

Parents' cognitive biases towards their child displaying externalizing behaviors (EB)

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State of art

- Parents of EB child (a)¹ present **attentional & memory biases** towards child's negative emotions & behaviors
- (b)² **recall** child's **negative behaviors +++**
child's positive behaviors ---

Mothers exposed to a task **reducing negative attentional biases**³

↳ Displayed **more positive emotional & behavioral reactions** towards child

↳ Behaved better

Research project

- Cognitive biases'** prevalence in **parents of EB child will be greater**
in parents of child without EB will be absent

Attentional
Interpretation
Memory

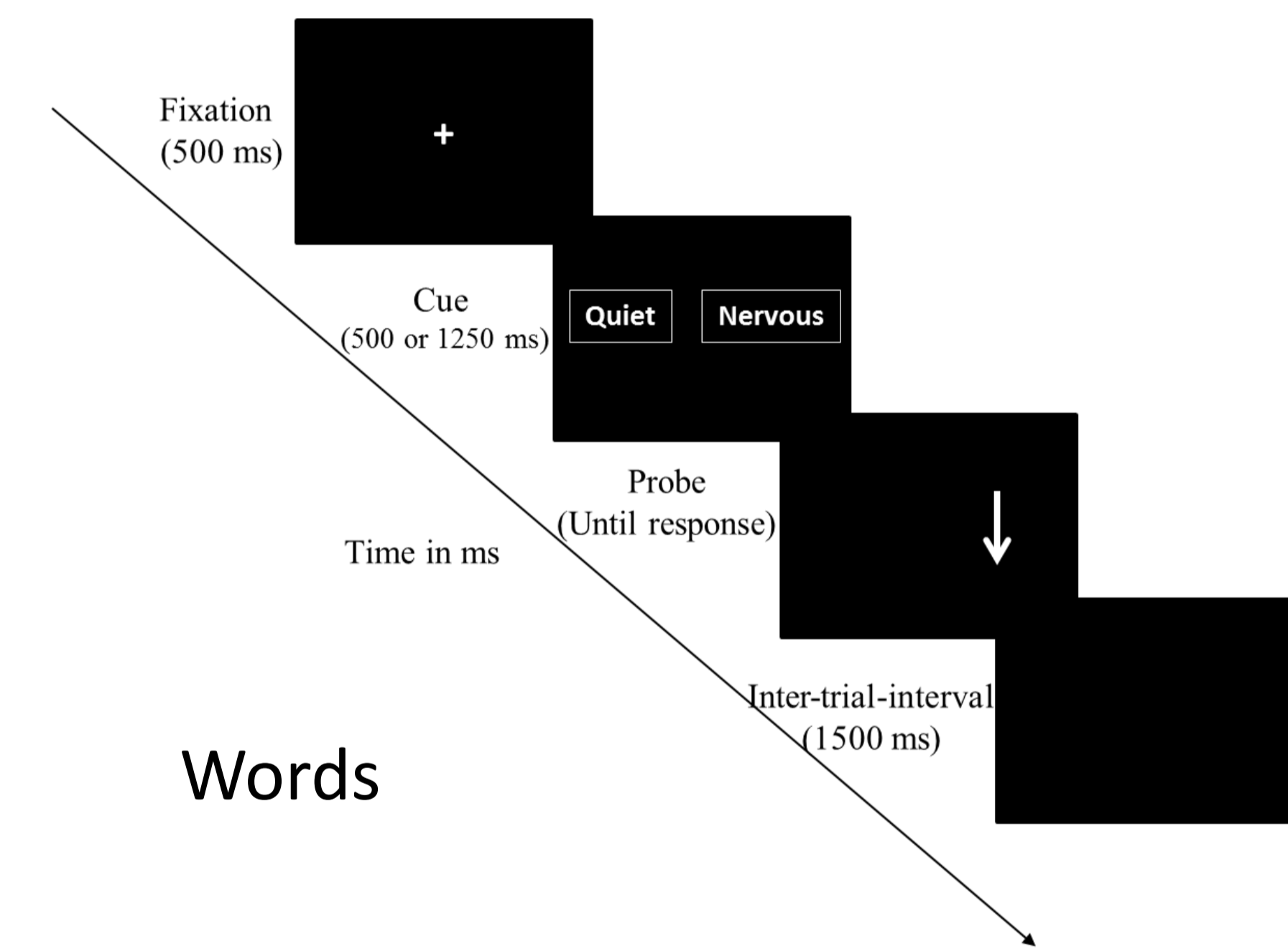
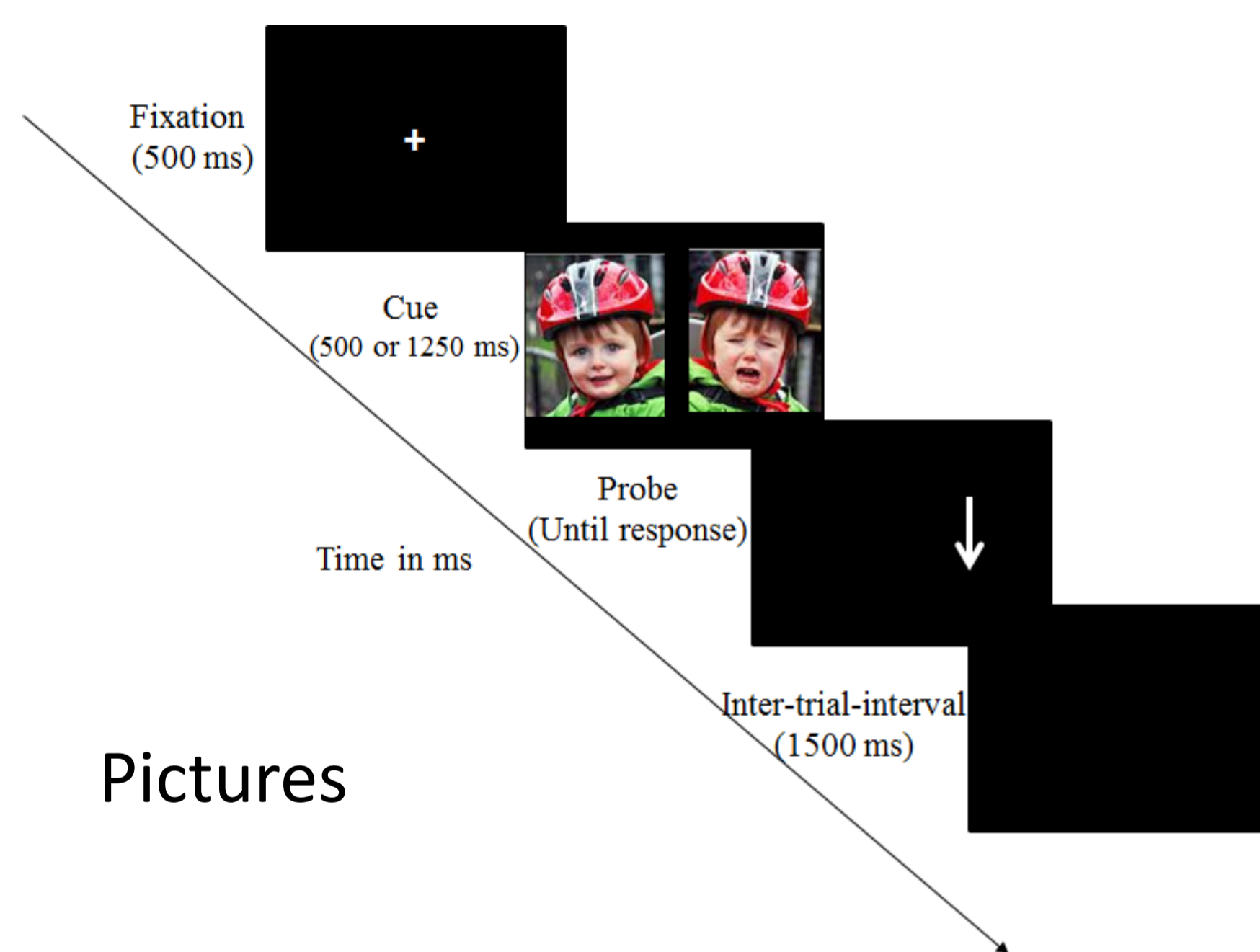
⁴Biased attention → Interpretation bias → Memory bias

