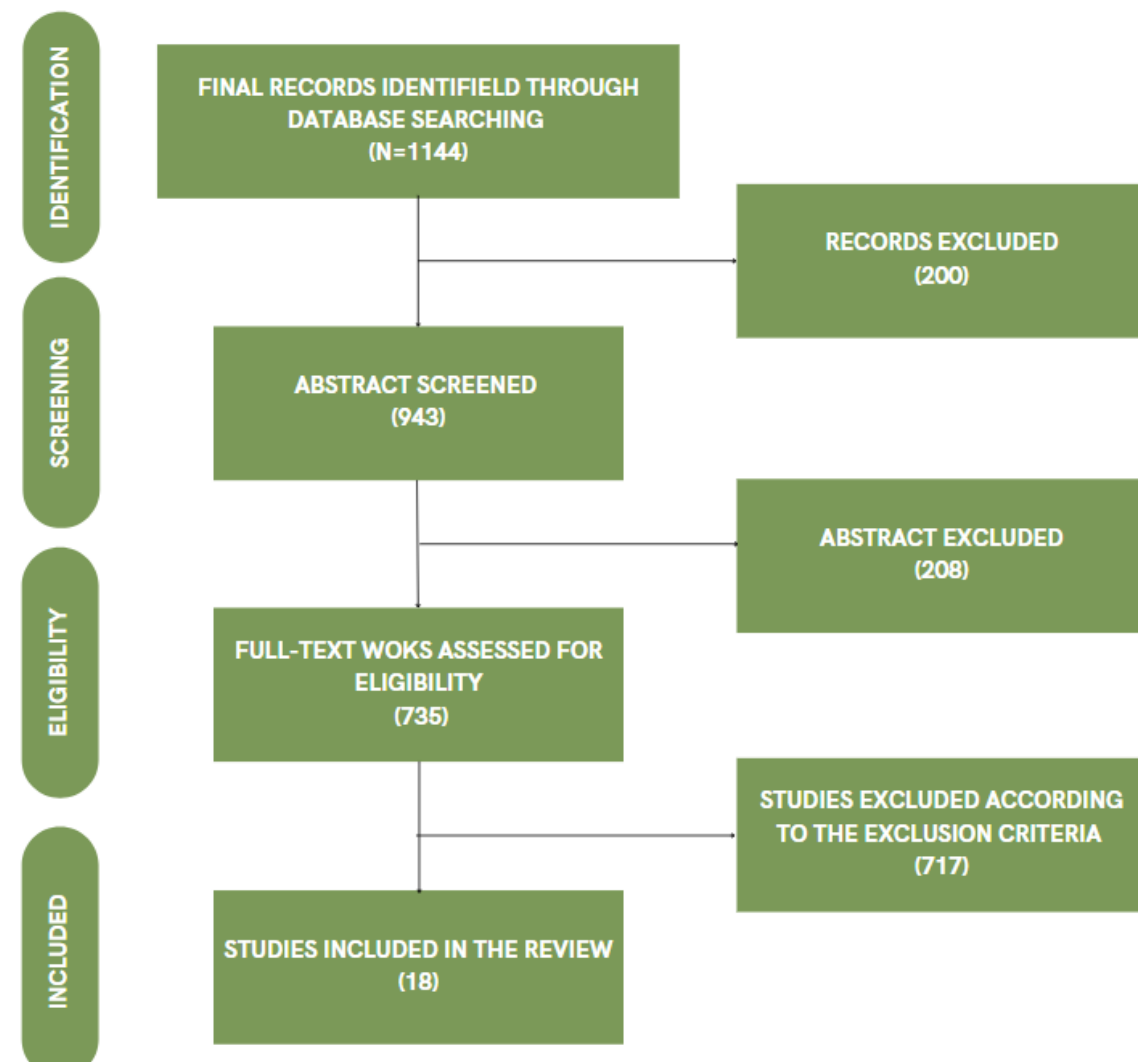
The objective of this systematic review was to examine and summarize the state-of-the-art about the relation between the implicit attitudes related to climate change measured through the Implicit Association Test (IAT), and the explicit attitudes, beliefs, and identity toward climate change.



METHODS

Based on PRISMA guidelines, a structured electronic literature search was conducted.

