

The Influence of Hierarchy on Social Cognitions: A Rapid Review

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INTRO

- Traditional diagnostic models have come under criticism, one of these is the British Power-Threat Meaning Framework, influenced by Social Neuroscience, particularly power dynamics and hierarchies. Therefore, the **Objective** of this research is to review the Influence that Hierarchy has on Social Cognitions and Perceptions in Healthy Individuals

→ Answer: Does it have clinical relevance?

METHODS & RESULTS

1. **When & Where?:** Last 10 Years on Pubmed
2. **How? (Search Operation):** (("Dominance-Subordination" OR "Social Dominance" OR "Hierarchy, Social" OR "Social Defeat") AND ("Social Cognition" OR "Cognition, Social" OR "Social Perception") OR ("Psychophysiology" OR "Hormones" OR "Neuropsychology"))
3. **Results:** 221 Studies → 17 → 8 Included

The way people perceive their and others position in the Social Hierarchy changes how they relate, feel and behave towards others and themselves.

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Studies reviewed:



	Intrapersonal (Impact on view of Self)	Interpersonal (Impact on relating to others)
↓ Low Status	Tendency towards aggression and greater vigilance towards threats (negative cognitive bias).	More empathy and vicarious suffering for those of perceived lower status
↕ Status Oscillation	High Status in unstable hierarchy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Intense stress response • Resistance towards conciliatory and forgiving behaviors 	Unjust high status attribution: (in unstable hierarchy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provokes aggressive expression by Holder of status • Peers perceive holder of status → fearful & insecure
↑ High Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress reduction and better performance • Reject Unjust offerings • Better perspective taking (Theory of Mind) 	Better performance when in presence of perceived High status Individuals