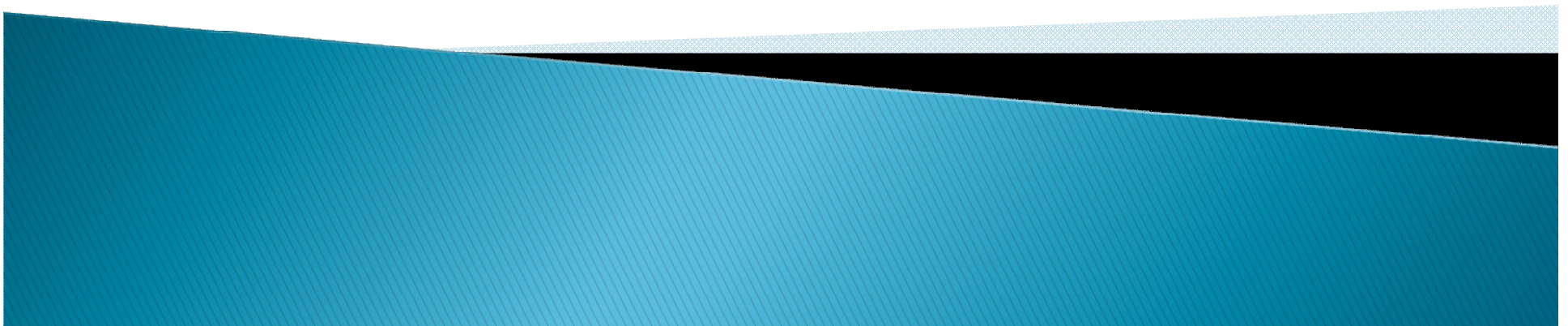


YOUNG SOUTH AFRICAN CHILDREN'S RECOGNITION OF GRAPHIC SYMBOLS DEPICTING EMOTIONS

FIRST AUTHOR AND PRESENTER
H.M. DE KLERK

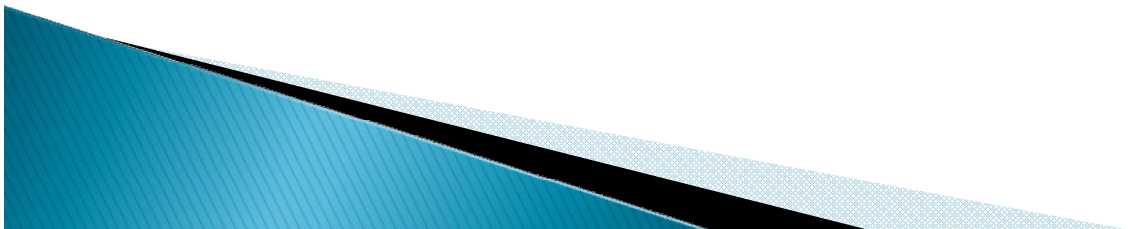
SECOND AUTHOR
PROF. E. ALANT

THIRD AUTHOR
DR. S. DADA



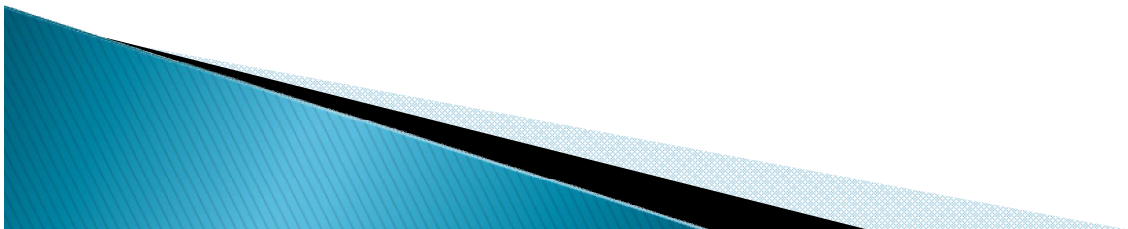
PROBLEM STATEMENT

- ▶ Experiencing and expression emotions
- ▶ Psychological wellbeing
- ▶ Facial expression
- ▶ Universal phenomenon vs. cultural differences



