ANTECEDENTS OF EMPATHIC RESPONDING: THE CASE OF ANTIDISCRIMINATION PSAs

Isidora Benítez Janezic, isidora.janezic.1@ulaval.ca, Université Laval

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- Growing number of immigrants changes in the social fabric;
- Many initiatiives promoting social inclusion, access to employment and social cohesion exist;
- Discrimination still occurs;
- Some social marketing techniques have proven to be efficient in reducing discrimination;
- Induce empathic responses towards immigrants through public service advertisements.

EMPATHY

Key ingredient in tackling prejudice and discrimination;

(Dovidio et al.,2010;Batson et al.,1997)

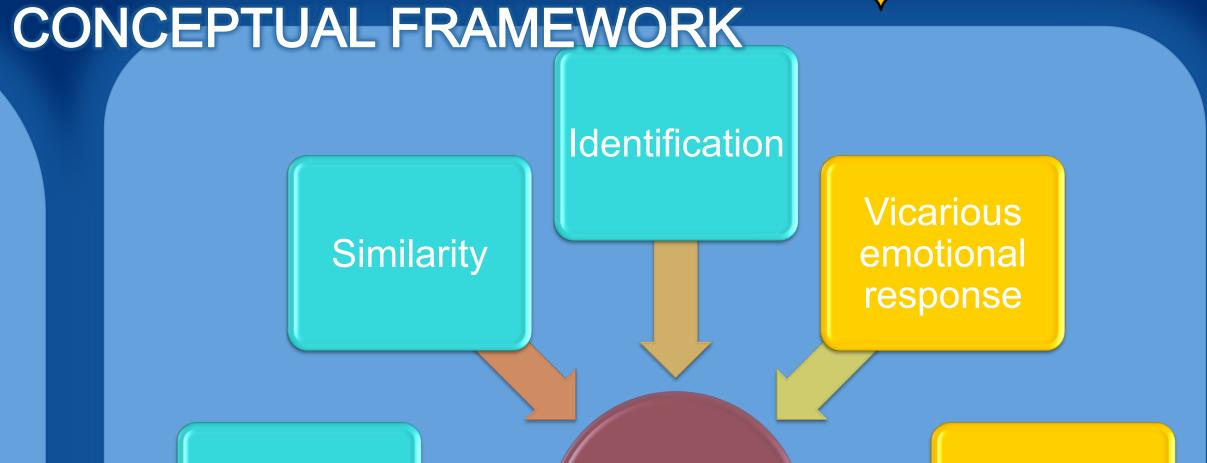
Improves intergroup relations; (Stephan & Finlay, 1999)

A variable that is likely to positively influence the persuasion process; (Campbell & Babrow, 2004; Campbell, 1998; Shen, 2010)

Antecedents of empathic responding remain underexplored;

Little is known about the true impact of empathy on attitude change.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES Eliminating prejudice and discrimination 1 – Find out what triggers empathy: Empathic responding Conditions under which it is likely to occur 2 - Explore the two types of antecedents: Empathic responding 3 – Evaluate the effectiveness of persuasive communications: **Emotional** responses Cognitive responses Persuasive strategies (positive vs. negative) Attitudes



Trait

empathy

State

empathy

Empathic

concern