Methodology

100 parental couples of EB child (3 to 6 years old) // 100 parental couples of child without EB (3 to 6 years old)

1 Lab-sessions to assess cognitive biases

↳ **Attentional bias: The Visual Probe Task (VPT)**⁵



↳ **Interpretation bias: A Scrambled Sentences Test (SST)**⁶ (e.g., looks my child easy very difficult)

↳ **Memory bias: The Incidental Recall Task (IRT)**⁷

NEO-PI-R⁸

Visual Analogue Scales (VAS)⁹

Parental Stress Scale (PSS)¹⁰

CBCL¹¹ + Unfair Card Game¹²

The 100 parental couples of EB child (3 to 6 years old), having completed previous lab-sessions
4 groups of 25 parental couples

2 Interventions to reduce cognitive biases

↳ **Control group** (tasks of lab-sessions)

↳ **Attention Feedback Awareness and Control Training (A-FACT)**¹³

↳ **Interpretation Feedback Awareness and Control Training (I-FACT)**¹³

↳ **Combined program (A-FACT + I-FACT)**

CBCL¹¹ + Unfair Card Game¹²

¹ Galdiolo, S., Loop, L., Rossignol, & Roskam, I. (2019). Attention and memory biases in parents of children displaying externalizing behaviors. Manuscript in preparation. ²De Los Reyes, A. & Kazdin, A.E. (2005). Informant discrepancies in the assessment of childhood psychopathology: A critical review, theoretical framework, and recommendations for further study. *Psychological Bulletin*, 131(4), 483 – 509. ³Loop, L., Rossignol, M., Galdiolo, S., & Roskam, I. (2018). The improvement of mothers' and children's emotional and behavioral reactions through the modification of attentional bias in mothers: A micro-trial research. *Parenting: Science and Practice*, 18(1), 9 – 27. ⁴Everaert, J., Tierens, M., Uzieblo, K., & Koster, E. H. W. (2013). The indirect effect of attentional bias on memory via interpretation bias: Evidence for the combined cognitive bias hypothesis in subclinical depression. *Cognition and Emotion*, 27(8), 1450 – 1459. ⁵MacLeod, C., Mathews, A., & Tata, P. (1986). Attentional bias in emotional disorders. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 95(1), 15-20. ⁶Wenzlaff, R. M., & Bates, D. E. (1998). Unmasking a cognitive vulnerability to depression: How lapses in mental control reveal depressive thinking. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 75, 1559 – 1571. ⁷Gottlib, I. H., Kasch, K. L., Traill, S., Joormann, J., Arnow, B. A., & Johnson, S. L. (2004). Coherence and specificity of information-processing biases in depression and social phobia. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 113(3), 386-398. ⁸Aluja, A., Garcia, O., Rossier, J., & Garcia, L. F. (2005). Comparison of the NEO-FFI, the NEO-FFI-R and an alternative short version of the NEO-PI-R (NEO-60) in Swiss and Spanish samples. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 38, 591 – 604. ⁹Couper, M. P., Tourangeau, R., Conrad, F. G., & Singer, E. (2006). Evaluating the effectiveness of Visual Analogue Scales: A web experiment. *Social Science Computer Review*, 24(2), 227-245. ¹⁰Berry, J. O. & Jones, W. H. (1995). The parental stress scale: Initial psychometric evidence. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 12(3), 463-472. ¹¹Achenbach, T. M. (1991). *Integrative guide for the 1991 CBCL/4-18, YSR and TRF profiles*. Burlington: Department of Psychiatry, University of Vermont. ¹²Roskam, I. et al. (2016). The Unfair Card Game: A promising tool to assess externalizing behavior in preschoolers. *Psychological Assessment*, 22, 61 – 73. ¹³Zvielli, A., Amir, I., Goldstein, P., & Bernstein, A. (2016). Targeting biased emotional attention to threat as a dynamic process in time: Attention Feedback Awareness and Control (A-FACT). *Clinical Psychological Science*, 4(2), 287 – 298.