Emotion and emotional knowledge

- ▶ Emotion
- ▶ Emotion knowledge
 - **emotional expression identification,**
 - **emotion language**
 - **emotion situation knowledge**

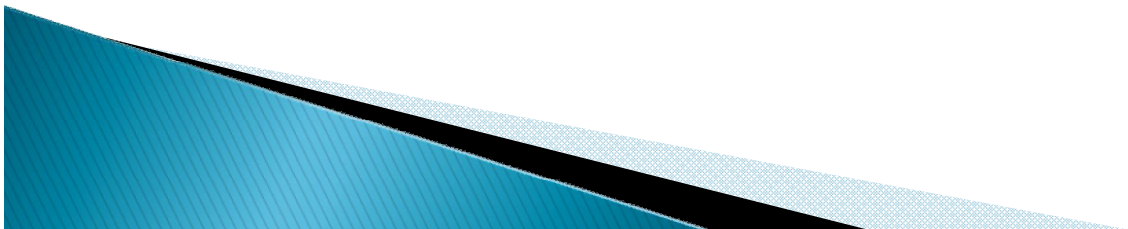


Graphic representation of emotion

How children recognized different emotions as presented :

- ▶ through photographs of facial expressions
- ▶ through schematic drawings

- ▶ AAC



AIM OF THE STUDY

The main aim of the study was to describe and compare Afrikaans and

Sepedi speaking grade R learner's choice of graphic symbols when depicting four basic emotions:

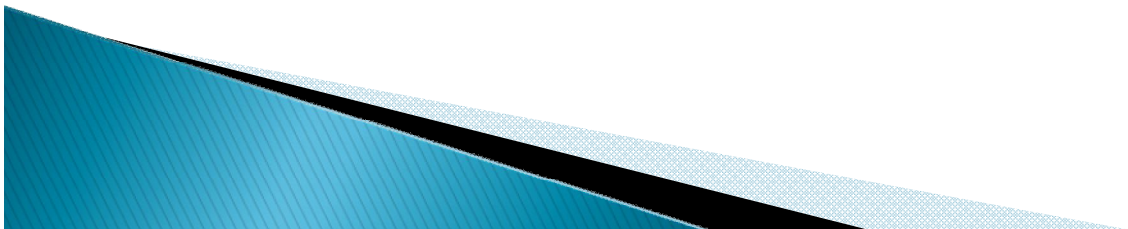
happy;

sad; afraid; and angry presented in vignettes.

Sub aims

Sub-aim 1: To describe and compare expected and unexpected choices of graphic symbols to represent the basic emotions across language groups, gender groups and vignettes.

Sub-aim 2: To describe and compare the intensity ratings of vignettes in relation to each basic emotion across language and gender groups.