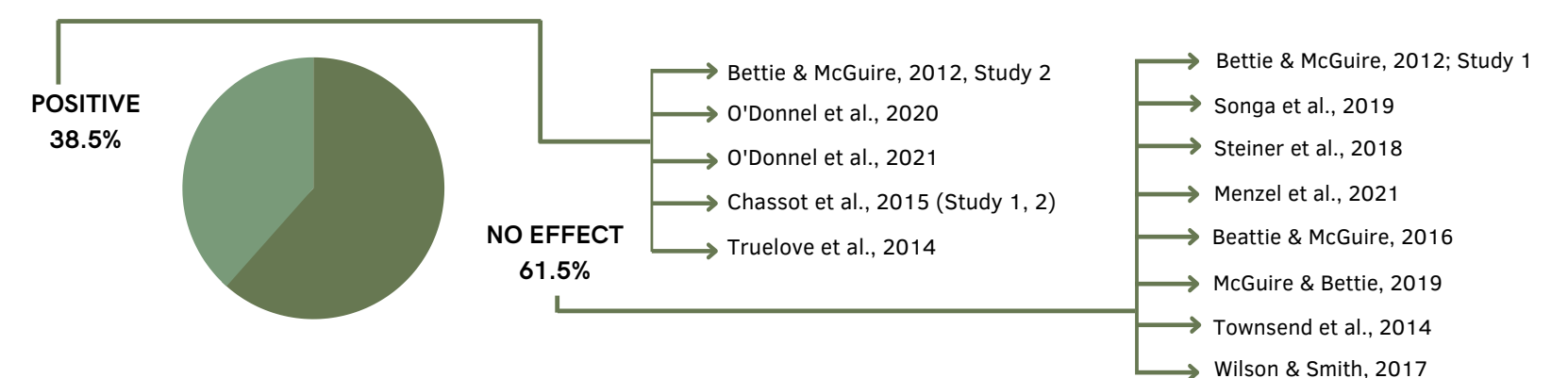
Term search was:
"implicit association test"
and "climate change" and
"implicit association task"
and "climate change".



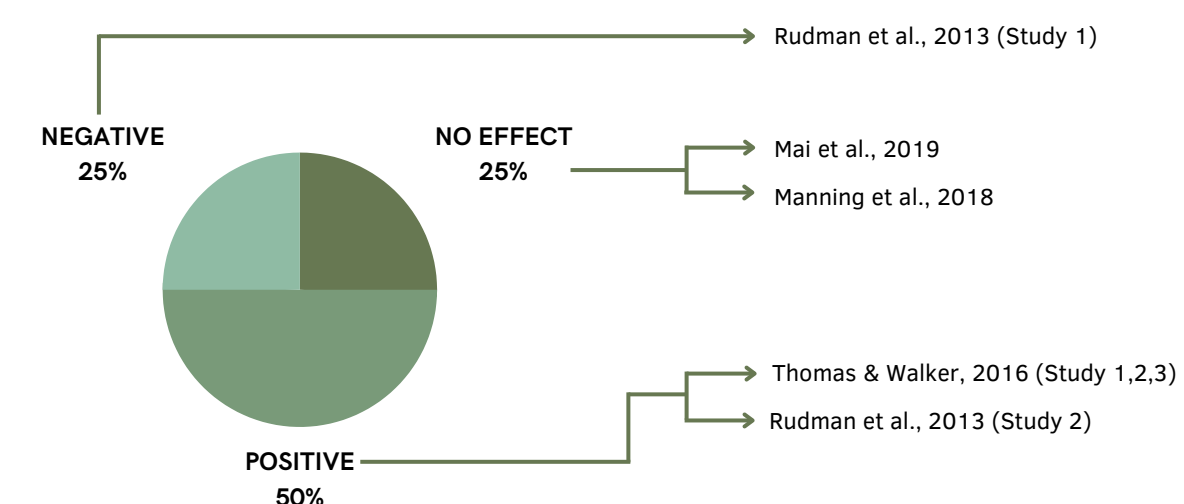
RESULTS

The studies were clustered in 3 categories and divided on the basis of the statistical relationship:

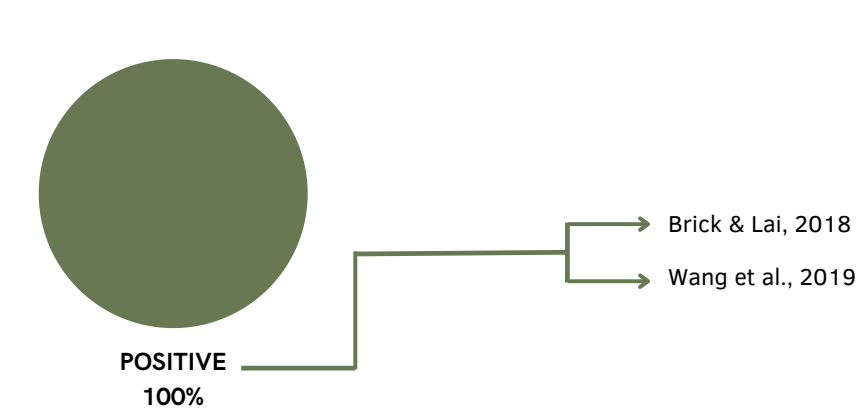
IMPLICIT VS EXPLICIT ATTITUDES



IMPLICIT VS BELIEFS



IMPLICIT VS IDENTITY



CONCLUSION

Most studies testified independence between implicit and explicit attitudes towards climate change (absence of correlation), which are low across domains (Hofmann et al., 2005). Despite this, implicit attitudes still predicted pro-environmental identity, while contradictory results appeared with beliefs. This highlights the urgency of promoting new research to understand on a deeper level dynamics involving implicit attitudes (Wang et al., 2019).

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