# Abstract

Climate change is a wide-reaching and pervasive issue which urgently needs addressing, however many individuals avoid engaging in behaviours which benefit the environment. Previous literature indicates that there may be multiple factors which influence an individual’s engagement in pro-environmental behaviours (PEBs) involving complex relationships. One factor which may have an effect on PEBs is perceived socioeconomic status (SES; i.e., an individual’s social standing as measured by their social and economic wealth). Previous research suggests that individuals from low socioeconomic backgrounds may be less likely to engage in PEBs. Further to this, studies suggest that those same individuals are more likely to engage in impulsive behaviour due to a higher salience of uncertainty. Both of these potential effects appear to be reversed for those higher in SES. Thus, the current study aimed to explore the relationship between perceived SES, impulsivity and pro-environmental behaviour. Participants’ perceived SES was manipulated, placing them into one of two groups: low SES and high SES. The research hypothesised that those in the low SES group would have lower impulsivity scores and show lower PEB on three tasks measuring different aspects of PEB: a travel-choice task, the general ecological behaviour (GEB) measure, and a raffle prize choice task. The study found no significant difference between the low SES group and high SES group on any of these tasks. This suggests that the manipulation may be ineffective within an online environment. Additionally, other factors may have influenced participants’ PEBs. The results and possible explanations are discussed fully.