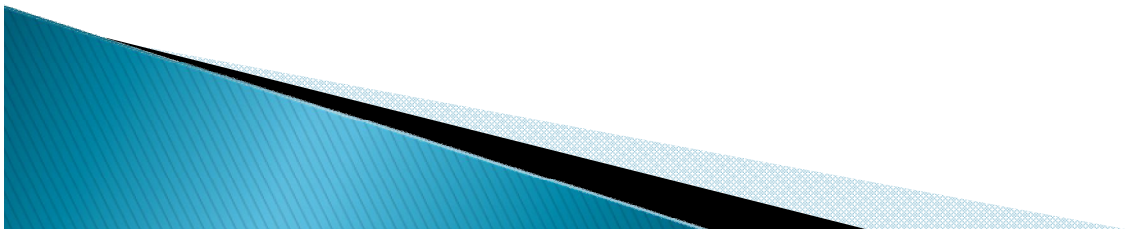


RESEARCH DESIGN

- ▶ Non-experimental comparative design

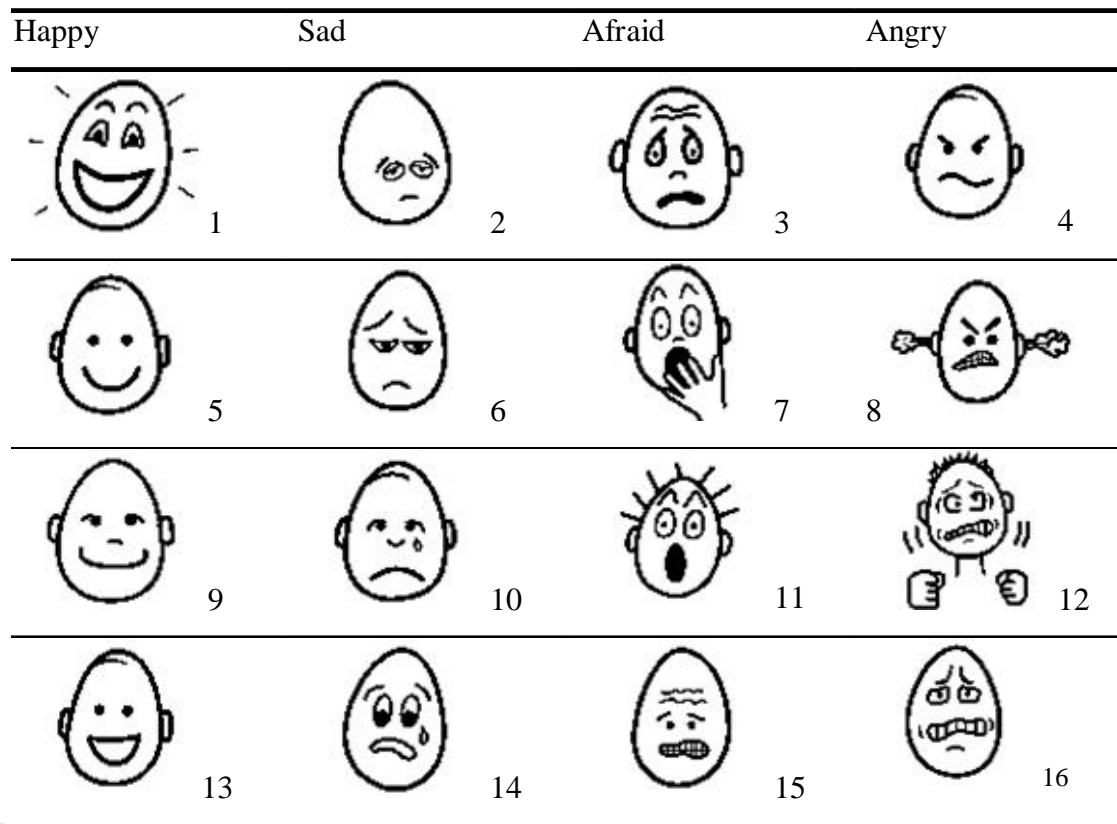
PARTICIPANTS

- ▶ 90 Participants
 - 44 Afrikaans speaking (22 boys & 22 girls)
 - 46 Sepedi speaking (23 boys & 23 girls)



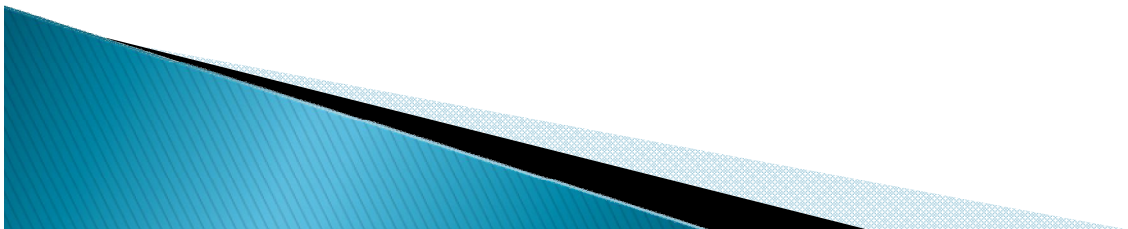
MATERIAL

▶ Overlays



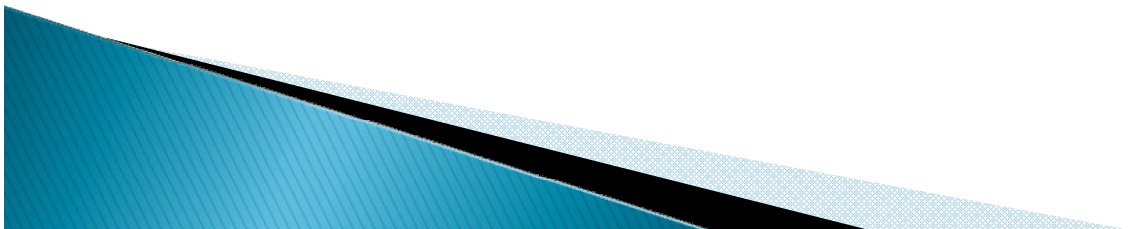
MATERIAL – CONTINUE

- ▶ Vignettes
- ▶ Letters
- ▶ Ethical clearance



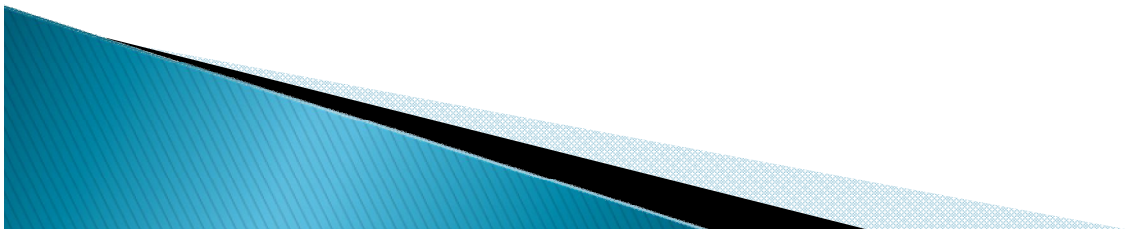
DEFINITIONS

- ▶ *Expected symbols* in this study refer to any of the 4 PCS systematically identified to represent a specific basic emotion.
- ▶ *Unexpected symbols* refer to any PCS on the presented overlay which is not one of the expected symbols of the target emotion.



DEFINITIONS – CONTINUE

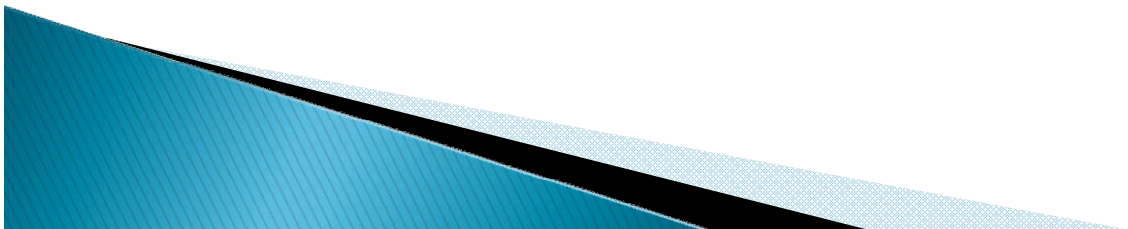
- ▶ *Preferred symbols* can be defined as the particular symbols most of the participants selected to represent the emotions. Preferred symbols can be either expected or unexpected symbols.



RESULTS – STATISTICAL COMPARISONS

WITH REGARD TO EXPECTED AND UNEXPECTED
SYMBOLS SELECTED TO REPRESENT BASIC
EMOTIONS

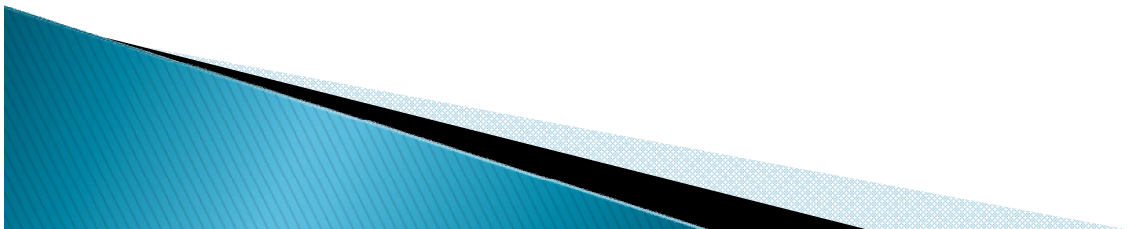
- ▶ Between Afrikaans and Sepedi speaking participants
- ▶ Between gender groups



RESULTS – STATISTICAL COMPARISONS

WITH REGARD TO INTENSITY RATINGS OF
VIGNETTES

- ▶ Different language groups
- ▶ Different gender groups











EXPECTED AND UNEXPECTED CHOICES OF GRAPHIC SYMBOLS TO REPRESENT THE BASIC EMOTIONS

▶ *happy – angry – afraid – sad*

Emotion	Participants	Percentage expected symbols chosen	Percentage unexpected symbols chosen
Happy	Afrikaans speaking	93.18%	6.82%
	Sepedi speaking	57.45%	42.54%
Angry	Afrikaans speaking	84.79%	15.20%
	Sepedi speaking	33.32%	66.68%
Afraid	Afrikaans speaking	54.55%	45.45%
	Sepedi speaking	29.09%	71.91%
Sad	Afrikaans speaking	52.65%	47.35%
	Sepedi speaking	26.08%	73.92%








PREFERRED SYMBOLS

To represent happy:

Emotion	Participants	Most preferred symbols			
Happy	Afrikaans speaking				
		Expected symbol 1 45.83%	Expected symbol 13 21.21%	Expected symbol 5 16.67%	Expected symbol 9 9.47%
	Sepedi speaking				
		Expected symbol 1 22.18%	Expected symbol 13 14.91%	Expected symbol 5 13.45%	Expected symbol 9 6.91%









PREFERRED SYMBOLS – CONTINUE

To represent angry:

Emotion	Participants	Most preferred symbols			
Angry	Afrikaans speaking				
		Expected symbol 8	Expected symbol 4	Expected symbol 12	Expected symbol 16
		51.33%	20.91%	8.37%	4.18%
		Sepedi speaking			
	Expected symbol 12		Expected symbol 8	Unexpected symbol 3	Unexpected symbol 10
	10.87%		10.14%	8.70%	7.97%










PREFERRED SYMBOLS – CONTINUE

To represent afraid:

Emotion	Participants	Most preferred symbols			
Afraid	Afrikaans speaking				
		Expected symbol 11 17.05%	Expected symbol 7 15.53%	Expected symbol 3 14.39%	Unexpected symbol 16 14.02%
	Sepedi speaking				
		Expected symbol 7 10.55%	Unexpected symbol 2 10.18%	Unexpected symbol 6 9.82%	Expected symbol 11 8.36%

PREFERRED SYMBOLS – CONTINUE

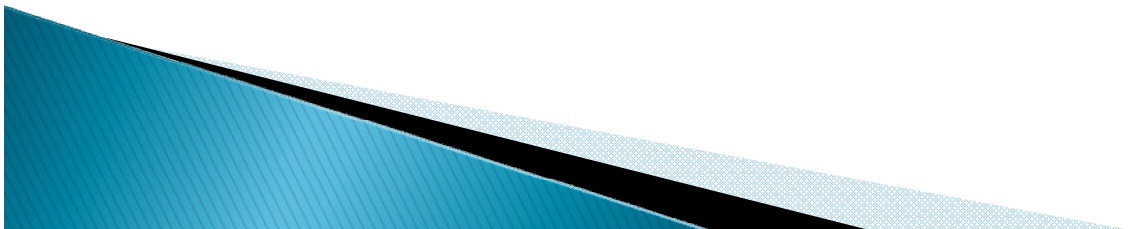
To represent sad:

Emotion	Participants	Most preferred symbols		
Sad	Afrikaans speaking			  
		Expected symbol 10 20.08%	Expected symbol 14 17.42%	Unexpected symbols 3, 12 and 16 10.23% each
	Sepedi speaking			 
		Unexpected symbol 7 9.78%	Unexpected symbol 8 8.70%	Expected symbol 2 and unexpected symbol 11 7.97% each

FINALLY

- ▶ Afrikaans speaking participants chose expected symbols more often than their Sepedi speaking peers to represent the different basic emotions
- ▶ Both language groups chose more expected symbols for *happy* followed by expected symbols for *angry*, *afraid* and *sad*.
- ▶ Results in the current study were inconclusive on the influence of intensity ratings on the participants' choice of symbols

- ▶ After an analysis of the symbols with regard to their features it was observed that all of the symbols chosen most as preferred symbols had extra features, questioning the use of only facial expressions when representing emotions.
- ▶ Some clinical implications



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS?